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Volume 16, No. 3, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Denver Forum, Denver, IA, March 29, 2023

Readlyn Chronicle celebrates its 15th year in 2023



The *Readlyn Chronicle* started 15 years ago with eight black and white pages. Over the years, it has grown to 16 color pages. It is truly a grassroots operation with volunteers contributing articles, raising funds through advertisements and delivering copies to all advertisers each month.

The *Chronicle* is sent free to all residents with a Readlyn zip code as well as subscribers to the *Denver Forum*. Copies are available at all the businesses advertising in the *Chronicle*. Approximately 1900 copies are published per month. Advertising rates had to be increased in 2023 after staying the same for 14 years.

The Chronicle is always in need of volunteers

to submit articles and photos and deliver copies to advertisers each month. With inflation, financial contributions are always welcome. Anyone donating will be recognized in the following issue of the *Chronicle* as a "Friend of the *Chronicle*" (For this month's donors, see page 15).

If you would like to volunteer or contribute, please contact Ron Leistikow at 2218 Reed Avenue, Readlyn, IA 50668.

We appreciate the support of our advertisers over the years. The *Chronicle* could not exist without your help. Thank you for your support in the past and we trust you will continue to support us in the future.

Community Club elects new officers, discusses Grump Days

The Readlyn Community Club met on Feb. 28. Present: Tiffany McCumber, Ed and Michelle Harrington, Bonnie Wittenburg. Louie and Ron Hartman, Larry Pavelec, Brandy and Duane Wilcox, Scott and Hailey Broten, Marlys and Roger Deterding, Pat Wehr, and three guests from the Lions: Daryl Schrap, Bruce Piehl, and Stephen Becker, who spoke to us about their club.

Once the meeting was called to order, Scott Broten made a motion that Michelle Harrington become president for two years; Ed Harrington seconded it; passed unanimously.

Pat Wehr moved that Louie Hartman become co-treasurer with Hailey Broten; Bonnie Wittenburg seconded it; passed unanimously.

Hailey Broten moved that Pat Wehr become secretary; Bonnie Wittenburg seconded it; passed unanimously.

Hailey Broten moved that since Sheila Boevers has failed to attend at least seven of the last 12 meetings that she be removed as director; Ed Harrington seconded it; passed unanimously.

Bonnie Wittenburg moved and Louie Hartman seconded that Brandy Wilcox become a director; passed unanimously.

Ed Harrington moved and Ron Hartman seconded that Tiffany McCumber become a director; passed unanimously.

Michelle Harrington read the January meeting minutes. Moved by Hailey Broten and seconded by Ed Harrington to approve the minutes; passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report was presented by Hailey Broten. Pat Wehr moved and Marlys Deterding seconded the report be approved; passed unanimously.

Old Business:

It was agreed that the Vintage Prom was enjoyed by those who attended.

Roger Deterding reported that pop can numbers are declining.

The *Readlyn Chronicle's* advertising is doing well.

New Business:

Annual meeting: \$30 for membership includes the \$15 meal. Theme tables will explain the RCC events.

Ron Hartman, Louie Hartman, Ed Harrington, and Ron Leistikow will meet with Mike Keeran to discuss the March dinner and Grump Days.

Brandy Wilcox accepted heading the Easter Egg Hunt; Ron and Louie Hartyman will help her set up.

Hailey Broten moved "Build Back Better" for this year's Grump Days' theme. Tiffany McCumber seconded; after discussion it passed unanimously.

Louie Hartman will contact Flashing Thunder for fireworks.

Louie and Ron Hartman will get things rolling for Grump Days with a lot of help.

Scott Broten asked permission to use the RCC Grump logo for clothing that Readlyn EMS and/or Fire Department plan to sell as a part of their fundraising efforts. After discussion, Bonnie Wittenburg moved that we grant them permission. Ron Hartman seconded; passed unanimously.

Volunteers of the Year – will be announced at the Annual Meeting March 24.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, March 7, 5:30, at the Hartman's to discuss the Annual Meeting, Easter Egg Hunt, and Grump Days.

Scott Broten moved and Marlys Deterding seconded we adjourn; passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted,

Pat Wehr, RCC secretary

Spring leaf burning allowed

The City of Readlyn will permit burning of leaves from April 1 to June 1, 2023. The City does not allow burning of building materials or other household wastes.

Reminder: Burning is not allowed on paved streets or sidewalks.

Please be considerate of your neighbors when burning and do not burn wet leaves







Grump's Grumblings

By Larry Davelec, 2022 Grump

Vicki and I went to the vintage prom and I wore my new Grumpy hat. We had a good time, but it would've been nice to see a few more people there. The band played my requests well. The food was a masterpiece to look at, and everything that I had tasted great, but too much food to sample it all. It was the prom we all would like to remember. Oh, what a dance and it set a terrific mood for a memorable night. Vicki kept the corsage I gave her in the refrigerator until we headed off on our trip to Texas.

Texas fishing trip was with my son Brett and grandson Bennett. Striped Bass in Lake Texoma has the best documented natural spawn of salt water striped bass of any lake in the country with a self-sustaining striper population since the 1970s.

We went fishing in the afternoon with our hired captain Zach who was from Guaranteed Guide service. The trip started out slow at first. On the first two spots Bennett was the only one to catch a fish. We had a few very light bites. However, electronics played a big role in locating active fish. He had a 100-foot side scanning fish finder so we knew the fish were there; they just had to be hungry. I was not as quick as I should be to get a hook in a striper. Zach said they were biting late so "I must have patience." We would get more bites and catch some fish. I watched Bennett catch the first four fish. I was having a little trouble concentrating on my bites since I was watching Bennett set the hook-on big stripers as he was reeling up his jig. We said it was the Bennett method of fishing. Zach took us to a third spot. We went out in the deeper water and he was marking lots of fish. We were getting bites right and left, at 77 feet deep. We all started catching stripers and pulling them into the boat. After an hour of fast action, we ended up catching our limit. We only kept 26, but there were some very nice fish. We threw a few 3-pounders right back so they could grow up. I highly recommend the guide service and our guide Captain Zack, He was very patient and helpful with Ben-

nett, my seven-year-old grandson who caught the most fish. Brett caught the biggest at almost 9 pounds. Zack even let Bennett net a couple of fish. Bennett did a very good job. It pays to have patience, no matter what you are doing.

