

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Volume 11, No. 3, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, February 28, 2018

Heads up, *Chronicle* readers and sponsors!

In March of this year, we will be completing 10 years of the *Chronicle*. Our committee would like to thank all our current 80 sponsors, but we also give special recognition to the 26 sponsors who have been with us from the beginning.

1. RA Machine
2. L&L Ag Repair
3. Schuldt Repair
4. Quality Distributors
5. Steve Rathe Seeds (now Prime Ag Services)
6. Wittenburg Truck Line Inc.
7. Readlyn Vet. Association
8. Readlyn Farm Automation
9. Farmers Co-op
10. Precision Ag - Mike Heineman
11. Greg Matthias Stine Seeds
12. Weeds on Fire (was Schutte Spraying)
13. Dekalb Seed Dealers
14. Kuhlmann's Service & Repair
15. Del's Auto Repair Inc.
16. Dave Matthias & Jim Peters, Farm Bureau Insurance
17. Readlyn Mutual Ins. Association
18. Jig & Fly Shop, GaryLee Thurm
19. Mane Event
20. Spahn & Rose Lumber Co.

21. Edgeton Hardware & Repair
22. Quarter Ave. Storage
23. Readlyn Chiropractic Clinic
24. Readlyn Savings Bank
25. RTC Communications (formerly Readlyn Telephone Co.)
26. Sunrise Catering

The five biggest changes to the *Chronicle* over these 10 years are as follows:

— Far and away the best change has been 100 percent printing in color. Many of our sponsors and readers have told us that it has greatly enhanced our paper.

— Second, putting the advertisements up in front and bigger (various sizes are available) for only \$100 more for the year - sponsors are getting more bang for their buck.

— Third, every monthly issue is inserted in the *Denver Forum* free, reaching out to more people and a good reason for subscribing to the *Forum*.

— Fourth, volunteers deliver extra issues to about 80 sponsors and points of interest. About 10 sponsors out of the area are sent a *Chronicle* via mail.

— Fifth, we print obituaries, breakfasts, dinners, food closet, church and other non-profit items free.

Two more things, to Charlie and Wilda Albrecht - a great thank you for putting the paper together for the first five years. It was a huge undertaking. Thanks, Charlie and Wilda!

Also, thanks to the first *Chronicle* people who met at the Readlyn Library more than 10 years ago, who had the *Chronicle* vision. They were: Verla Jurgensen, Barb Sowers, Jim Collins, Judy Leistikow, Janet Ladage and Charlie Albrecht.

Specials thanks to former Mayor Herb Clemmon who strongly supported us starting the paper. See his article in the original first issue, which will be reprinted in full

in the March 28, 2018, issue of the *Chronicle*.

I should also mention the circulate of the *Chronicle* is over 2,000 issues distributed in our area.

It has been a pleasure working with Robin Harms and Kim Adams of Horizon Publishing in Jesup. We have forged a very fine relationship that we hope will last for a long time.

Sincerely,

The Chronicle Committee:

Charles Albrecht

LaVerne Leistikow

Ron Leistikow

Readlyn Chronicle Sponsors

This article is reprinted from the Nov. 13, 2008 issue of the Chronicle.

It has been a good first year for the citizens of Readlyn and surrounding area to have a local newspaper. The committee truly appreciates the support from the area businesses that have contributed to make this possible.

The paper began with the April 30 (2008) issue that was paid for by the Community Club. The committee had looked into different options for printing and circulation. The option chosen was to have Vanguard Publishing print enough copies to have every household in Readlyn, Tripoli, and Frederika receive a copy that would be inserted into the Ad Paper every last Wednesday of each month. This also was inserted in each Tripoli Leader that is delivered by mail to surrounding towns. Later, delivery expanded to Route 2 in Sumner. In addition to those, about 60 copies are delivered to the Oran Hardware for free pickup there. A few copies are also delivered to some area businesses.

For the *Chronicle* to continue, somebody needs to contribute or support the cost of printing and delivery. The committee decided to ask businesses to contribute \$10 per month as a donation to continue the paper. We were pleased when approximately 50 businesses contributed for the past seven months so the paper could be issued from May through Nov. 26 (2008).

The committee believes that if we ask for a total of \$100 from each business for the entire year of 2009 we can continue the paper. It would give the committee sufficient funding for 12 four-page issues, and a few eight-page issues. All of the committee members are voluntary, and the only cost for the paper is the printing and inserts cost paid to Vanguard Publishing.

If you would like to continue to be a sponsor, please take this letter and a check for \$100 to the Readlyn Library, or mail to Judy Leistikow, 2218 Reed Ave., Readlyn, IA 50668. Or, if you would like to donate quarterly, you may do so by paying \$25 per quarter to Judy. Please use the receipt below for your records.

Committee Members: Judy Leistikow, Treasurer, Janet Ladage, Charles Albrecht, Verla Jurgensen, Jim Collins, and Barb Sowers



Darlene Tiedt and her daughter Cheryl Hart are pictured with the 90-square cloth quilt Darlene received from family and friends in recognition of her 90th birthday.

In lieu of flowers, send a quilt

Darlene Tiedt, a lifelong Readlyn resident, celebrated her 90th birthday February 13, in a big way. Rather than the traditional paper card wishes, she received a 90 square cloth quilt from family and friends.

Each quilt square represents a memory that she can relate to them or about herself with them. It is arranged in chronological birth order from oldest to youngest starting with her parents and husband, who are deceased, followed by her surviving siblings and their spouses. Next in line are her five children and their spouses, sixteen grandchildren and their spouses, and twenty-one great-grandchildren.

To finish off her treasured quilt are her friends from card parties, neighbors, coffee club, church circle, 4th of July gang, and Merry Elders group. Her 109-year-old friend, Esther Wittenburg, is the leader of the pack in this section. Darlene consid-

ers Esther her second mother since Esther and her mother, Lydia Moeller, were born two days apart. These friends were also arranged oldest to youngest. (Longevity is a blessing!)

To accompany this quilt, a "focus" pillow was created. Darlene's goal was to reach age 90. Her love of farming, playing cards, church, and keeping healthy via the aid of her doctors kept her on this path. Thus, squares representing these focus areas were sewn on this pillow to compliment her family and friends quilt.

A Big Birthday Bash was held in New Hampton, Iowa, the weekend of February 10-11 to commemorate her big accomplishment. Forty-one family members enjoyed roller skating, swimming, games, and bowling. Fond memories will continue to surface each time Darlene views her special birthday gifts.

Valentine Ball committee announces scholarship opportunity

The Readlyn Valentine Ball Committee is excited to announce this year's senior scholarship opportunity! We believe that Readlyn offers priceless opportunities to give roots and wings to our young citizens. Roots to hold them strong in their beliefs and where they can always call home. Experiences to help them spread their wings and contribute to the bigger world outside of our great town.

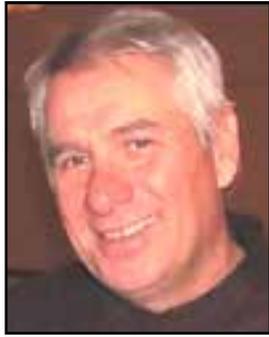
All Wapsie Valley High School 2018 seniors with a Readlyn address, Readlyn telephone number, or those who completed grade school at Readlyn Elementary are eligible to apply for this \$500 scholarship. The subject

of this scholarship is "My Readlyn Community Involvement." Please submit a well written, thought provoking 300 word minimum essay describing ways you volunteered in Readlyn and have been involved in the Readlyn community throughout the years. Describe how your involvement has impacted you and influenced your future plans. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the Readlyn Library no later than Friday, April 6, 2018.

The scholarship winner will be announced in the May *Chronicle* as well as by mailed letter.

Mayor's Desk

By Dan Wedemeier



Hi Everyone!

Connie and I attended the Keep Your Heart in Readlyn Ball on February 9 at the Readlyn Event Center. What a great event! The Community did a great job putting the event on!

That group does such so much for our community. This event raises a lot of money for many different community groups and is such a nice evening to spend with friends. If you haven't ever attended this event you should. This is also a great reason to become a member of the Community Club. Thanks again!

The sewer plant project has been moving along slowly. The company representatives from Aero Mod were here to inspect the system. After spending some time with Austin and Barney we were going to start to bring the new plant online. The contractors and Aero Mod people worked hard for a couple days to get things unfrozen. We decided to delay this process until we have warmer temperatures, sometime in March.

