PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID Oelwein, IA 50662 Permit # 81

Volume 16, No. 5, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Denver Forum, Denver, IA, May 31, 2023



**Bentley**, Courtney, and Corey Buss feel happy and honored to have been selected as the first recipients of the 2023 Yard of the Month.

### June Yard of the Month

Corey, Courtney, and Bentley Buss, 236 3rd Street West, Readlyn, are June's winners of Yard of the Month. They credit their parents for having such an attractive yard since, "That's the way we were raised."

By reading the captions under the pictures, you can see that their families are

a great influence. In addition, most of the tubs and other antiques were acquired from their parents. Courtney calls herself a "junk picker" and has picked up a few of the antiques on her own.

The Buss family would like to thank Weeds on Fire for providing this award. See more photos on page 4.



**Both** Corey and Bentley are pheasant hunters so, naturally, a decorative pheasant has found a home in their landscape (above and below). See more on page 4.



# READLYN GRUMP DAYS 2023 BUILD BACK BETTER BBB

The 2023 Grump Days is June 16, 17 and 18. See the full schedule on page 11 and meet the Miss Readlyn candidates on page 10!

# 2024 historical calendar will be for sale during Grump Days

Next year, 2024, is Readlyn's 120th year as a city. The Readlyn Historical Society will be selling a 2024 calendar illustrating Readlyn's history in a 'Then and Now' format.

The calendar will be for sale after the crowning of the 2023 Grump on Friday night, June 16. Calendars will be \$10 (exact change is appreciated). Look for us in the tent at the city park.

**Spoiler alert:** the June calendar page features all of Readlyn's Grumps!!



# Homestead Tax Exemption now available for age 65 or older

On May 4, 2023, Governor Kim Reynolds signed House File 718, establishing a homestead tax exemption for claimants 65 years of age or older.

In addition to the homestead tax credit, eligible claimants who own the home they live in and are 65 years of age or older on or before January 1 of the assessment year are now eligible for a homestead tax exemption. For the assessment year beginning on January 1, 2023, the exemption is for \$3,250 of taxable value. For assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, the exemption is for \$6,500 of taxable value. An exemption is a reduction in the taxable value of the property rather than a direct reduction in the amount of property tax you pay.

The Iowa Department of Revenue has amended the Homestead Tax Credit Exemption (54-028) form to allow claimants to apply for the new exemption. Applications are due July 1 to your local assessor. If the exemption is granted, the exemption will be allowed for future years without future filing as long as the claimant continues to qualify.

In addition, the Bremer County Assessor's Office would like to remind property owners to sign up for the Homestead Tax Credit if you have purchased or built a new home within the last 12 months.

Eligibility for the Homestead Credit

and Homestead Exemption: Must own and occupy the property as a homestead on July 1 of each year, declare residency in Iowa for income tax purposes, and occupy the property for at least six months each year. Persons in the military or nursing homes who do not occupy the home are also eligible. Please refer to Iowa Code, Chapter 425.

The military service tax exemption is being increased to \$4,000 in taxable value for assessment years on or after January 1, 2023, for an honorably separated, retired, furloughed to a reserve, placed on inactive status, or discharged veteran as defined in Iowa Code section 35.1(2)(a) or (b). There is no further filing if you have already applied for the Military Exemption.

Property owners may be eligible for a Military Exemption if you are a resident of Iowa, have been involved in full-time active duty during a war or conflict, or served 18 months active duty and have been honorably discharged. (The original or a certified copy of the DD 214 must be recorded in the Bremer County Recorder's Office by July 1 the year exemption is first claimed. Your DD 214 needs to show release from active duty during a qualified time for other than training purposes.) Surviving spouses remain eligible for the exemption as long as they do not remarry



# Grump's Grumblings

By Larry Davelec, 2022 Grump

Mom and I attended the senior citizens group dinner meeting. We went to the Tripoli bowling alley this time. A large group of people came. We had 22 members. Ronny Leistikow did a nice job of running the meeting; all the business was taken care of. Everybody had a good time socializing. Both Mom and I had a nice fish dinner, a flaky white piece of cod, fries, and coleslaw. I got an extra bun mom did not want. My favorite is having a bun with fish and coleslaw on it. We still have plenty of fish for fish fries at home.