I made it to a Readlyn Community Club meeting for once. This was on a Tuesday night. The normal night had been on the first Wednesday of the month. That is my night to go to the County Conservation Board meeting. The next Community Club meeting was on a Tuesday, but we had our church council meeting at Zion. So, guess where I went. I was at Zion with that family of volunteers. The volunteers at Community Club are such a good group of people. Everyone wants to share his talents and skills. Please, everyone man up, join. It's great. Come for the connections, events, resources, social interaction and make it a part of your life.

Update on my hands. I was able to make bread for the Lenten service meal at Zion Luthern Church, Nothing like fresh homemade bread. Making homemade bread is like some of the work I was doing at physical therapy with silly putty and trying to get the strength back in my hands. I still have a lot of work to do, but I did graduate from physical therapy. As long as we try our best, hard things will get done, and everything works out.

My priorities have not changed throughout the years. First it is about God, then myself, family, church, and community. Sometimes I get them switched around for a little bit, but I've always come back to get on the straight and narrow track and follow my values. Readlyn Iowa values make our town the best place for families.

It has been a good month for people acknowledging the Grump articles in the Readlyn Chronicle. Over a hundred people have stopped me when they see the Grump hat, and we talk about how they enjoy reading the Readlyn Chronicle. I just love to talk to friendly people!

The Big Old Grump.



Create something that your future self will thank you for.

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David C. Matthias 2018 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly, IA 319-415-5989 davidmatthias.fbfsagents.com FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES WEALTH MANAGEMENT

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Miss Readlyn Comments

By Sydney Matthias

I can't be the only one ready for the snow to be gone at this point. It is time for sunshine and warmer temperatures. I haven't seen a robin yet - but the babies are running in the pasture already at our house.

Spring sports are starting with a few indoor meets for track and field. Best of luck to them this season as they work toward getting to run on the blue oval in Des Moines. Golf will be starting soon - I know they'll want to be outside as soon as

the snow has melted.

All of this means, though, that softball will be starting soon!! I'm so excited for this season to start, not only the high school season but my club softball season and getting to watch the elementary kids play as well. We are so lucky that there is a town diamond for the younger kids to play on. And a great diamond that is well cared for at that.

Let's hope those robins show up soon!

Thank You All!

Thank you Readlyn Community, Mike Keeran, Grumpy's, and the Grumpy's family for your love, support, and extra tips after my car got hit while I was at work. While the person who hit my car hasn't come forward, my car is fixed and looking as good as new. It just goes to show how strong of a community we have here in Readlyn.

So again I just want to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart, even for those who couldn't make it, I still felt the support and I truly appreciate every one of you. Thank you all so much!!

Corina Gray



Connie Rochford, Broker 215 N. Railroad, Sumner, IA 563-578-8899

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Readlyn EMS: Did you know?

We have had new crew members and new community members in Readlyn over the past few years so we wanted to take some time to introduce you to the Readlyn EMS Crew.

Let me introduce you to:

Rocco Imbrogno

Rocco moved to Readlyn with his wife, Teresa (Tiedt), and two daughters, Grace and Lydia, and an ornery schnoodle, Grady, back in August 2013 from Denver,

Rocco joined the Readlyn EMS service in January 2018 and went through EMT training, making him able to do it all. He can drive the rig, provide care for those ill or injured and also helps keep things in stock and helps with training.

WV Education **Foundation** successful fundraising efforts

Thank you for making the 20th anniversary of WVEF's annual fundraising event such a great success. Since the beginning, the foundation has had support from area families and businesses to supplement educational resources within the district. And this winter's fundraising efforts was no exception. Special thanks to Grumpy's staff and Mike and Samantha Keeran and to Jim and Bev Collins of Sunrise Cater-

In January 2023, the board met to review teacher submitted "enrichment grants." After setting aside funds for WVEF sponsored scholarships, over \$32,000.00 was approved for the following:

WV Elementary Buildings Project Amount Transitional K/Kindergarten Readlyn & Fairbank, Short

Elementary Grades Readlyn/Fairbank, Literacy Week

Full week in March focused on promoting literacy 5th Grade-Readlyn and Fairbank, Collaborative Classroom Seating

increase seating options for collaborative reading 6th Grade-Fairbank, 21st Century Skills Developmen

Promote creating, problem solving, and developing skills, talents, thinking and mental rigo 3rd Grade- Readlyn & Fairbank, Brain Pop....\$460.00 Brain Pop is an online subscription used in classroom 3rd Grade-Fairbank, Short Throw Display...\$1,779.00

Projectors and software that interface with whiteboards as well as tablets 2nd Grade- Readlyn & Fairbank, Brain Pop...\$625.00

Brain Pop is an online subscription used in classroom Special Ed/Title One Readlyn and Fairbank, Phonics 5th and 6th Grades- Readlyn, Noise canceling head

Replace and Update equipment all grades

Elementary Buildings Total\$21,471.28

WV Junior and Senior High School

Agricultural Educations, Principles of Small Engines Tech certification purchase of online curriculum that is part of iCEV (an online resource for Career & Technical Education

English Dept, Mental Health and Mindfulness in Litera-

ture and Real World.....\$250.00 Funding to purchase additional books English/Language Arts-Grades 7-12, PE-Grades 7-12, Update PE equipment

Replace and replenish broken or worn out P.E Industrial Technology-Grades 10-12, Computer Aided ...\$2,000.00 Design(CAD) Lab ..