The Council and I are still working with the SRF, DNR and local officials to use funds to improve Water Quality Runoff. The project we are looking at is a wetlands area, that will be on the south west corner of Readlyn. Once again, there are a lot of hoops to jump through, but I'm working with our city engineers to see if we can get something done.

Barney and Austin continue to keep the streets clean and safe with the ever-changing weather conditions. Their job is a lot easier if you don't park on the street. So, if any kind of winter weather is forecast, please try to not park on the streets and also please don't blow your snow onto the city street.

A couple projects that the guys are working on are the rebuilding of the wooden train in the park and a diesel powered generator for the water tower and wells.

Keep up the great job with all the area sports teams. Great job to the Wapsie Wrestlers and coaches! Good Luck to all of our students and coaches - Go Warriors!

Think spring!

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

Community Calendar

Mondays - Novel Knitters at the library 6 PM.

Thursday mornings - Story time at the Library 9 AM beginning March 1.

Saturday, March 3 - Pepper Tournament at 2 PM at the Readlyn Event Center.

Tuesday, March 6 - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.

Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library, call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.

Thursday, March 8 - Ukranian Egg Decorating at the library 6 PM, call 279-3432 to register.

Tuesday, March 13 - V.F.W. Auxiliary meeting at the library.

Tuesday, March 20 - Coloring at the library, 1-3 PM.

Wednesday, March 21 - Senior Citizens lunch and cards, 11:30 AM at Inspired.

Monday, March 26 - Historical Society Meeting 7 PM.

Tuesday, March 27 - Tech Class at the Library "Storing Digital Files."

Wed., March 28 - Merry Elders at Inspired 11:30 AM.

Thursday, March 29 - Book Talk, 7 PM at the library.

Saturday, March 31 - Easter Egg Hunt, 9:30 AM, Readlyn City Park (at the Fire Station in case of bad weather).

Tuesday, April 3 - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library, call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.

Tuesday, April 3 - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.

Grump's Grumblings

By Louie Hartman



Look how happy your Readlyn Royalty is at the Valentine fund-raiser event. As usual, the food was excellent, Jill Krall spoke on why she is happy to be raising her family in Readlyn, and Dolan, Jason and Rocco made us laugh with their antics during the auction. You know a certain banker that makes a mean margarita? Well, his basket containing margarita ingredients plus his secret recipe brought \$500 in a very spirited bidding war. It was like watching a high profile ping pong game and for a great cause—our kids.

The Readlyn Community Club (RCC) met in February. A couple of changes were discussed: 1) RCC will have to get its own beer license for Grump Days meaning there will be no hard liquor sold, just beer and maybe wine coolers. Volunteers to work the beer stand will be needed. 2) Two good reasons to join the Readlyn Community Club and attend the annual meeting on Saturday, April 7, at the Readlyn Event Center: We'll be voting on the 2018 Grump Days T-shirt design as usual, and this year the Grump will be chosen with a write-in ballot. The member with the most votes will be asked to be the Grump. Did I mention there will be games? Casino and/or Trivia.

Garage Sale weekend is Friday, May 11, and Saturday, May 12. If you have suggestions for times during these two days, please go to the Facebook Community Club page and comment or give me a call.

This Saturday is Ron's birthday, and we look forward to celebrating by enjoying the Jersey Boys at Gallagher/Bluedorn. I have seen and loved this dynamic performance before, so it will be fun sharing the experience with my Golden Oldie partner.

Stay safe as we transition from winter to spring.

Your Grump, Louie Hartman



Readlyn Grump Louie Hartman is shown at the Valentine Ball with Little Mr. Grumpster Marshall Tiedt, Little Miss Grumpster Elis Benke and Miss Readlyn Erika Jeanes.



Jonathan Smiley, D.M.D

2024 2nd Ave. NW, Waverly, IA 50677 (319) 352-2270
SmileyFamilyDentistry.com

New patients welcome!

Proud to continue Dr. Rettig's tradition of excellent dental care.



Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Miss Readlyn Comments

By Erika Jeanes



The month of February has gone by very fast! At the beginning of the month, I had the pleasure of attending the Readlyn Valentine's Ball. I had the opportunity to catch up with the famous Readlyn Grump, Louie Hartman. I also enjoyed talking to many people that I haven't seen in awhile. Thank you to Sunrise Catering, Kim Brown, the Community Club of Readlyn and all of the volunteers for their support and hard work that they put into this event.

February was the ending of another chapter in my senior year of high school. I played my last basketball game at Wapsie Valley. This basketball season has been very fun, and it was awesome to have my brother Austin as an assistant coach. He always pushes me to do my best, and he not only taught me how to be a better basketball player, but also a better person and teammate. I also want to thank all the girls on my team for a successful season as well as Coach Davie. This year we met our goal of 10 wins! It has been a great ride!

The boys' basketball team is still in tournament play after a win over Maquoketa Valley. They will play again at West Delaware against Central City. Good Luck to them as they strive to punch their ticket to the state tournament.

A huge congratulations to all the Wapsie Valley wrestlers on a successful season! Those who made it to state include Donny Schmit, Reese Welcher, Colin Schrader, and Kaleb Krall. Donny was on top of the podium this year receiving his 2nd championship, Kaleb received a second place finish, and Colin won 5 consecutive matches to claim third place.

Reporting from the FFA world, National FFA week was February 18-24. During National FFA week we had many fun activities that have also become traditions at the Valley! We served cake to the whole school to show our thanks for everyone's support. We sent out daily trivia questions to the student body and whoever got the right answers, received an awesome prize. On Wednesday, February 21, many of our FFA members attended the Sub-district competition to compete with other Northeast Iowa FFA Chapters. Jacob Joerger and I are presenting the FFA Program of Activities. This presentation consists of explaining in detail all of the activities and community projects our members are involved in during the year. In honor of FFA week, I would like to present to you some amazing facts about the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter. We were chartered in 1977. Mrs. Doese has been teaching for 35 years now, CRAZY! We have had one National Officer from our Chapter, our very own Abrah Meyer! Our Chapter would not be successful without all of the members who choose to work hard and have a passion for agriculture along with all of our community support! In closing, I would like to thank my Ag teacher, Mrs. Doese, for all her hard work and dedication to all her past and present students and the FFA program. She has helped so many students grow and develop their talents opening doors to become the best they can be!

Erika Jeanes

Miss Readlyn
2017-2018



240-7150

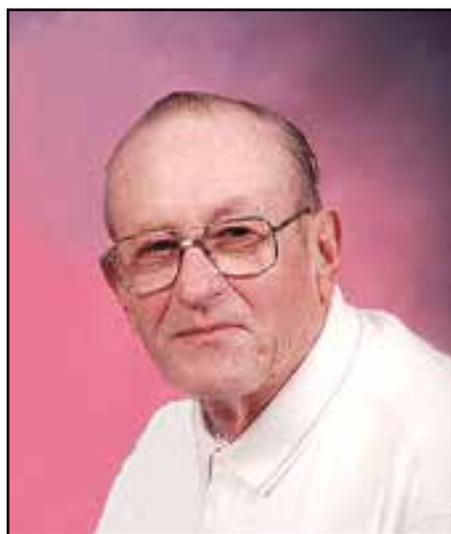
Cellular Phones and Accessories



www.newswireless.com

Readlyn Community Happenings

~ Obituary ~



Del FINDER

Longtime rural Readlyn, Iowa, resident Del FINDER, age 90, died February 4, 2018, at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community in Waverly, Iowa, after suffering a severe lung infection.

Delbert James FINDER was born April 11, 1927, in Oelwein, Iowa, the son of Amos and Mary Elizabeth (Bray) FINDER. He was baptized at Grace Methodist Episcopal Church in Oelwein on April 13, 1927. Del attended Fairbank Schools and grew up working with his family on farms in the Fairbank area. Farming, though, can be as tempestuous as the little pony he used to try to ride out to get the cows. Something else captured Del's heart-cars.

Amos' friendship with Oelwein native Walter Chrysler-they both worked at the Chicago Great Western roundhouse in Oelwein before Walter headed to Detroit to start the Chrysler Corporation-lured Del under the hood. He first worked at the DeSoto garage in Readlyn. After he married Lillian Bathke of Tripoli in 1946, he

and Lil moved to Knittel Corner, where they founded Del's Auto Repair in 1957. He spent decades fixing cars, painting cars, towing cars, and occasionally jumping in the car (always a Chrysler, of course-he owned more than 60 of them throughout his lifetime) to take the family on a road trip-or at least up to the river.