Vicki and I had a mission to do for our daughter-in-law, Kristin. Her old high school music teacher was getting to the point where he couldn't live in his home anymore. At 94, his family would be taking care of him, moving him closer to their home in Minneapolis. So, Kristin was going to receive a very nice Howard Miller grandfather clock. Because she lives in Madison, I said we would get it for her in our pickup and bring it back to Readlyn. A pretty good task for Vicki and me, but we got it into the truck and had it all wrapped in blankets. It wouldn't quite fit for the tailgate to close so I had to tie it into the back of the truck. Vicki was very intent on watching it as we traveled. Now that we were confident that we could haul it home, we might as well have breakfast while we were in Mason City. We had breakfast in a place called LD's Filling Station. The place had lots of automobile memorabilia on the walls and everything on the menu was the name for an older famous auto The Big Old Grump

brand. Interesting place to have breakfast. Vicki had the LaSalle, and I had the Peterbilt.

I worked a little at Grumpy's bar this month. I wanted to put the fence back up for the beer garden. I took my time. Going slow is my only speed these days. I will really enjoy when I can be served out in the beer garden. Hope to see you there sometime. Come up and say "hello."

At church one Sunday, I had the privilege of being in attendance to my first adult baptism. The service started as always, up to the point of Sara being washed with the water. I will never forget the emotion inside my chest. I physically felt a huge lump. I was seeing Sara stand up and profess her faith. How great Sara's love must be to be baptized when today's complicated world of chaos screams at our young adults in a Seven Deadly Sins world, that "it is not cool to love the Lord." In today's testimonial, Sara Nielsen became a child of God. How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, his love that we can be called children of God.

Giving you a heads-up: in July, I am planning to do a gold panning demonstration at the Readlyn Library. We will talk about Iowa gold, where to find it, and will give some of the youngsters a chance to pan for some gold. If they get some yellow gold in the bottom of the pan, I will put it in a vial for them so they can take it home. Keep an eye out: July 5 at 12 o'clock noon.

God Bless,

#### Deadline for the June 28 Chronicle is Thurs., June 15 at 5 PM Send news to **ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com**





Insurance Headquarters Inc.

### VANDAELE INSURANCE, INC.

For all your insurance needs.

Farm • Home • Auto • Commercial Crop • Health Insurance

> 119 E. Main Street • PO Box 467 Fairbank, IA 50629

> > 319-635-2526

Fax: 319-635-2162



# Miss Readlyn Comments

By Sydney Matthias

It is so hard to believe that May is already here and the school year has wrapped up. That also means my time formally representing Readlyn is quickly winding down. The graduating class of 2023 had a great ceremony recently. It was kind of weird sitting in the gym realizing there are probably more than a handful of my classmates I won't see again unless we have some type of reunion. The days have been filled with attending graduation open houses and getting ready for my own. And practice, while I am now a graduate - I get to spend one more season in a Wapsie Valley uniform. I'm hoping this may be the most memorable season

With Grump Days approaching don't forget to attend all of the wonderful activities that are planned. I am looking forward to Friday night and crowning the next Miss Readlyn.

Thank you to everyone that has supported me over the years and especially this past year. I don't want to name, names as I'm confident I'd forget someone and I don't want anyone to feel slighted. I've heard them say it takes a village, thank you everyone for being part of mine!

# SEND NEWS to the *Chronicle* at: ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com





#### Create something that your future self will thank you for.

Like prioritizing your financial goals. Putting together a financial plan and investment strategy today can help you achieve your dreams tomorrow.