Grant money will go towards funding to purchase laptop computers that are needed to update the CAD lab Family and Consumer Science Classes, Grades 10-12, 3 computerized sewing/embroidery machines

Utilized in Quilting and Clothing Construction classes
Art Room-Grades 7-12, Shelving for Art Room

Math Classroom Grades 7-12, Flex Seating and White English Grades 7-12, Curriculum Updates and Adven-Update curriculum for teaching grammar and movie

Amount for Junior/Senior High School.\$10,789.27 Grand total for All Buildings:

.....\$32,260.55 Thank you again,

Wapsie Valley Board of Directors

When not volunteering with the first responders you can catch him in his fulltime job as a production print specialist where he repairs and maintains digital production presses and office copiers. He also dabbles in the networking side of things. Having owned and operated an automotive repair shop in Colorado since June of '98 and selling it in 2013 when relocating here, he also has a side hustle of working on cars. Rocco is also on the city council and a board member of the Tripoli/Readlyn Sanitation Agency, having held these seats for three years now.

But what does Rocco like to do for fun? "Golf, golf, and more golf. I love to spend most of my free time on the course. Now that both girls are out of high school, I conveniently have more free time for this. Outside of golf I enjoy cooking, mostly homemade Italian family recipes. I am perfecting my wood-fired pizza, mmmm. Getting together with family is also high on my list, hence the move back to Readlyn. I could not feel more at home in this beautiful community."

If you or someone you know are think-

ing about joining a volunteer service, take Rocco's word: "At first it seems like a lot to take in, but the reward of helping your neighbor when they need it most, I mean



Rocco Imbrogno

you can save one's life..... What's that worth?"

Lastly, Rocco's amazing advice: "Anyone who knows me, knows I put a smile on everything... it is simple.... a smile is as contagious as a yawn I promise you. You can make anyone smile.... TRY IT!!!"

Tea Party planned

The Dunkerton First United Methodist Church welcomes you to join our upcoming Women's Spring Event -- Tea Party on Saturday, April 1 from 2-4 PM.

Consider wearing your finest hat and bringing a favorite tea pot or teacup. If you don't have a hat or tea pot/teacup, no worries!

Flavored tea & lemonade, coffee, scones, almond sticks & cupcakes will be

Guest speaker Justeen Hill, the owner of The Cellar in Cedar Falls, will be sharing her story.

The event will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 301 S. Washington, Dunkerton. Reservations are not required. All are welcome!





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Donations

In Memory of Stacy Nuss Roger and Connie Buhr

In Memory of Daral Cox

Don & Joyce Heineman Jerry Dorn Carrie & Scott Kaye & Family

In Memory of Gerry Berryhill Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation Agen-

In Memory of Kenny Wedemei-Barb Meyer

In Memory of Gordon Quentin Doug & Sherri Koschmeder

In Memory of Sherry Duffy Doug & Sherri Koschmeder

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mours:	
Monday	10:00 - 7:00
Tuesday	10:00 - 5:00
Wednesday	10:00 - 5:00
Thursday	10:00 - 7:00
Friday	10:00 - 5:00
Saturday	9:00 - 12:00



Come learn about the beliefs and lifestyle of a community of people whose religious practices are often mystifying and whose way of life is much different than our own.

All ages are welcome - Amish treats and refreshments provided!

Attendance is free, but please text or call the library to register. This helps us to allow for proper seating!

Thursday, April 13 @6:30pm at the Readlyn Community Library

Presented by Don & Dianne Kramer of Dyersville, IA

WHAT WE'LL LEARN ABOUT:

- Population
- Growth
- Key Beliefs
- The Ordnung
- Language
- Rumspringa Believer's
- Baptism
- Marriage
- Homes

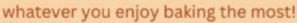
- Children
- Schools
- Social
- Gatherings
- Occupations Church
- Clothing
- Health & Healing
- Funerals and
- Burial



Spring Bake Sale and Social Gathering @ the Readlyn Community Library

Saturday, April 29th @ 9am - coffee, tea & samples provided!

We had such a great time at last year's Cookie Walk, we've decided to host another bake sale to help the library raise some much-needed funds and to give us a reason to come together and visit with one another. Bread, pies, cookies, cupcakes -







If you're able to donate baked goods to our bake sale, please contact the library to register! 319.279.3432 (p) 319.253.6802 (txt) readlynlib@gmail.com



Readlyn, Long Ago

Compiled by Bob Thran

Editor's Note: Read the Chronicle, including "Readlyn, Long Ago," online at: https://www.readlyn.lib.ia.us

Life of Bertha Harms Schumacher in her own words (continued)

Last month, Bertha Harms wrote about Saturday. That was a good day for us also, her early life, until the time of her marriage to William Schumacher. She writes further, in her own words, about her life with William "Patent Bill" Schumacher. She continues her story until her writing becomes disjointed and fades away. Keep in mind that Bertha was 91 years old at the time she wrote the rest of her story.

William's grandmother was dead so grandpa gave William's folks four lots across the road from him with weeds three feet high and said, "Build yourself a nice new house so you are close by us and can help us out sometimes." And that is what they did.

There was no waterworks, electric lights, nor sidewalks, but that all came in later years as town was just a grocery store, a saloon for beer, a post office, a hardware store, a wagon maker, a horseshoe man that put shoes on horses' feet and a doctor.

My man was what they call a man of all trades; he wanted things handy (that was just after we were married). So he put in waterworks also for his Mom and Dad and we put in carbide lights, also his folks, also a carbide stove. So we really spent money so we had to do extra work to make money than farming. So, in winter, we used wood shavings and sold silos and waterworks, but that made Ma do the chores and also take care of a little boy, Elmer. But we were healthy and Grandpa and Grandma come out - was four miles with horse and buggy — and we finished the milk and eggs and horse feed. As a rule, Grandpa and Grandma came out on

as that was cleaning day so they were a big help. We also had a hired man as my husband done some oats, grinding, and wood shavings for neighbors and friends.