Del's favorite getaway was his trailer along the Mississippi River near Harper's Ferry. He knew every slough and every good crappie hole-and how to grill the juiciest T-bone steak. Del loved Ernest Tubb tunes, a friendly game of pool, belting out a tune on the old trombone, butter brickle ice cream, and dogs.

He cared for his wife, Lillian, during a long illness; she died in 1997. He trudged on through, just as he did the winter of '36 back on the farm. He gradually handed off more and more of the business to his sons, but always enjoyed hanging out at the shop and talking with his many customers and friends.

In addition to his wife and parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Richard and Leonard, and a sister, Evelyn, in infancy. Del is survived by two sons, Jerry (Connie) of Knittel and Jack (Kathy) of rural Readlyn; a daughter, Sally (Patrick) FINDER Weepie of Altoona; two grandchildren, Tereasa and Pat; six great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and his longtime companion, Sue Abbas of Waverly.

Del has been cremated and per his directive, no funeral services will be held. Memorials may be directed to his family and sent to the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home, P.O. Box 215, Waverly, Iowa 50677. Online condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com. Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly is assisting the family with arrangements, 319-352-1187.

VFW Auxiliary meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met February 13, 2018 at the home of Verdeen Pavelec with 5 members present. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes and treasurer's reports were read and a motion was

made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Darlene Peters to accept them, carried. General orders and chairman reports were read by all. Volunteer hours were turned in.

Fifteen legislative letters were sent into Washington, D.C. pertaining to issues of veterans. Charlie and Wilda Albrecht and Burton and Ellen Thies attended the 3rd District meeting on January 13 at Nashua, IA.

238 canceled stamps were turned in to send to handicapped veterans. Kathy Thiele filled out the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer form to be sent in. Ellen Thies will be delegate and Wilda Albrecht will be alternate for 3rd District meeting in April.

There was discussion for an entry in the poppy contest. Fourteen t-shirts were donated to the Veterans' Hospital in Marshalltown. Verdeen thanked the members for prayers and the Kwik Trip gift card and also the card from the 3rd District Auxiliary that everyone signed.

A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to adjourn, carried. Marrillee Tiedt was hostess.

Pepper Tournament

The February 2 pepper tournament held at the Readlyn Event Center was attended by 16 card players. We were happy to have two more new players join us. The winners and their scores were:

1st Place: Don Childs and Dave Schumacher - 211

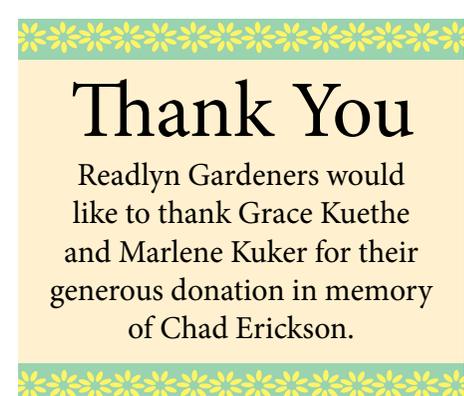
2nd Place - Jana Flanscha and Michael Kolsrud - 209

3rd Place - Lois Ganske and Shirley Kuker - 171

4th Place - Judy Henn and Ron Brunschon - 167

The next tournament will be on Saturday, March 3 at 2 p.m. at the Readlyn Event Center. Entry fee is \$3.00 per player. Bring a partner.

Shirley Kuker and Judy Henn



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 31

9:30 AM

Readlyn City Park

Age Groups:

- 0 - 3
- 4 - 5
- 6 - 7
- 8 - 9

Sponsored by Readlyn Community Club

In case of bad weather, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Readlyn Fire Station.

Readlyn Firefighter's Association Annual Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 11, 2018

Watering Hole

Main St., Readlyn, Iowa

Serving 8:00AM to 1:00PM

(carryout available)

Menu: Scrambled Eggs, Smoked Sausage Patties, Rinderwurst, French Toast, Cinnamon Rolls, Toast, Juice, Coffee, Milk

Free-will Donation At Door

All proceeds will be used toward funding the betterment of the Readlyn Volunteer Fire Department

"Thank you for your continued support, it is greatly appreciated!"

Readlyn Volunteer Firefighter's Association is a 501c3 non-profit organization established in 2012.



Readlyn Community Library

We put the READ in Readlyn

Barb Sowers
Nancy Lockard

In Loving Memory

Memorial Cash Donations

In Memory of Jerry Oltrogge

Chris & Angie Joerger \$20.00
Andrea Matthias \$10.00

In Memory of Edna Kuhlman

Lavern & Jeanette Brase \$10.00
Kenny & Bonnie Piehl \$10.00
Dean & Lois Buhr \$10.00
Rex & Barb Blaylock \$10.00
Andrea Matthias \$10.00

In Memory of Berniece Schmacher

Jane Meier & Steve Meier \$10.00
Shirley Kuker \$10.00
GaryLee & Bonnie Thurm \$15.00
Trent & Nancy Lockard \$10.00
Ken & Barb Sowers \$10.00
Fred & Sonja Bast \$10.00
Jolene Meyer \$10.00

In Memory of Chad Erickson

Ken & Barb Sowers \$10.00
Chris & Angie Joerger \$20.00

In Memory of Del Finder

Larry & Carol Strottmann \$20.00
Judy Henn \$10.00

In Memory of Edith Duffy

Marlene Kuker \$10.00

In Memory of Mark Huebner

Jolene Meyer \$10.00

Memorial Book Donations

In Memory of Berniece Shumacher

"La La La" by Kate DiCamillo and
"The One Day House" by Julia Durango
from Farmers Co-op Readlyn/Shell Rock



Readlyn Reads

The selection for March is "The Magdalen Girls" by V.S. Alexander. Told with candor, compassion, and vivid historical detail, *The Magdalen Girls* is a masterfully written novel of life within the era's notorious institutions (Dublin 1962)—and an inspiring story of friendship, hope, and unyielding courage.

Pick up a copy and come join us at the library for discussion on Thursday March 29th at 7:00 pm.



Color Us Creative

JOIN US Tuesday, March 20th

1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

School-agers after school

309 Main Street ~ P.O. Box 249
Readlyn, IA 50668-0249

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
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We have been weeding our Juvenile Fiction and Young Adult sections. We simply don't have unlimited space, and need to make room for new materials. Weeding is as necessary to a library collection as it is to a healthy garden. In a garden you do not come across a patch of thistle squeezing the life out of your tomatoes and say "Oh, but someone might, someday, maybe, possibly want these thistles." No, they've got to go.

Stop by and browse through our discards, you might just find one of your childhood favorites. Take home one or an armload and make a freewill donation.



Learn Ukranian Egg Decorating at the Library

Pat Wehr teaching the art of Pysanky



The method is similar to batik - patterns are drawn on the egg with wax, which protects the covered areas from the dye that is applied. By repeating this process with different colors of dye, a multi-colored pattern is built up. Finally, the wax is removed, with the heat of a candle, to reveal the colors that were covered up at each stage.

Participants are asked to bring 3 hard boiled eggs that are at room temperature.

Thursday March 8th @ 6:00
Limit 8 participants Age 12 and up
Call 279-3432 to register!

We are hoping to offer these type of Learn | Share | Do programs regularly. If you have a skill you would like to share or one you'd like to learn, please let us know.

New DVDs this month



- Geostorm
- Only the Brave
- The Stray
- Wonder
- Roman J. Israel, Esq.
- Same Kind of Different as Me*
- Just Getting Started*

Make tonight a movie night!!