Let's get started.



David C. Matthias 2018 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly, IA 319-415-5989 davidmatthias.fbfsagents.com



Securities & services offered through FBL Marketing Services. LLC.+ 5400 University Ave.. West Des Moines. IA 50266. 877/860-2904, Member SIPC. Advisory services offered through FBL Wealth Management, LLC. Farm Bureau Property & Casualty Insurance Company,\*\* Western Agricultural Insurance Company, \*\* Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company\*\*/West Des Moines, IA. +Affiliates. \*Company providers of Farm Bureau Financial Services. PR-WMA-A (8-21)

#### Readlyn couple donates to new Bremer County Fairgrounds

Waverly, IA – Ron and Judy Leistikow of Readlyn have made a donation and financial commitment to begin the initial construction of the 4-H and FFA Exhibits Complex on the new Bremer County Fairgrounds. This new building will house the projects exhibited by county 4-H and FFA members during the fair, auctions in the off season, as well as special events.

"We feel that the time has come to step up and help the new fairgrounds become a reality," said Judy Leistikow."The fair has been a large part of our lives for over 70 years. Our six children participated in 4-H

# RCC meets and plans for Grump Days

At 7:30 PM on May 2, President Michelle Harrington called the Readlyn Community Club (RCC) meeting to order. Present were Tiffany McCumber, Ed and Michelle Harrington, Bonnie Wittenburg, Louie and Ron Hartman, Kristie Boies, Dustin Palmer, Nick Kuker, Ron Leistikow, Pat Wehr, and Lions Club member Bruce Piehl. Louie moved and Ron H. seconded to accept the secretary's minutes as emailed; passed unanimously. The treasurer's report was not available.

Mike Kiernan would like five volunteers for Friday and Saturday night at Grumpy's during Grump Days. In return, he is generously offering to award RCC a portion of his beer sales; in addition, volunteers will receive a shirt and complimentary wristband.

Bruce volunteered to bring high school volunteers Saturday of Grump Days from 1 – 4 PM to conduct a spike ball tournament. It is similar to foursquare with a trampoline. He will attend the next Grump Days' meeting to explain his idea in detail.

Old Business: Readlyn Community Club's dugout donation of \$4,000 was given to City Hall. Ron H. will talk to Matthias Fabrication about making a 4x2 metal vegetable stand. It will be paid for using part of the memorial money donated by postal worker Jennifer VanBrocklin in memory of her dad, Richard H. Richter. Next year's RCC Annual Meeting has been booked for April 6, 2024, at Grumpy's Event Center.

**New Business:** Pat moved and Ed seconded that Kristie Boies and Dustin Palmer become co-directors. Passed unanimously.

Grump Days plans: The tent will go up Wednesday. A 10x10 area under the tent will be used for Treasure Island. Help putting the tables together on Thursday would be appreciated. BBQ Brazil will offer a myriad of food choices.

See the Grump Days' article for other details

Respectfully submitted, *Pat Wehr, Secretary* 

Deadline for the June 28 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., June 15 at 5 PM

Send news to the *Chronicle* at: **ReadlynChronicle@ gmail.com** 

and FFA showing livestock as well as giving presentations and exhibiting projects in areas such as baking, sewing and crops. We now want to help other young people grow and learn the four H's: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health."

Added Ron Leistikow, "We love the location of the new fairgrounds. The Lord has been good to us and it's time for us to give back. My family has had many wonderful experiences at the county fairs over the years and we hope the fair will continue to impact the lives of many in the area"

Ron was a 4-H member as a youth, became a 4-H leader, and served on the fair board for 30 years, including 10 years as its president. Ron and Judy have been lifelong proponents of agriculture and strong supporters of both the 4-H and FFA organizations.

Information on the proposed fairground buildings can be found at www.bremer-countyfair.com

For more information on donation opportunities, call Roy Peterson at 319.961.2535.