Then in winter days, we had to get firewood from the woods for fuel for the stove and heater. We had to hurry and get chores done, then eight o'clock went six miles with the horses and sled as was snow, then at times took children to school. School was two miles and to the woods was six miles. We got to the woods, sawed down two or three trees to fill two sleds of trees ten to twelve feet long, then left for home at four o'clock, then done chores, had supper and then to bed for a good night rest. Then, if we had enough, we home sawed and split so as would have wood to go in the heater and cook stove, but after was split in the woodshed out of the rain (that was the children's work.) We had two boys and one girl in the family, Elmer, Earl, and Esther.

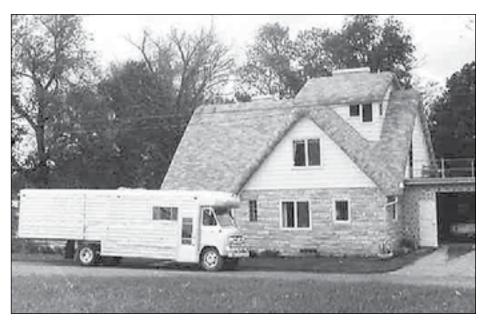
I have to tell you I wanted to raise chickens as they had no more feed to spare. But after we married, we made cement tile and tiled the land a little each year as we had no more money to buy cement. Our chickens are raised under a hen called Clucks. She was a climber and would set on twelve eggs for three weeks just getting off to eat. By that time (three weeks) the eggs would hatch and have baby chicks, but some were always rotten also. Then I would tie Clucks on the hind leg to a stack so she couldn't run in high weeds and lose the chicks as she would take good care of her little

Bertha and her role with Schumacher Elevator

Bill and Bertha and sons, Elmer and Earl, along with William's mother, Anna, moved to Denver allowing newlyweds daughter Esther, and her husband, Everett Hildebrandt — to assume the operation of the farm. In Denver, the family had already established a thriving machine and repair shop business.

In 1937, Bill received a request from Fred Wolf of Waverly to build an elevator in his hatchery. The development of this elevator marked a major change in their lives and their business. Schumacher Elevator was founded.

The elevator Bill designed met a widespread need. Soon, Bertha and Bill were traveling all over the United States installing over 200 of these elevators. Sons Elmer and Earl, worked in the machine shop. Bertha traveled with Bill, working by his side, installing elevators. Bertha was also the bookkeeper for the business.



William and Bertha's home and "motorhome" — The house in this picture, located on Iowa Street in Denver, is the home of William and Bertha Schumacher, patterned after a house William admired while on their trip to Europe. The "motorhome" in front was designed and built by William. The front section of the motorhome served as living quarters. The back was used to transport elevator components and necessary tools.

selves as cats like to eat and steal them, but if she was close to the chicks they were

chicks until they could take care of them- safe. The rope was about 10 foot long on a stake close to ...

And so the story ended.

Bertha cares for Anna, William's mother

Anna, the mother of Bertha's husband, William, came to live with William and Bertha after her husband, Fred Schumacher, died. The Schumacher family was living on their farm west of Readlyn at that time. The farm was on a Readlyn rural route and had a Readlyn address. Bertha cared for her mother-in-law, Anna, for 36 years. Anna passed away in 1979 at age

Mary Schumacher said his grandmother spoke little English. Conversations were carried on in Low German.

A Bit of History

In those early days it was a practice that

children assumed the care of their parents when they were old or alone or had no funds. When old persons had no funds, or anyone to provide for them, their final years were spent as a resident of a poor farm. In Bremer County, the poor farm is located north of Denver on Highway 63. Rex Bales bought the two large dormitory buildings and many of the cottages that housed the poor and moved them to the Big Corner. The size of the dining hall, dormitories and other buildings indicates that the population of the poor farm at one time was substantial. We are now a more kind society. Warehousing the poor at poor farms was demeaning and cruel.



Bertha and William are shown with William's mother, Anna (center).

The early years of William 'Patent Bill' Schumacher

Will was born August 11, 1899 in the farm home located 4 miles west of Read-

Will was an inventor and entrepreneur even before the end of fourth grade. He acquired the nickname "Patent Bill." His was an eager, creative, intellectually active mind. Farming presented a challenge to do the job easier, quicker and better.

To earn spending money while he was in school he got a catalog and ordered small items like rings and cards which he sold. He purchased a rooster and two hens of the "Star Spangled Leghorn" breed and later sold the eggs from his flock.

Using the windmill, he ground oats for milk cows and also ground oats for the neighbors. Will charged five cents a sack which was cheaper than the mill in Den-

Trips to the "big woods" on bobsleds to cut and haul wood to burn inspired Will to find an easier way. He begged his father to buy an engine. Will had to make the choice between the engine or more schooling. He chose the engine and his formal education ended at fourth grade.

With the new engine, the Schumachers were able to get their wood sawed earlythen they sawed for the neighbors. The engine was paid for in a short time.

When Will heard talk of silos, he sent for a catalog and decided that if they got a silo they would get a bigger milk check. Will said people made fun of him when he talked of buying a silo. They bought the silo and soon Will was selling silos at the age of 17.

Will married Bertha Harms in 1908 at age 19. Will knew at an early age that someday she would become his wife.

The amazing story of "Patent Bill" continues in the April issue of the Readlyn

Readlyn Community Happenings

Readlyn Senior Citizens meet

MARCH 17, 2023 — 13 members attended the 11:00 Senior Citizens' lunch and meeting at Grumpy's. Charlie Albrecht read an Irish Prayer since it was St. Patrick's Day. Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer before the meal and called the meeting to order.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Don Billhorn as his birthday is March 29, 2023. Verdeen Pavelec celebrated her birthday on March 16.

There were no anniversaries in the month of March that were celebrated.

We all signed a get-well card for GaryLee Thurm and sent it to his home.