* - scheduled for released before Chronicle is published



Free Technology Class Offered at Bremer County Libraries

Schedule of Classes in March

eBay:

Janesville Library, Thurs. March 8 10 AM

Internet Safety:

Denver Library, Thurs. March 8 6:30PM

Facebook for Beginners

Tripoli Library, Mon. March 19 5 PM

Basic Gmail:

Waverly Library, Fri. March 23 10 AM

Storing Digital Files:

Plainfield Library, Fri. March 23 2 PM

Readlyn Library, Tuesday March 27

6:30PM

Check Out Free eBooks & Audiobooks

Sumner Library Tuesday March 27 2PM



Join us for Story Time at the Library

Spring Session

March 1st through May 24th

Thursday mornings @ 9:00





Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

1952 — Readlyn Goes To State

- 1951-52 Readlyn (Regular Season)**
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| 53, Frederika 29. | 80, Janesville 25. |
| 66, Finchford 36. | 61, Lawler 54. |
| 51, Plainfield 36. | 55, Sumner 51. |
| 71, Tripoli 44. | 72, Denver 54. |
| 47, Denver 31. | 45, Shell Rock 40. |
| 55, Lawler 65. | 69, Tripoli 44. |
| 68, Frederika 47. | 75, Janesville 35. |
| 74, Plainfield 40. | 50, New Hartford 46. |
- County Tournament**
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 74, Plainfield 45. | 47, Sumner 60. |
| 55, Denver 39. | |
- Sectional Tournament**
- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 49, Plainfield 34. | 43, Denver 42. |
| 61, Tripoli 30. | |
- District Tournament**
- | | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 58, Oran 42. | 61, Shell Rock 49. |
|--------------|--------------------|
- Sub-State Tournament**
- | | |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 54, McGregor 37. | 58, Mason City (Holy Family) 52. |
|------------------|----------------------------------|

In 1952 Readlyn High School advanced to the Iowa State High School Basketball Tournament held in Iowa City. Coach Walter Johnson led starters, Erv Fortsch, Dale Kuethe, Don Koschmeder, Morgan Cowan, Roger Wolff and sixth man, Virgil Matthias, through the qualifying tournaments enabling Readlyn High School to be in its only appearance in the state tournament. Readlyn boys battled but finally lost in a very close game to Roland 49-46. The team did not know at the time that they were playing against a future All-American, Gary Thompson, who went on to be an all-american at Iowa State. I happened by chance to be at that game having just finished army infantry basic training in Hawaii and given a seven day leave on my way to Korea and the Korean War. It was an exciting time in Readlyn. *Clippings from Virgil Matthias.*



FIRST ROW: E. Fortsch, R. Wolff, D. Koschmeder, D. Kuethe, M. Cowen, D. Buhr. SECOND ROW: Mr. Johnson, O. Thoms, E. Miller, V. Matthias, M. Stromer, L. Froning, J. Meyerhoff. THIRD ROW; J. Cowen, R. Kimball, R. Bast, L. Platte, M. Happel, E. Dornbusch, J. Miller, J. Ernst.

Boys just couldn't do it

By Courier Sports Writer

Readlyn Coach Walt Johnson naturally was unhappy with his team's showing Tuesday, but he summed up the performance with, "Well, against a team like Roland, you just can't make mistakes and we made plenty of them out there today."

Johnson walked among his squad trying to pep them up as he said, "We were a little slow in reacting all the way through our game. The boys were tight and just couldn't seem to loosen up."

Roland Coach Buck Cheadle was high in his praise of Readlyn's play, even in a losing cause.

"They are the best B team we have faced this year," he said. "THEY COULD HAVE KNOCKED OFF A LOT OF TEAMS DOWN HERE THE WAY THEY PLAYED AGAINST US OUT THERE TODAY. This fellow Kuethe (Dale) is a dandy. Wish we had a couple like him."

Kuethe tossed in 17 points for Readlyn. Cheadle was not particularly happy about his own team's showing against Readlyn.

"That's the worst the boys have looked in all the tournament play this year," Buck moaned. "We made five bad passes in the fourth quarter alone, and we never make more than one or two in a whole game."

Buck, wearing the same red shirt he wore during last year's finals, said he would rank his present squad on a par with last year's team. "Thompson (Gary) grew about two inches this year, and he's looking as good as ever," he said.

Thompson was the hero of the Roland team last year with his long shots and passing.

Readlyn Bows After Leading by Two, 43-41

By RUSS L. SMITH

Assistant Courier Sports Editor

Iowa City, Ia. - Readlyn battled the 1951 runnerup, Roland, down to the wire here Tuesday afternoon before bowing, 49-46, in a thrilling battle of class B powers in the boys' state high school basketball tournament.

Readlyn fought from eight points behind at halftime taking the lead, 43 41, in the fourth quarter, but there the Warriors hit a cold streak and could score only three points in the final eight minutes.

It was the second thriller of the opening session for the crowd of 7,521 fans. In the first game Spencer fought to knock off class B Lincoln-Wales, 41-39.

It was the second game that sent the fans home taling as Readlyn held Gary Thompson, the star of last year's Rolan team, to eight points as Dale Kuethe took scoring honors for the game for Readlyn with 17.

About the coach and players

Coach Walter Johnson came to Readlyn in December of 1945 and helped out with the junior high team, but he was given the varsity reigns the next fall and now is in sole charge of the varsity teams in baseball and boys' and girls' basketball at Readlyn.

Two regulars on the fine 1950 team, Dale Kuethe and Don Koschmeder, are pacing this year's squad with 20 and 16 points a game average, respectively. Other regulars and their average are Roger Wolff, 8, Irv Fortsch, 6 and Morgan Cowen, 5.

Cowen, a transfer this year from Clarence, Ia., and Wolff are juniors. The others are seniors.

Cowen's arrival and the miraculously rapid recovery of Wolff from a motor scooter accident are given due credit for Readlyn's success.

Wolff was injured shortly after the season started and for a short time it was feared he might lose a leg, but he recovered and was able, later, to help his team in its drive for the state tournament. The team's preparation for the state tourney included the purchase of new white jerseys.

The reserves on the tournament squad include senior Lyle Froning, junior Danny Buhr, sophomores James Meyerhoff, Marvin Stromer and Virgil Matthias, freshmen Orville Thoms and Elston Miller.

Koschmeder was being treated by a doctor last week for a cold. He received a shot of penicillin before competing in sub-state finals and scored 18 points.



Walter Johnson
Iowa State Teachers
College B.S.
University of Iowa
Athletics
Social Studies
Science
Physical Education

1950 and 1952

Outstanding Readlyn Basketball Teams

In 1950 Readlyn High School Basketball team met Dinsdale in the finals of the substate tournament held in the Hippodrome. Starters were Wayne and Dale Kuethe, Reiny Frietag, Lawrence Schmidt and Ron Wolff. Readlyn had the misfortune of having two starters, Reiny Frietag (ankle), and Lawrence Schmidt (poked in the eye) injured and having to leave the game. Readlyn battled

but lost 39-37. Dinsdale went on to the state tournament beating Montezuma by 39-36, Atlantic by 49-47, losing in semi-finals to Davenport 71-22 and consolations to Winfield 50-45. Davenport easily won the tournament and could have beaten many college teams. They had victories over Newkirk 70-28, Shelby 78-15, Dinsdale 71-22 and in the finals, Ankeny 67-28.

Business Places Close; Chartered Busses Take Fans

It was easy to find the quietest place in Bremer County Tuesday. For rest, repose and relaxation Readlyn's Main Street really had it!

Readlyn's pride and joy, the high school basketball team, was scheduled to play Roland in the first round of the state tournament at Iowa City at 2:45 p.m. and just about everybody in Readlyn had left town by 9:30 a.m. to back the home club from the sidelines.

A huge banner across Main Street urged everybody to "Cheer Warriors at the State."

Nearly every store on Readlyn's Main Street was decorated with a sign of some kind or another, all of them urging the favorite sons on to victory.

Readlyn's poplation is listed at 468 but by Monday night 306 adults and 104 students had obtained reserved seats for the opening game against Roland Tuesday afternoon and many more fans from Readlyn and the surrounding countryside left early for Iowa City, counting on getting tickets at the gate. Nothing like it has ever been experienced in Readlyn.

At a meeting of the Commercial Club Friday evening in the wake of Readlyn capturing the championship of the sub-state tournament, Readlyn businessmen unanimously decided to "lock up tight" after 10 a.m. Tuesday. Signs of virtually every store along Main Street proclaimed this fact.

Most interest, however, centered in the big signs painted in every color of the rainbow and found in the large store windows.

The Readlyn Locker plant operated by Stan Gehrke and his father, carried this sign - "Yea Warriors, Scalp 'Em."

Across the way at the Thran tavern a huge red sign in the window read, "Go Warriors, Beat Roland."

The Hartman Grocery sign in blue paint said, "Go Warriors, Fight." Next door the Readlyn Hardware had this bit of poetic "inspiration" for the Warriors: "Go Coach. Go Team. Let's Really Show Steam."

The Readlyn Hatchery urged the team on with, "Go Warriors. Slit that net." The Readlyn Savings Bank's sign read "Yea Warriors! Fight!"