Roy Peterson (left) accepts a donation of \$250,000 from Ron and Judy Leistikow of Readlyn to be used to begin the initial construction of the 4-H and FFA Exhibits Complex on the new Bremer County Fairgrounds. Photo contributed

# It's National Dairy Month & Grump Days!

Readlyn Savings Bank Invites All to Join the Celebrations!



Thurs., June 8, 2023: Dairy Days

#### **FREE MALTS**

in the Bank Lobby 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

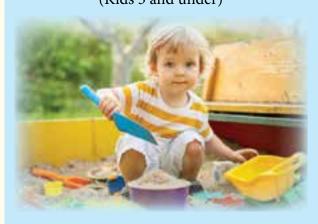
Fri., June 16, 2023:
Grump Days
FREE MALTS
in the Grumpzebo

4:30 - 7:00 pm



Fri. & Sat., June 16 & 17, 2023: Treasure Island Sand Pile

Under the Big Tent (Kids 5 and under)





RSB ~ Taking Good Care of You! ~ Since 1904

#### **Readlyn Savings Bank**

141 Main Street - P.O. Box 40 Readlyn, IA 50668-0040 319-279-3321

Website: www.readlynsavingsbank.com Email: info@readlynsavingsbank.com





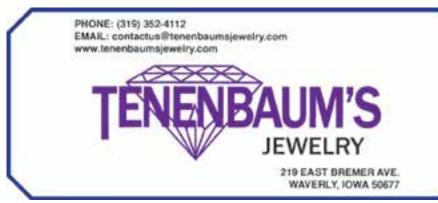
#### Buss Family: June 2023 Yard of the Month



Each spring Courtney and Bentley create a new fairy garden.



The attractive stepping stones were made by Bentley and Grandpa Buss.





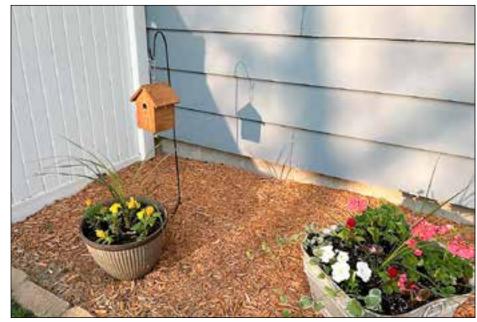
Metal • Flat • Roof Coating • Outbuildings Siding • Pole Buildings

#### FREE ESTIMATE

1501 Fairbank Amish Blvd. Hazleton, IA 50641



This is just a small portion of the Buss family's backyard oasis



Bentley and his Grandpa Buss made the birdhouse.



We're Hiring for the following positions:

#### **Dietary Supervisor**

(Must be willing to obtain Certified Dietary Manager certification)

#### Dietary Cook/Aide, Housekeeping/Laundry Aide

If you want to make a positive impact in the lives of those we care for, as well as the staff who care for them, please send us your resume!

Send your resume to:

#### **Kevin Meyer at** trnuhome@butler-bremer.com

Tripoli Nursing and Rehab is an independently owned and operated complex.

**Tripoli Nursing and Rehab** 

604 3rd Street SW, Tripoli, IA 50676



# WANTED

Current Iowa Administrator's license with a BA or can obtain a license within the timeline as set by current lowa regulations.

Work experience in long-term care environment preferred.

Benefits and salary commensurate on experience and competitive with similar area facilities.

If you want to make a positive impact in the lives of those we care for, as well as the staff who care for them, please send us your resume! Send your resume to:

#### Rick Laures at ricklaures@yahoo.com

Tripoli Nursing and Rehab is an independently owned and operated complex.

#### **Tripoli Nursing and Rehab**

604 3rd Street SW, Tripoli, IA 50676



563-578-8899

www.towncountryhome.com





Gary Guether Christopher Tibbott 319-404-9435

Serving the needs of our communities matters!