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was 176.00. Motion was made by Don Billhorn and seconded by Judy Leistikow to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

The secretary's minutes were read by Lois Thacher for the February 15 meeting. Motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Roger Deterding to approve the secretary's report with the correction of the date and time, March 17 at 11:00 AM instead of being at 11:30 AM on March 15. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Annual Meeting/Membership drive for the Readlyn Community Club will be March 24 at Grumpy's Bar and Event Center starting at 5:30 PM.

NEW BUSINESS:

Readlyn Savings Bank and the Readlyn Telephone Company contributed additional ad money to the *Readlyn Chronicle* paper to help with additional expenses to help keep the paper published each month. Thank you to both of those businesses.

It was discussed to purchase a flag pole and flag to have on Highway 3 by the Readlyn welcome sign. Roger Deterding will be checking into the cost and it will be discussed again at our next meeting April 19.

The Annual Readlyn Easter Egg Hunt will be April 8 at 10:00 AM. The Easter

Egg Hunt will be held in the Readlyn City Park.

The next Senior Citizen meeting will be held April 19 at 11:30 at the Tripoli Bowling Alley. Janet Ladage made a motion to have the Senior Citizens Meeting and Lunch there. Charlie Albrecht seconded it. Motion carried.

Wilda Albrecht made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Don Billhorn seconded it. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Lois Thacher Secretary

Next Pepper Tourney April 1 no foolin'!

The pepper tournament was held on March 11 at Grumpy's with 16 players participating. The winners and their scores were:

1st: Doris Hagenow and Therese Schumacher - 192

2nd: Roger and Connie Buhr - 179

3rd: Ron and Judy Leistikow - 176

4th: Karan Boevers and Shirley Kuker - 157

The next tournament will be Saturday, April 1 at Grumpy's at 1:00 p.m. This will be the last pepper tournament until October. Entry fee is \$3.00. Bring a partner. Come and join us!

Shirley Kuker and Judy Henn



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319-961-8379 Janet

641-330-8978 Judy

ATTENTION: Coming in June - 2024 Calendar

featuring Readlyn pictures - 120 years



College News

Winona State University Fall Dean's List

Winona State University announces the Dean's List for Fall Semester 2022. Named to the list from Readlyn was Mikenna Joerger.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must be an undergraduate enrolled full-time (at least 12 credit hours for a grade) and achieve a minimum grade point average of 3.5.

Save the Date!

Wapsie Valley Class of '61, Family & Friends are planning a get-together Saturday, June 10, 2023. More details to follow.

Area Student Graduates From Allen College

WATERLOO, Iowa – Carley Schmit of Readlyn graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Allen College. The College awarded 92 degrees during its commencement ceremony on Friday, Dec. 16, 2022.

Allen College conferred 2 Bachelor of Health Sciences in Public Health, 54 Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degrees, 18 Master of Science in Occupational Therapy degrees, 15 Master of Science of Nursing degrees, and 3 Doctor of Nursing Practice degrees.

Allen College offers degrees in both health sciences and nursing. Information on Allen College is available at www.allencollege.edu.



News from Community Lutheran School



Community Lutheran School students enjoyed a variety of dress-up days! At left and above are students dressed up as their teachers; top right was camo day; and the three photos at right illustrate school spirit day.



Friday, March 3, we celebrated Grandparent's Day with a short program, activities, and lunch at both our Readlyn and Klinger campuses. We thank God for our grandparents!





On February 28, the kindergarten through sixth grade students traveled to sing songs for the residents at Fairbank Assisted Living, Hillcrest in Sumner, and Willow Winds in Denver.





THANK YOU for supporting us on March 3 at our McDonald's fund-raiser! We had a fantastic turnout with so many families dining in and driving through! The kids had a blast promoting and playing together! The teachers had fun serving and promoting our school! We are thrilled to announce we raised \$792.19! THANK YOU Soifer Family McDonald's!!! What a blessing!



You Played Basketball Outside in the Snow?!!

tle is a 'yes' by most members of Immanuel's Walther League and parochial school students. Immanuel parochial school students played sports at recess as, at least prior to 1960, there were not any organized sport leagues. Most of the memories noted in this article are from an Immanuel Lutheran School/Walther League perspective. Prior to Community Lutheran School, they played outside in the snow after

left in recess or after school before going home, shoveling the court was also a team sport.

The first basketball courts at Immanuel were two dirt ones on the north side of the church and west of the cemetery. Only two games per year were played against another team and those were usually held at the Readlyn High School gym. After adding more air in basketballs so they would bounce on a dirt court, they bounced really high on a court with a wood

Most kids didn't have access to a vehicle and most moms didn't drive in those days so transportation was another issue. Gary Matthias, a lifetime member of Immanuel, tells of Arlin Poock driving his father's one-ton flatbed truck, usually used to haul feed, LP gas and other product for Klinger Store, to games. Everyone would get in the back and Arlin drove them to the game.

Walther League was important to most students as it was one of a few social outlets. This group met every Thursday evening and Pastor Reddel, Immanuel's pastor from 1949-1957, attended, too. Every other meeting was to conduct business and the alternating ones were choir practice. Until 1947, there wasn't much room for youth to gather until the congregation dug a basement out from under the church. They lifted the church on jacks and put in 16" wood beams while the dirt was dug out underneath. Tractors drove in and backed out with loads of dirt on the east side of the church, always using the same tracks to avoid issues with mud. And, there were enough issues with mud as it rained most of the summer. Thankfully, the rain stopped before harvest so a church basement could be completed and crops harvested. The basement floor, still in place today, also featured a shuffleboard court. An extension of the nave provided a new location for the organ's pipes, altar and, in the basement level, furnace room, kitchen and restrooms. There were no restrooms in the church prior to 1947.