Even the automobiles in Readlyn carried messages. Some motorists had rmessages in white paint scrawled on front, rear and side, urging Readlyn's club to win. A special front license plate for cars of Readlyn supporters was procured by enterprising backers of the Warriors and the plates were plentiful in the early hours Tuesday as the big push to Iowa City got underway.

Readlyn citizens warmed up to the job of following their team to the state tournament early Monday when the club went to Iowa City for a practice session on the University of Iowa floor. The school students turned out and the business places were emptied of clerks and customers to give the team a good send-off.

Readlyn had plenty of support from other Bremer County towns at the state tournament Tuesday. It was estimated that at least 250 Waverly fans were making the trip to Iowa City to back the Bremer County entry.

Win or lose, plans for a mammoth banquet honoring the team were already being talked about this week.

News from Community Lutheran School



Congratulations to the CLS basketball team! They had a successful season playing as a team. Thanks be to God for the opportunity to develop and strengthen their understanding of the game! Thanks Coach Nicole and Coach Andy!

CLS has partnered with Trinity Lutheran School in Spring, Texas through SchooltoSchool.lcms.org.

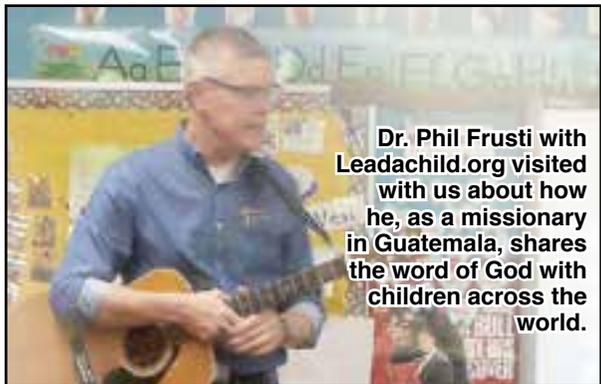
Trinity Lutheran was affected by Hurricane Harvey this past year. On January 25, CLS hosted a free-will donation spaghetti dinner and all proceeds were sent to Trinity Lutheran

food pantry that serves the Houston area. CLS students provided dining entertainment.

Thank you to all of our school, church, and community members who supported this benefit!

Jesus is the mission of our school and church.

National Lutheran Schools Week events



Dr. Phil Frusti with Leadachild.org visited with us about how he, as a missionary in Guatemala, shares the word of God with children across the world.



Bell choir performed at the Tripoli Nursing home during National Lutheran Schools Week.



Four-year-old preschool celebrate crazy hair and hat day.



3-year-old and 4-year-old preschoolers spelled out JESUS using some donated items the school collected for His Hands Food Pantry in Oran during National Lutheran Schools Week. A total of 170 pounds of household items were donated to help others in our community.



Kindergarten through eighth grade sang at a chapel service at the Tripoli Nursing Home.



1st and 2nd graders memorizing our bible verse memory work for the week "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8



The students led a chapel service (above and below) summarizing our 5-day themes of National Lutheran Schools Week to the residents of the Tripoli Nursing Home. "It's still all about Jesus." Jesus is the same yesterday, and today, and forever. Hebrews 13:8



Parachute play with Daniel from Camp I-O-Dis-E-Ca.



KG - 2nd grade celebrated the 100th day of school on Tuesday, Feb 6, 2018!



Three-year-old preschool crazy hair and hat day



His Hands Food Pantry donations with kindergarten through 8th grade.



Kindergarten through 2nd graders with some of the donated items for His Hands Food Pantry.

Readlyn Community Happenings



Members of the Readlyn EMS are shown with the new Jump Kits they were able to purchase with funds from Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa.

Readlyn EMS Uses Grant Funds to Purchase New Jump Kits

Readlyn EMS Association recently purchased 14 BLS (Basic Life Support) Jump Kits for each of our volunteers. The Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa recently granted \$3,700.00 to the service for the purchase of these kits. Our old Jump Kits had the fabric falling apart and were approximately 10 years old. Jump Kits are kept in each responder's vehicle, so that immediate supplies are available when a responder arrives on scene in their personal vehicle. The new kits came completely stocked with many numerous necessary supplies needed to treat many different emergency situations. These Jump Kits make treatments/evaluations faster for a sick or injured person in the case of having to wait for an ambulance to arrive. Faster treatments can help improve the outcome of a person's recovery. The Jump Kits not only benefit our community, but our county as well. Sometimes, these Jump Kits become valuable in other areas of the county. Many of our responders approach emergencies while out in other areas of our county, which enables them to have supplies to help there also.

Readlyn EMS is a non-profit organi-

zation that provides pre-hospital medical care for the patients in an emergency situation. Readlyn EMS consists of currently 14 volunteers who include: Deb Buchholz-EMT, Sherry Sommerfeldt-EMT, Clint Watts-EMT, Samantha Power-EMT, Brody Adair-EMT, Steve Aiello-Driver, Stephanie Gipper-Driver, Rocco Imbrogno-Driver, Jason Franck-Driver, Nick West-Driver, Cassy Hesse-Driver, Jerrid Nuss-Driver, Zach Woodman-Driver, and Whitney Schmidt-Driver.

We would like to thank the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa for their generosity in granting the service funds. In the past, the Community Foundation has also granted funds for other projects to our service. The projects include purchasing CPR manikins, turnout gear, body armor, pagers & radios, and pulse oximeter/CO2 detectors. These projects were made successful because of their assistance.

We would also like to thank the community for all the ongoing support received. Funds from donations are also used to purchase this equipment that is a necessity for giving the best emergency care possible.

Community Foundations' grant application now available

Grant applications can now be submitted to the Bremer County Community Foundations and Waverly and Readlyn Community Funds for their 2018 grant cycle. The deadline to submit applications is 11:59 p.m. March 31, 2018. Grants are awarded to projects in the following areas: art and culture, community betterment, education, environment, health, historic preservation and human service.

There is one application process for all three grant cycles. Please make sure to review grant guidelines for detailed information. The online grant application and guidelines can be found at any of the three Community Foundations' websites: www.bremerccf.org, www.waverlycf.org or www.readlyncf.org. Grant recipients will be announced in June 2018. Completed applications must be submitted no later than 11:59 pm March 31, 2018 to be considered for funding.

First-time grant applicants should contact Dotti Thompson, Program Manager, at (319) 243-1358 prior to submitting an application. Grant applicants must be a 501(c)(3) designated organization (or government entity) serving Bremer County in order to be considered for funding.

For more information, please contact the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa at (319) 287-9106.

Wapsie Valley Presents Musical "Annie" March 16-18, 2018

The Wapsie Valley High School music department will present "Annie" on March 16, 17 and 18.

"Annie" is a classic family musical set in 1930s New York during The Great Depression. Brave young Annie is forced to live a life of misery and torment at Miss Hannigan's orphanage. Annie is determined to find her parents. Her luck changes when she is chosen to spend Christmas at the residence of the famous billionaire, Oliver Warbucks. Spiteful Miss Hannigan has other ideas and hatches a plan to spoil Annie's search. Annie will warm your heart as she goes on a magical adventure and discovers the true meaning of family.

Wapsie Valley's production is directed

by Fred Scaife and features Evie Roberts as Annie, Nolan Rochford as Oliver Warbucks, Cassidy Brunscheon as Miss Hannigan, and Caitlin McElhose as Grace Farrell. The cast includes Kade Edler as Rooster, Ashley Gonzales as Lily St. Regis, and Kyle Zimmerman as Franklin D. Roosevelt. They are joined by Courtney Schmitz, Melody Kayser, Joslynn Miller, Maria Kayser, Sydney Schor and Addisyn McElhose as the Orphans, Gavin Duffy as Bert Healy, and Chris Tibbott as Drake. The production also includes a number of talented Wapsie Valley performers.

The musical will begin at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, March 16 and 17, in the Wapsie Valley High School Auditorium. On Sunday, March 18, there will be a matinee performance at 2:00 p.m. Advance tickets can be purchased on-line at <https://wvmusicals.ludus.com>

Advance tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for students. Tickets at the door will be \$7.00 for adults and \$5.00 for students.



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Valentine Ball 2018



Kim Brown, Teresa Imbrogno and Jessica Buck greet everyone as they arrive at the annual Readlyn Valentine's Ball.



Mayor Dan Wedemeier arrives at the Ball with his wife, Connie.



Miss Readlyn Erika Jeanes and her date, Abe Silva, enjoy the Ball.



A beautiful Valentine ice sculpture graced the appetizer table.



Tables are set up for the Ball.