#### **Obituaries**



#### Jane Jeanette Meier

Jane Jeanette Meier, 87, of Readlyn, Iowa passed away on Saturday, April 29, 2023, at the home of her daughter-in-law in Waterloo. She had been under the loving care of family and hospice.

Jane was born on May 8, 1935, the daughter of Elmer and Leona (Judas) Kuethe. She was baptized and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn. She attended Readlyn Schools and graduated from Readlyn High School in 1953.

Jane married Orville Meier of Frederika on December 13, 1953. They were the parents of three children, Thomas, Sherri and Steven. She worked at Bob's IGA for several years and later at Borderline Pizza. She also did childcare in her home.

Jane enjoyed gardening and canning or freezing the vegetables grown. She also was a great cook and loved hosting family holiday gatherings. She enjoyed doing crossword and jigsaw puzzles, reading, board games, watching TV, league bowling, and biking. She was part of the women's circle at Zion Lutheran Church and was active in the Readlyn Historical Society.

Jane is survived by a daughter, Sherri (Eugene) Nieman of Nashua; a daughter-in-law, Cathy Meier of Waterloo; five grandchildren, Adam (Liz) Nieman of Osage, Derek Nieman of Charles City, Travis (Abby) Nieman of Parkersburg, Chelsea Meier Lima Nobre de Queiroz (Fellipe Lima Nobre de Queiroz) of Fresno, California and Emily (Ian) Hubrig of Independence; seven great-grandchildren; a sister, Judy Henn of Readlyn; a brother, Wayne Kuethe of Shell Rock; a sister-in-law, Grace Kuethe of Readlyn and many nieces and nephews.

Jane was preceded in death by her parents, husband Orville in 1979, son Steve in 2018 and a son, Tom in 2020; her brother, Dale Kuethe; two brothers-in-law, Harlan Heineman and Arnie Henn; and a sister-in-law, Barb Kuethe.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 5, 2023, at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn with Pastor Jean Rabary officiating. Visitation was on Thursday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn and for one hour prior to services on Friday at the church. Online condolences may be left at www. kaisercorson.com. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Readlyn Historical Society or the Readlyn Library.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.



#### Irma Mae (Schneider) Goeller

Irma Mae (Schneider) Goeller, 87, of Waterloo, Iowa, passed away on May 6, 2023, at the Denver Sunset Home in Denver

Irma was born on October 18, 1935, in Fairbank, Iowa, the daughter of Elmer and Helena (Oltrogge) Schneider. She was united in marriage to Lyle Goeller on April 21, 1957, at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn and the couple was later divorced. Lyle passed away in 2017.

Irma had an in-home daycare for many years. She worked at APAC in Waterloo and later the Salvation Army. In her spare time, she enjoyed working in her garden, playing cards and cooking. She especially enjoyed spending time with her family.

Irma is survived by a daughter, Debra (Brad) Staples of Waterloo; two sons, Tim Goeller and Jeff Goeller, both of Denver, Colorado; four grandchildren, Joshua (Veronica) Sherrer, David (Natasha) Sherrer, Missy (Mike) Dodge and William Cox; ten great-grandchildren, Destiny, Haley, Jurni, Hannah, Judah, Blake, Kayla, Dominic, Micah, River and Griffin; a sister, Esther Bast of Readlyn and a brother, Robert "Duke" (Marian) Schneider of Waverly, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents; two brothers, Arnold and Harvey Schneider; a sister, Norma Schlicting; two brothers-in-law and two sisters-in-law.

A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Waterloo with Pastor Lisa Ames-Kruse officiating. Burial was held in St. Matthew's Lutheran Cemetery in Readlyn. There was one hour of visitation prior to the service on Saturday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to UnityPoint Hospice. Online condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Denver assisted the family.

#### Wapsie Valley Class of 1961 reunion June 10

Wapsie Valley Class of 1961 reunion is planned for June 10 at the Readlyn Park Gazebo at noon. Bring your lunch or something to share.