In 1954-55, Dennis Klug, principal at Im-

manuel's school, organized a drive to provide a cement basketball court. Church members used cement mixers on the back of their farm trucks to pour the court. And electric lights were added so basketball could be played after dark! The new court expanded the boundaries of play and, because the Magee and Happel children at Immanuel knew kids at the Bennington country school located on Gresham Road, a game of basketball between the two teams was played one day after school. Not sure who won but lots of fun was enjoyed by all.

By the late 1970s and early 1980s, the Iowa East District of the LCMS was organizing advanced play including tournaments for teams who qualified. The Iowa East District included churches with parochial schools located in Klinger-Readlyn, Newhall, Cedar Rapids, Van Horne, Cedar Rapids and Williamsburg. According to Jeff Schmidt, another lifetime member of Immanuel, the mixed volleyball team from Immanuel qualified for district play at Van Horne and won it in 1981. This volleyball team included Gina Matthias, Deb Lohmann, Kendra Schweer, Pam Schmidt, Rick Bellile, Jon Rathe, Joel Rathe, and Pam Zars. Softball games were played with local teams from Westgate, Artesian and Readlyn.

Immanuel's youth attended the first LCMS Youth Gathering in 1980 at Fort Collins, Colorado. They brought back two pine tree saplings that were planted on the west side of the cemetery as part of the 'plant the seed' message. One of the two trees remains today as remembrance of this event. The Youth Gatherings were held every three years in a variety of locations throughout the U.S. and regularly

attended by Immanuel's Youth.





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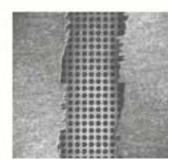


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Sr. Citizens meet

FEBRUARY 15, 2023 — 13 Senior Citizens members met at Grumpy's in Readlyn for a meeting and lunch at 11:30. Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer before the lunch and the meeting was called to order.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Janet Ladage and Marlys Deterding. We sang "Happy Anniversary" to Janet and Larry Ladage and Rick and Lois Thacher.

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was \$423. Motion was made by Janet Ladage and seconded by Judy Leistikow to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

The secretary's minutes were read by Lois Thacher for the January 18 meeting. Motion was made by Marlys Deterding and seconded by Judy Leistikow to approve the secretary's report. Motion carried.

Lois read a thank-you note from the Wapsie Valley Education Foundation thanking the Senior Citizens Group for our donation to their annual fundraiser. The final numbers were much higher than the \$22,000 they first thought they had raised.

Old Business: The \$200 anonymous donation to the Readlyn Senior Citizens: We voted to give to the *Chronicle* \$100, Library \$50, and the Food Bank \$50 with this money. We also gave memorial money in the amount of \$50 to Mike and Samantha Keeran as Samantha's father had passed away recently. (They are owners of Grumpy's Bar and Event Center.)

New Business: The Annual Meeting/membership drive for the Readlyn Community Club will be March 24 at Grumpy's Bar and Event Center. Social hour will begin at 5:30 PM and the meal will be at 6:00 PM. This year the Readlyn Community Club is doing something new and opening the Volunteer of the Year award to anyone in town. The community can all vote. The nomination form has to be returned by February 28 to RCC P.O. Box 34, Readlyn IA 50668. The winner will be recognized at the Readlyn Community Club annual meeting on March 24, 2023.

The next meeting will be at 11:30 AM at Grumpy's on March 15. Lois Thacher made a motion to adjourn and Janet Ladage seconded it. Motion carried.

Lois Thacher, Secretary



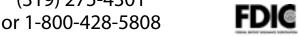








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Readlyn City Council Meeting March 13, 2023

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, March 13, 2023 at 6:45PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00PM for the regular meeting. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Rocco Imbrogno, Joey Jones, Keith Brunscheon, Jason Franck arrived 7:10PM, Nicole Barnes arrived 7:40PM. Others in attendance: Barney Wiersma, Steve Aiello, Austin Matthias, Ron Hartman, Louie Hartman, Kyle Shores.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve minutes from the February 13, 2023 council meeting. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Brunscheon to approve bills presented for payment. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve clerk and treasurer's rep01ts. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to approve budget report. Library report was unavailable. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve police report. All said yes. Motion carried. Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve agenda as printed. All said yes. Motion carried.

Due to changes in valuations for the FY23/24 Budget since the February meeting by the lowa Legislature, motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to reset the public hearing. Public hearing to be April 10, 2023 at 7:00PM on the adoption of the proposed FY23/24 Budget. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Brunscheon to introduce Resolution No. 2023-02 entitled "RESOLUTION GIVING AUTHORITY TO ADOPT THE ELECTRIC RELIABILITY PLAN OF THE CITY OF READLYN MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC UTILITY". Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2023-02 duly adopted.

Council member Franck arrived.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to approve City Clerk, Lois Buhr to attend spring IMFOA conference. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to approve Spring Leaf Burning from April 1 to June 1, 2023. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve contracting Dust Buster Dust Control for two dust application @ \$980.00 per application for magnesium chloride. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Non-Residential Commercial Property Ordinance to be studied further.

Council received an update on the recent pre-construction meeting for the Readlyn Main Street Reconstruction Project. Discussion on moving emergency equipment temporarily during construction. Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to share expense for door openers with property owner at 128 W 1st Street. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Council member Barnes arrived.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to approve bid from D & N Fence Co. for fence project at the city ball park. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck. Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

carried.

Discussion on ball diamond dugouts. To be studied further.

Louie Hartman gave an update on activities for this years Readlyn Grump Days.

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EOE/AA

Franck to approve new Readlyn First Responder, Kim Browning. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Im-

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by

brogno to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor ATTEST: Lois J Buhr, City Clerk

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The menu will include cod, baked potato, baked beans, coleslaw, roll and des-

sert.

Cost is \$15 for adults, \$7 for children ages 6-10, and free for those five and under. Dine-in or take-out orders are available. All are welcome to attend.