Motivational Speaker for this year's Valentine's Ball was Jill Krall.



Auctioneer Dolan Burreson and helpers Rocco Imbrogno and Jason Kayser did a fantastic job selling all the items and entertaining, also.



Everyone enjoyed the wonderful meal provided by Sunrise Catering.



A few of the 51 live auction items are shown above.



Participants had the opportunity to bid on the 86 silent auction items.



The Wapsie Valley FFA assisted Sunrise Catering by helping serve food and drinks and picking up after.



A huge thank you to Readlyn's Rainbow Clovers for "keeping their hearts in Readlyn." Each member dedicated nearly two hours whipping our event center back into shape after the February 9, 2018, Valentine Ball.

KT Shrimp Farm offers fresh, local option for seafood

KT Shrimp Farm, located in Tripoli, provides fresh options for local, farm-raised seafood. Beginning in 2016, Keith Tonne and Tami Tomkins bought the makings for a shrimp farm and took over the operation on Main Street in Readlyn and began raising Pacific White Shrimp. The original operation consisted of 9 pools, most supplied with air, heated water, and filtration systems. Keith and Tami diligently researched how to raise shrimp, the different types of water quality control systems, and equipment necessary to grow their business. In August of 2016, Keith and Tami got in their first batch of shrimp, and KT Shrimp Farm was born.

The success of their operation was not without challenges. The previous system was not able to handle the increased number of shrimp being raised and Keith had to update the filtration system, adding an additional sediment tank to each pool. The biggest challenge when raising shrimp is maintaining the water quality that the shrimp are raised in. The water, once shrimp are added, begins to go through a nitrogen cycle and the water changes on a daily basis. Keith tests the water each day, being sure to test for Dissolved Oxygen and PH levels, as well as levels of ammonia, nitrates, nitrites, salinity and other factors. Most levels can be adjusted through the use of natural products like baking soda. Sometimes, as minerals are depleted from the water through natural process, water swaps need to be done for water quality. Part of that natural process is that shrimp molt their shells many times as they grow. Shrimp use nutrients in the water to build the new shells and the water also helps to break down the molted shells. They are interesting creatures!

During the molts, shrimp are the most vulnerable, as they lose their protective shells and legs so cannot escape predators. Most people do not know that shrimp are cannibals and will eat each other, especially during the molts. Most people ask what growers feed their shrimp. Shrimp are fed shrimp food from the time that they are born. After ordering shrimp, the shrimp arrive in an insulated box, usually as PL10s (these are 10-day-old Post Larvals) and are the size of an eyelash. They are fed a liquid diet for the first few weeks that consists of brine shrimp as the main protein. At each significant growth spurt, the size of the

feed increases as well.

It takes approximately 4 months for shrimp to grow to a standard sell size of 20 grams (28 grams=1 ounce). By industry standards, these are considered jumbo sized. Most customers like big shrimp for grilling and KT has produced shrimp up to 48 grams, which is considered extra colossal and that was a substantial growing time. Typically, female shrimp grow faster than males, and usually at about 156 days, male shrimp will level off in their growth, regardless how much they are fed.

Taking into account all of the factors and challenges to growing shrimp, Keith and Tami decided to expand their operation through purchasing a building in Tripoli. They are currently renovating that building (the old hardware store behind the Welcome Center). They have had the building insulated with foam insulation to help regulate the temperature of the environment and tanks. Shrimp need warm water, somewhere between 83-85 degrees, but it can vary. Controls of temperature and subsequent humidity have both been major considerations in their renovations. Because of the potential for growth and the water quality factors, KT decided to advance their operation to install 40-foot aquaculture tanks with an accompanying 12-foot biofilter tank. These larger tanks and improved filtration tanks will allow KT to produce 10 times the shrimp and more easily maintain water quality.

The production of the shrimp still takes place at the Readlyn location, but sales are conducted at the Tripoli location. When harvesting, shrimp are placed in an ice bath as a humane way to harvest them. The shrimp are then bagged, weighed, and put on ice to sell. Fresh shrimp sells for \$18/lb. KT Shrimp currently has open hours from 10-noon on Saturdays and 6-8 p.m. on Thursday evenings. They have a website on Google and a Facebook page. Tami will post news and updates to Facebook. The website also offers a Notification List where customers can request pounds of shrimp and create bulk orders. KT will notify participants when their request is being filled. Shrimp can also be picked up by appointment. Once the production increases, KT will consider pulling shrimp fresh from the tanks to fulfill customer orders as they pick them up. Tami prefers that the shrimp are given the ice bath rather than them being placed alive in bags.

In visiting the website, <https://www.sites.google.com/site/ktshrimpfarm/> or just Google KT Shrimp Farm, visitors will find coupons, recipes, information about KT Shrimp, news articles about shrimp, and handling procedures. Some of the recipes are served on Saturdays, where Tami often presents shrimp samples in a different way each weekend. KT Shrimp wants to provide a fresh local option for shrimp, as imported shrimp is subjected to many US unapproved practices. In doing so, they also want to let customers know how versatile shrimp can be. Shrimp can be used in tacos, dips, on the grill, in salads and soups, sautéed and so much more! They are low in fat and calories, gluten-free, paleo-friendly, Weight-Watchers approved and just plain delicious!

KT Shrimp was well received at farmer's markets this past summer, and is something they plan to do again this summer. They have had a

Real Estate and Mobile Home Property Taxes due in March

Bremer County Treasurer, Sue Shonka, would like to remind property owners the March 2018 property taxes are due. Payments can be made in the Bremer County Treasurer's Office at 415 E Bremer Ave., Waverly, IA, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or mailed. Note the Bremer County Treasurer's office closes at noon, Friday March 30, 2018, for Good Friday. To avoid penalty, payments must be received in the office or postmarked on or before April 2, 2018. Delinquent taxes accrue at the rate of 1.5% per month, rounded to the nearest whole dollar, minimum \$1.00 per parcel. If you would like a receipt, enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Property taxes can be paid online at www.iowatreasurers.org with E-Check, Discover, MasterCard or Visa. If paying with a credit or debit card, a non-refundable service delivery fee is applicable.

You can find your March 2018 property tax amount due, receipt number or payment made date at beacon.schneidercorp.com



friend's and family event to let people know what they had been up to and look forward to having an Open House when they have a bit more of the renovations completed. Stop by to check out the progress, or watch Google and like them on Facebook to see updates! KT has had requests for other seafood options and are definitely open to suggestions and possible diversification in the future. They continue to research trends and methods of raising sustainable, healthy products for their customers.

Are you getting the State Credits you deserve?

Disabled & Senior Citizens Low Income Credit: To qualify you must be 65 or older or totally disabled with gross income of less than \$22,584. The Property Tax Credit Claim form must be filed in the treasurer's office before June 1, 2016. Contact the treasurer's office at 319-352-0242, for information regarding this credit.

Homestead Credit: Contact the Assessor's Office at 319-352-0145 with questions.

Military Exemption Credit: Contact the Assessor's Office at 319-352-0145 with questions.

Business Property Tax Credit: Contact the Assessor's Office at 319-352-0145 with questions.

Please feel free to contact the Bremer County Treasurer's Office at 319-352-0242 or by email sshonka@co.bremer.ia.us if you have any questions or concerns.

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Children must be 4 years of age on or before Sept. 15, 2018

Questions?

Contact the **Fairbank Elementary School Office** at (319)635-2071 or 311 5th St. North, Fairbank, IA 50629.

Contact the **Readlyn Elementary School Office** at (319)279-3323 or 200 E. 4th Street, Readlyn, IA 50668.



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2018 Princess Natalie Koepke and Queen Jenna Steffen



Kevin Leistikow receiving Distinguished Service Award from Chris Knapp



Fair Board President Pat Reiher receiving donation from Chris Knapp



Craig Hesse receives Cattlemen of the Year Award from Ron Dean



Auction buyers, Dr. Randy Groth of Plainfield Veterinary Service, Kyle Cox of Cox Cattle Company, Cora Lynch of Heartland Cattle, LaVerne Leistikow from Readlyn Savings Bank, Kevin Leistikow of L & L Ag, and Dean Werkman of Bremer Mutual. Not shown is Matt Norton of Agrigold Seeds. Photos courtesy of Donna Busch Photography

Bremer County Cattlemen's Banquet

The banquet was held at the 4-H Building on the Bremer County Fair Grounds at 1:00 PM on Feb. 4. Appetizers were donated by the Frederika Locker and the Butcher Block (Oran Locker). After the Invocation by Pastor John Ellingworth of St. John's Lutheran Church, a delicious Prime Rib meal including pie and ice cream was served.

The meeting began with the introduction of Casey Allison of the Iowa Cattlemen's Association. She spoke about a

number of issues pertaining to the production of cattle in Iowa.

Ron Dean presented the Cattlemen of the Year award to D & H Hesse Cattle of Readlyn. (Craig and Charlie) They have been feeding a lot of cattle since retiring from the dairy business.

The Distinguished Service Award was presented by President Chris Knapp to Kevin Leistikow of L & L Ag Repair of Readlyn. Kevin has been a big supporter of the cattlemen, he has used their grill-

ing service for several events, purchased many trophies at the auction and cleaned their grill many times.

President Knapp also presented the Bremer County Fair with a check for \$1000 for the 2018 Fair.

Terry Hinrichs gave the attendees an update about the Champions Ridge Project.

The 2017 Beef Queen Hannah Folkerts was privileged to introduce the 2018 candidates. The 2018 Beef Princess is Natalie Koepke, daughter of Rick and Rhonda

Koepke of Waverly, and the 2018 Beef Queen is Jenna Steffen, daughter of Robert and Diana Steffen of Waverly.

The 2018 Trophy Sales Auction then began. Auctioneer Ron Dean auctioned off 7 trophies to 7 different sponsors. Total of the auction was close to \$3,000.

The banquet closed with Natalie Koepka and Jenna Steffen drawing door prize winners. Everyone that signed up received a door prize and some even two. A great time was had by all.

Bremer County Corn & Soybean Growers Annual Meeting

President Steve Mummelthel began the meeting with comments about the smaller attendance, perhaps the weather had something to do with it. After the Invocation, a delicious meal was served by Sunrise Catering at the Watering Hole in Readlyn. The Meal was sponsored by Flint Hills Resources of Fairbank and Shell Rock. A big Thank You to them.

Steve called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and introduced the current board members and two new board members, Bruce Lantsky and Adam Traetow. He introduced guests, including Ray and Elaine Gaesser of Corning, Iowa. Ray is past president of both the Iowa and American Soybean Association and is seeking his party's nomination for Secretary of Agriculture. After the Secretary's and Treasurer's Reports were read and approved, Board member Mark Lenius introduced our 2018 Sponsors and thanked them for their donations. He then told the membership about the activities of the past year and plans to begin the concept of an Ag School for the 2018 year.

Highlights of the evening was the awarding of college scholarships. Three scholarships were given to high school

graduates that were judged on essays written by the students about how their future education would benefit agriculture. Scholarships were awarded to Justin Dillon, son of Tim and Jennifer Dillon of Sumner - Fredericksburg High School, and Brandi Marticoff, daughter of Marty and Kristi Marticoff and Erika Jeanes, daughter of Karla and Cris Jeanes of Wapsie Valley High School. Board Member Jeff Reynolds presented the scholarships and gave each recipient an opportunity to speak.

Keynote Speaker for the evening was Tim Recker of Arlington, Iowa. Tim is a farmer and worked in the construction industry for many years building terraces and ponds to save soil. About 10 years ago, Tim began the process of building and improving soil in his farming operation by using no-till and cover-crops to make soil healthy. His presentation was very enjoyable and educational as he described his successes and has seen such good results. Bottom line is, "If we don't begin to voluntarily keep our water clean, a government agency will require us to do it their way." A very big Thank You to Tim Recker for his remarks.



Scholarship winners for 2018 (left to right): Brandi Marticoff, Justin Dillon, Erika Jeanes, and presenter Jeff Reynolds.



Tim Recker of Arlington

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Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America

WV FFA Traditions and Achievements

By President, Erika Jeanes

Every year the Wapsie Valley FFA chapter celebrates their accomplishments and the history of FFA during National FFA Week. National FFA Week takes place in the month of February, the week of George Washington's birthday. This fun-filled week consists of serving cake, kernel counts, and ag trivia facts and questions that are posted with the winners of the questions receiving a special award.

One of the most prized traditions of the Wapsie Valley FFA is none other than a rough game of two-hand touch football but with a "catch." It is rowdy, entertaining, and downright fun. There is no other tradition like this one. Members at our June meeting and Greenhand Welcome participate in this down right grueling event known as COW TONGUE FOOTBALL!! This is one of our recreational activities that only happens once a year, but it indeed is a memorable one. Other recreational activities are available such as the lock-in, ski trip, and bonfires.

While members enjoy playing hard, we also like to work hard. We had 8 members participate in a National Leadership Development Event. Poultry and Parliamentary Procedure teams received first at State Convention and advanced to national competition. We also had an astounding 43 members participate at sub-district and district convention which took place at Hawkeye Community College and Monticello respectively.

Wapsie Valley FFA members continuously choose to strive for new levels of excellence. With this goal, Wapsie Valley FFA officer team

and members have molded our chapter theme of "Reach New Heights" for the 2017-2018 school year!

One of the events that stands out to our members and community is the "Fight like a Farmer" t-shirt, which sell for a student in elementary school with a chronic illness. Wapsie Valley FFA sold over 1,000 shirts and donated to a child in need. Along with the shirt sales there was also a school wide tractor parade to honor the student and to show that the community is supporting him. Our members with this event not only showed their outstanding support but this event stood out to many as honoring our local theme of "Reaching New Heights."

Wapsie Valley FFA consists of 89 members and stresses premier leadership, personal growth, and career success through agriculture education. The goal of our chapter is to work hard and also have some fun while doing it! That is how our chapter has "Reached New Heights."



Students dedicate their time to organize the "Fight Like a Farmer" shirts.



All 89 of our members strive for excellence!



Wapsie Valley Drive your Tractor to School day was conducted during the fall!

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Wapsie Valley prom is April 21

The Wapsie Valley prom will be held on Saturday, April 21. The grand march will be held from 4 to 5 PM at the high school. The dance will be held from 8 to 11 PM.

Our post prom event begins at 11:30 PM at the high school. The students should have a lot of fun. We will have food, prizes and games for the students.

The post prom committee is seeking donations for this event. Any individuals, churches, groups or businesses that wish to donate can call Kristi Marticoff at 319-240-1744 or mail a check made out to the Wapsie Valley Post Prom. We are a non profit group and our mailing address is post office box #113, Readlyn, Iowa 50668.

We appreciate all the support from the community! We look forward to providing a great evening our students will enjoy.

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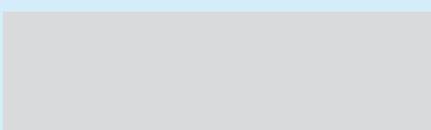
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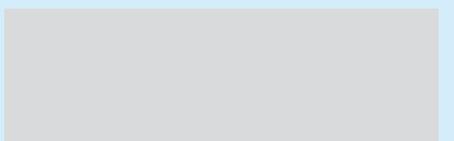
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Outdoors in the Cedar Valley *By Eric Johnston*

A Trip to Clear Lake

Each year, three friends of mine and I get together for our annual shotgun deer hunting camp weekend. We always have a blast on that weekend and this year we decided we would like to get together for another weekend of fun.

Some ideas were kicked around for a summertime trip but, with my tournament schedule along with everyone else's schedule, we couldn't make it work. I love ice fishing and I suggested we get together to ice fish for a weekend. A couple of guys had never ice fished before, but decided they would like to try.



Now while there's a lot of great ice fishing opportunities right here on our local lakes in the Cedar Valley, we decided we would like to put some miles on and get out of town for the weekend. I had known Kevan Paul for a few years now, and I had talked with him about his sleeper shack rentals at Clear Lake. I suggested this to the guys and we decided to give it a try on the weekend of January 26. This week I'll recap our trip and give you some information on contacting Kevan Paul and fishing Clear Lake.

To begin to recap our trip, I have to back up to Monday, January 22. A large storm made its way through the area, dumping two inches of rain over the Clear Lake area. I spoke with Kevan Monday afternoon to see what the ice conditions were after the rain. Some areas had twelve inches of standing water on top of the ice and it wasn't looking good for our trip. Kevan told me to call him Wednesday night to check ice conditions again and see what we needed to do. We were worried we would need to cancel and I couldn't wait to talk with Kevan Wednesday for an ice report.