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Eric Johnston (right) with his dad, Doug Johnston

"High Water"

Here in Iowa, for the most part, we've had a fairly easy winter season with not a lot of snow and reasonable winter temps. However, our neighbors to the north in Minnesota have had an above average season of heavy snow. As I look towards my 2023 bass tournament season, I can't help but think that snow is going to create high water on the Mississippi River this spring.

As I look back through my notes, I'm reminded of a high water season a few years back that I'll touch on in this column. To most, the thought of fishing in high water is a bad thought and, in my early tournament career, I felt overwhelmed fishing high water. Everything looked the same to me back then, water and flooded trees made the process of finding where the bass were feel like finding a needle in a haystack. Recently, I've come to love fishing high water especially on the Mississippi River. This month, I'll break down finding and catching fish in high water, and these tactics can even help locally on the Wapsi and Cedar.

Let's start that high water season in early June. My good friend and great tournament bass fisherman Jason Swanson and I were preparing for the Hot Rod Bass Series Open out of Harpers Ferry, Iowa. We had just recently had a lot of rain and the river was at near historic levels. Everywhere you looked was water and trees along the river bottom. We had ideas in our heads of where to begin looking.

The bass were just coming out of their

spawning rituals, so we figured they would still be shallow. The big key to finding high water bass, or any river fish species, is to follow the bank. What I mean by that is, as the river spreads, you need to find where the water finally meets dry land. Fish, especially bass, will follow the bank as the water rises and falls. This typically applies to river system fish as opposed to lakes.

The next step of putting the puzzle together is to think about where the fish are at normal river levels. This can give you a general idea of where to start following the bank. Jason and I have quite a few years of experience in the spring on the Mississippi of where to start following the bank. A good general rule on the Mississippi is to get to the other side of railroad bridges on each side of the river. To each side of the river behind these bridges in high water, becomes big backwater systems and literal lakes. The bass will school to these areas to get out of heavy flooding current and they are following all the smaller bait fish they feed on as they, too, look for easier water to live in.

Jason and I started practice on Friday and began searching these areas. We spent twelve hours on the water that Friday and looked for every back cut or feeder creek we could think of that had good bank and cover for the bass to get against. We had at least a half dozen areas by the day's end and felt like we put together a pretty good plan. We added to our plan with a short practice day on Saturday. As the tournament started on Sunday, we were beyond excited to have

the area we wanted to start mostly all to ourselves.

On Friday, we had found an area that was a feeder creek coming into the main river with a bridge that back flooded a large expanse of ground. Nearly every flooded tree had a bass on it and we immediately had our five bass limit and began upgrading. We fished the entire area most of the day and ended the tournament with our best five weighing 14.68 lbs. and walked away with a fifth place finish and a check for our efforts.

As spring transitioned into summer, the river continued to run high. Spring high water and summer high water fishing can be a bit different. Instead of looking for calm backwater type areas, the water is now very warm and the fish need current for good oxygen in the water. So the areas you should look for will be different, but following the bank rule still applies.

You will now look for main river rocky points and wing dams. On July 13, my dad, Doug Johnston, and I fished the Ken Thompson Memorial tournament out of Prairie du Chien. The water was again quite high and this time we both had to work leading up to the tournament and didn't have any practice time. Our game plan was to run to a lot

of different spots like we would in practice and try to put together a good limit for the day.

Our first area we started was along rocks and current in the main river near a backwater area where the fish had been just a month before. Our hunch was correct that the fish had pulled out of the backwater into the current and we quickly put together a good limit of about eleven pounds. We both knew this wouldn't get us a check so we kept searching for bigger fish throughout the day

Around noon, we pulled into an area with heavy current and flooded trees. A few casts in and Dad hooked up with a fish. I hadn't even looked and Dad yelled for the net. I knew it must be the fish we needed and I was right as I netted a three and a half pound bass for Dad. High fives, a bit of hooting and hollering and that moment made the whole weekend. We finished the day with 12.18 lbs. with our best five and again good enough for fifth and a check.

My hope is to not have high water and a rainy 2023, but, if we do, put these tactics of following the bank to use and, hopefully, it will put more fish in the boat!

Until next time, GET OUTDOORS!!



Jason Swanson (left) and Eric Johnston fishing the high water.





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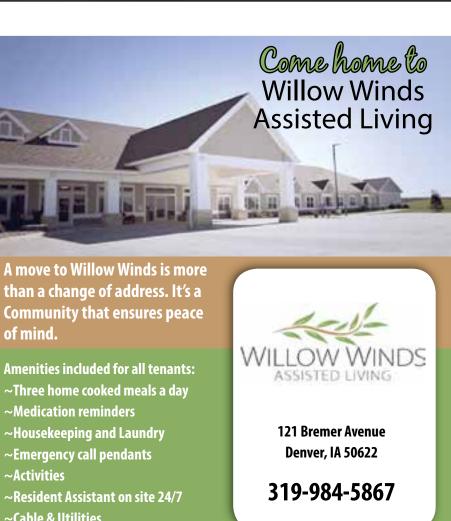
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Wapsie Valley School Board - Feb. 20, 2023

Wapsie Valley CSD Regular Meeting Minutes February 20, 2023

1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the

Board to order at 6:30.

A. Directors: Sauerbrei. Van Daele, Aiello, Auel, Wolfe Declare a quorum.

B. Administrators: Supt. Hoover, Principals Murphy, Hurley, & Forsyth & Board Secretary: Arndt

C. Others: Tracy Kalenske, Kim Kalenske, Vaughn Gross, Jenni Gross, Elle Voy, Jayden Wagner,

Danny Adams Maesi Wahl, Kallie Franzen, Jenna Hammitt, Reese Peine, Madison Freitag, Macy Ott, Ashlyn Hyde, Brielle Parkes, Logan Rochette, and Courtney

2. No changes to the agenda

3. Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0

4. Public comment: - Emma Benoit will speak on Thursday, March 16th at 9:00 am. The presentation will be based on her documentary and mental illness. Jenni Gross's Family Consumer Science, sewing, baking, and Warrior Cafe students presented projects they have completed in classes and also spoke of their favorite things they have done in class. Vaughn Gross would like to see flexibility for new Business Teacher, and Career Technical Education. Danny Adams - Spoke to Mr. Murphy's leadership. He is visible, positive, and has students' best interests. He does a great iob!