Wednesday came and Kevan said the lake had taken the water well and the ice was in great shape! GAME ON! I relayed to the guys, and Friday afternoon we were on our way!! We arrived in Clear Lake around 2 PM Friday afternoon and met with our guide, Lonnie Mueller, at Clear Lake Bait and Tackle. There he directed us to which bait and jig colors were the best to be using for the weekend. We bought our bait and Lonnie told us to follow him to our sleeper shack.

For those that have never seen one of these sleeper shacks, they are by no means a shack!! Kevan's rentals have all the comforts of home. Ours had sleeping for four in comfortable beds, stove with an oven, forced air furnace, lights throughout, a bathroom and satellite TV with holes in the floor to fish while you watch your favorite show right out on the lake. We followed Lonnie to the lake and drove on. It's always a weird feeling for me to drive on ice, but I had full confidence in Kevan and Lonnie that the ice was safe enough to do so.

We arrived at the shack, got our supplies in and started fishing. Like I had mentioned earlier, a couple of the guys had never ice fished before, so I got them started by showing them how to operate a flasher and read what was going on. Once I had them going, I started fishing. Fishing started out slow, and I was finding out Clear Lake was a different animal opposed to what I was used to around home. Kevan called and told us we needed to get out and move around a lot. We did that some Friday night without much luck. We

went into town for dinner and decided we would hit it really hard in the morning.

The next morning we were up early. It's so nice to stay in these sleepers because you're already at the lake. You can literally start fishing in your pajamas! I fished for a bit inside and then decided to get out and move around. I got a few bites hole hopping, but couldn't find a good bite yet. We decided to head to the west end of the lake. We fished along a weed line and found some small perch, but they still weren't what we were looking for. So around 11 AM we headed back to the sleeper. We had a quick lunch, and made a game plan to each go in a different direction to find these fish. I headed north, while my friend Jared went south and Jerry and Derek headed east and west. After a half an hour of hole hopping north, Jared called and said to meet him to the south, as he was marking fish on the flasher. I met up with him and found an open hole.

On nice days like the one we had, there are holes drilled everywhere from guys moving around. I dropped my Skandia jig down the hole and a fish immediately rose up from the bottom! The fish nabbed my jig and I hooked up with my first Clear Lake yellow bass!!! Soon after Jared hooked up and we were fired up!!! Soon Jerry saw what was going on and headed our way. He found a hole and soon hooked up with a walleye! His first fish ever through the ice was a beautiful 16" walleye! We now all had the hang of it and started catching fish. We fished until dark marking and catching fish. If only we had worked our way south sooner like guide Lonnie had told us to! We hole hopped in an area about the size of half of a football field to stay on the fish.

I learned a few things about fishing Clear Lake on this trip. The fish up there, especially the yellow bass are very nomadic. The schools move constantly. When I mentioned hole hopping you literally move from hole to hole never spending more than a few minutes at each hole. Another thing to remember is change bait frequently. If you drop down and the fish won't hit a wax worm, try a spike or a minnow head. Our best color turned out to be a white Skandia glow jig with a little pink and black on it. Also listen to your guide while up there. Lonnie and Kevan told us to work our way south, but we were reluctant to head south because of the crowd of people that were south of us. Once we moved south we realized why everyone was there and most guys were happy to talk and point us in the right direction.

I must say you simply can't beat the hospitality we received from Kevan Paul and his guide Lonnie Mueller. The service was top notch, the sleeper was clean and warm, and Lonnie was fun to hang out with. Kevan will customize your trip to suit your needs, so if you're looking for a close getaway winter or summer, contact Kevan Paul at 641-529-2359 or www.paulsfishingguide.com he will take great care of you. All in all it was a fantastic trip and as always in fishing I learned a lot! Until next time, Get Outdoors!!



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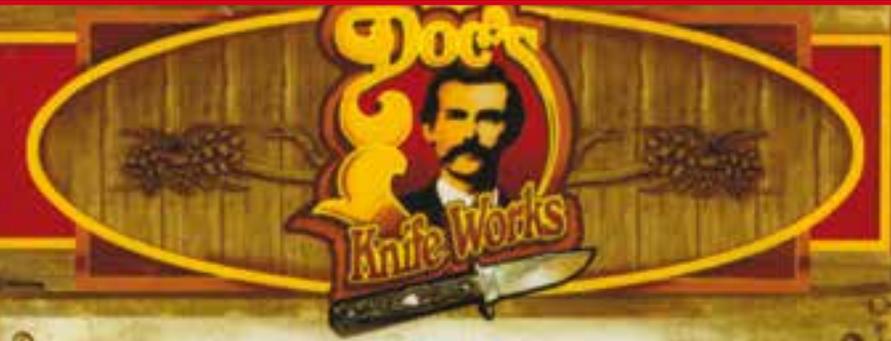
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On Saturday November 4, 2017 The Readlyn Fire Association hosted the "Annual Community Celebration and Fundraiser" at the Watering Hole. Special thanks to all who attended, and to those who didn't attend but continue to support our mission to provide quality fire service to Readlyn and the surrounding area. Congratulations to the big winners of our major awarded prizes for the evening: Tim West of Janesville and Bill Westendorf of Denver each won 1/2 hog with processing. Readlyn resident Doris Hagenow is the owner of a new Stihl chainsaw courtesy of Stokes Welding in Janesville. Special thanks to local businesses and individuals who provided several nice door prizes. Please be sure to come out and see us at our upcoming Breakfast Fundraiser Sunday, March 11, at the Watering Hole Event Center.



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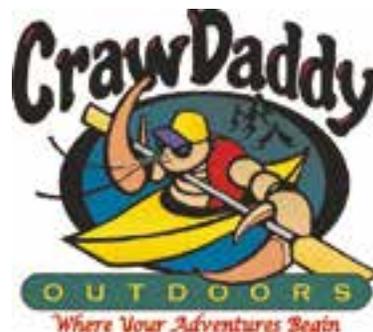
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Pearls of Wisdom

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

Jesus Conquered Evil for Us

Not again! Columbine High School, Co started the macabre and hellish dance of school shooting. Then, Virginia Tech, VA; Sandy Hook Elementary School, CT; Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, FL, to list a few. When is this going to end? Are we bound to accept school massacre as the "new normal?" God forbid!

Since the fateful and infamous day of September 11, deep questions have been asked and various speculations made about the destructive nature of evil. Questions such as: "Where is God when horrible thing happens?" "Why did God allow this evil to occur?" As time goes on and distances us from the event, we tend to forget till another tragedy strikes again.

From the beginning of time, the Bible says that God created humans with the freedom to choose to do good or evil. He holds us accountable through his commandments that are socially reflected in our rule of law. Committing murder breaks God's 5th commandment, and it is always a crime to kill the innocent regardless of the motive.

Law enforcement tirelessly works to restrain evil that people do. And we are thankful for their dedication in protecting us. Yet, we also share their frustration and limitation to stop the unstoppable, that is, evil intentions in the human heart that lead to murder (Jesus Christ, Mark 7:20-22).

Evil people will always find ways of acting out their murderous intentions through various means. Gun is only one means of killing and maiming among many.

For instance, means of mass killing includes but are not limited to the followings: civil aviation, suicide bomber, driving through a crowd, poison, etc...

Let it be known clearly and loudly that

the God of the Universe is the Lord of life. He hates evil. And heaven knows there's a lot He sees in our time and place, isn't there?

The question gets amplified, "Why does God allow evil and suffering to continue?" We look at the empty cross of Christ and are reminded about what God has done about evil through his Son. It can't be that He doesn't love us. It can't be that he is indifferent or detached from our condition.

God takes our misery and suffering so seriously that he was willing to take it on himself. Jesus fought and conquered our sin, death, and evil through the cross. He willingly endured physical and verbal abuse; he underwent injustice and perverse conviction and was shamefully executed. But...God raised his Son from the dead on the third day, and He thereby showed to us that the wrong and the ruin in our world will not have the last word.

God is indeed with us in our difficulties. We also need hope that our suffering is not in vain. For instance, families of lost loved ones worked desperately to reform laws or change social conditions that led to their death (MADD, Reform law against texting while driving, organ donation, etc...). They need to believe that the death of their loved ones has led to new life; that the injustice has led to greater justice.

In his answer to the question, "How could a good God allow suffering?" Dr. Tim Keller wrote the following, "The Biblical view of things is resurrection – not a future that is just a consolation for the life we never had but a restoration of the life you always wanted. This means that every horrible thing that ever happened will not only be undone and repaired but will in some way make the eventual glory and joy even greater" (In The Reason for God).

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