5. Consent Items: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the consent items including the financials & bills that were reviewed by Steve Aiello as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Open enrollments were informational only: In - Courtney Ball requests her KIndergarten daughter into WV from Tripoli, Out - 23-24- Shania Kumbier requests kindergarten daughter to Waverly CSD

6. Communication & Reports: Board: Discussed student helpotical incurs within the enhance and required

dent behavioral issues within the schools and received feedback from Principals on their policies and procedures.

Superintendent: Report included supplemental state aid scenarios, rural buildings, legislative updates, and 23-24 staffing budget scenarios.

District- Report included professional development

updates, WVEF grants, & professional goal conversations Principal Hurley: Report included professional learning community, MAP growth testing, Valentine's Day, Leader In Me, & fundraising.
Principal Forsyth: Report included lighthouse team,

service projects, & PTO/Gallagher Bluedorn

Principal Murphy: Report included professional learning community, Leader In Me, Counseling updates, Game of Life, & Activity updates.

7 Personnel-Resignation: Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Auel to approve the resignations of Laura Giberson- Readlyn Library Associate-effective March 3, 2023, Haley Tiedt - Business Education Teacher, CAPS Instructor, Yearbook Coordinator, Leader In Me action team member, JH Cross Country Coach, and HS Golf Coach (Spring

2024)-effective the end of the school year, Leslie May-Instructional Associate effective March 6, 2023, and thank them for their service to the students and staff of WV

as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Contracts: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve contracts for Tiffany Beyer-Summer 2023 JH Softball Coach-Base 1/0-\$1,805, & Leslie May - Library Associ-

ate-\$13.04 P/H as presented. Motion carried 5-0
8. Old Business - Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the bid from Hackman (\$15,150) to paint the multi-purpose gym as presented. Motion carried 5-0 9. New Business: - Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sau-

erbrei to increase Preschool Tuition from \$350 to \$375 per month effective the 23-24 school year as presented. Motion

Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Auel to approve Wellness Policy 507.9 & 507.9R1 with updated language change to 507.9R1 as presented. Motion carried.

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the 23-24 Work Experience Instructional Services Contract with Central Rivers AEA as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the 23-24 agreement for technology services between Central Rivers AEA and Wapsie Valley(\$75,000) as

presented. Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Aiello, seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the two-year Shared English Teacher agreement effective July 1, 2023, between Cedar Falls, Jesup, Denver, &

Wapsie Valley as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to table

the batting cage bids as presented. Motion carried 5-0 10. Board Talking Points - Kathy Risse is retiring, can asses be incorporated with the Islander to help keep it open? Jerry-let's schedule a work session to work on board policies.

11. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by VanDaele to adjourn at 8:15PM. Motion carried 5-0

Readlyn City Council Meeting Feb. 13, 2023

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, February 13, 2023 at 6:45PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00PM for the public hearing followed by the regular meeting. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Nicole Barnes, Rocco Imbrogno, Joey Jones, Jason Franck. Absent: Keith Brunscheon. Others in attendance: Bamey Wiersma, Steve Aiello, Austin Matthias

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to approve minutes from the January 19 and 23, 2023 council meetings. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to approve bills presented for payment. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to approve clerk and treasurer's reports. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Barnes to approve budget report and two months library reports. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Jones to approve police report. All said yes. Motion carried. Motion by Barnes and seconded by Imbrogno to approve agenda as printed. All said yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Wedemeier opened the Public Hearing on the Max Tax for the FY23/24 Budget. Notice of time and place had been published in the Waverly Newspapers on January 31, 2023. No written or oral objections were received. After all desiring to be heard motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to close the Public Hearing. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to introduce Resolution No. 2023-01 entitled "RESOLUTION APPROVING THE MAXIMUM TAX DOLLARS FROM CERTAIN LEVIES FOR THE CITY'S PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 BUDGET". Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck, Jones. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2023-01 duly adopted.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to set March 13, 2023 at 7:00PM for the public hearing on the adoption of the proposed FY23/24 City Budget. Roll call vote. AYES: Barnes, Franck, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Bmnes and seconded by Jones to approve Police Chief Steve Aiello as Readlyn's representative on the Bremer County E-911 Board. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Jones, Imborgno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to approve Police Chief Steve Aiello as Readlyn's representative on the Black Hawk County F-911 Board Boll call vote AYES: Jones Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Jones to approve beer license and Sunday sales renewal for the Kwik Trip, dba Kwik Star. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes, Jones, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Council received and update on recent Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation board meeting and EBRRA meeting. Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to approve Bernard Wiersma to attend Region I AWWA meeting in Manchester. AYES: Barnes, Franck, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:36PM.

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor ATTEST: Lois J Buhr, City Clerk

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Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Sunday services 10:00 AM Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM



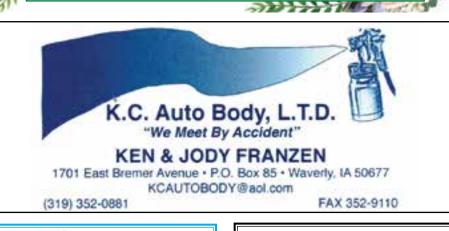
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Pastor Philip Giradin Divine Service 8:30 a.m. dult Bible Study, Sun., 7 p.m. Mary-Martha Circle 1st Wednesday 7 p.m.



Zion Lutheran Church

240 Elmer Ave., Readlyn, IA 50668 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor (319) 279-3643 Sunday Services 8:00 a.m. Sunday School 9:05 - 9:45 a.m. Communion 1st and 3rd Sunday Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m.





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