Pass the word along! If you know someone or a relative of one of these students, please let them know. Any questions or comments, call Kurt Lehmkuhl at 612-269-5939.

Thank you!



#### **Darol Heinemann**

Darol Heinemann entered into rest on Monday, April 10, 2023 at the age of 82.

He was the loving husband of Carol (Hubbman) Heinemann, dear father of Janice (Jayson) Bentley and Mark (Becky) Heinemann, cherished grandpa of Alex and Abby Heinemann; dear brother of Dan (Connie) Heinemann and the late Connie (Fritz) Heine, dear uncle and friend to many.

Darol retired from Boeing as an aerospace engineer after 38 years of service. His passion revolved around his family, woodworking, and classic cars. He enjoyed estate sales and restoring antique furniture. Darol is remembered as being kind, generous, patient, and helpful to everyone around him.

Visitation was held on Friday, April 14 from 9 AM until the time of the funeral service at 11 AM, both at Salem Lutheran Church, Blackjack, MO. Interment was at Salem Lutheran Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association.

#### Homestead Tax Credit & Military Exemption Notice

The Bremer County Assessor's Office would like to remind property owners to sign up for the Homestead Tax Credit if you have purchased or built a new home within the last 12 months.

To qualify for the credit you must own and occupy the property as a homestead on July 1 of each year, declare residency in Iowa for income tax purposes and occupy the property for at least six months each year. Once a property owner qualifies for the credit, the credit continues until the property is sold or until the owner no longer qualifies. Refer to Iowa Code, Chapter 425.

Property owners may be eligible for a Military Exemption if you are a resident of Iowa, have been involved in full-time active duty during a war or conflict, or served 18 months active duty and have been honorably discharged. The original or a certified copy of the DD 214 must be recorded in the Bremer County Recorder's Office by July 1 the year exemption is first claimed. Your DD 214 needs to show release from active duty during a qualified time for other than training purposes. Surviving spouses remain eligible for the exemption as long as they do not remarry and exemption continues until the property owner is no longer eligible. Refer to Iowa Code, Chapter 427.

Filing deadline for the Homestead Tax Credit & Military Exemption for the 2023 valuation is July 1, 2023. After July 1, all applications would be considered for the following year.

Property owners may apply in the Bremer County Assessor's Office 8-4:30, Monday–Friday or online at https://beacon.schneidercorp.com. For any questions, call 319-352-0145.

# First Security Welcomes Chris Corcoran as Senior Ag/Commercial Lender

First Security is happy to share that Chris Corcoran has joined the bank as Senior Ag/Commercial Lender in Charles City.

Chris, who is originally from Fairbank, Iowa, received a Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University where he studied Agriculture Business and Agriculture Finance. He soon put that degree to

use in community banking, an industry he's been part of for nearly 25 years.

Throughout his career, Chris has focused on agricultural and commercial lending, managing bank investments, fund-



Chris Corcoran

ing, and operations. He has demonstrated his commitment to expertise in the field through completing several training opportunities during his career. He has completed the Iowa Bankers Association's Commercial Lending School and the Iowa School of Banking. He's also completed several courses offered by Performance Trust University. These were focused on strategic planning and the principles of managing asset and liability decisions across bank balance sheets.

President/CEO Kurt Herbrechtsmeyer said, "One thing that impresses us about Chris is his banking experience. He has

been successful at all levels, including customer-facing roles and in leadership positions determining overall bank strategy. We're excited to have his depth of experience and perspective as we prepare for the future."

Chris and his family have lived in Waverly, Iowa for the past 5 years. When asked what interested him about First Security and its market he said, "The bank's lenders, key decision makers, and ownership are comprised of local individuals who have a vested interest in the communities they serve throughout North Central Iowa, and I look forward to being part of that."

In addition to his career in banking, Chris operates a small grain farm and is an active volunteer. He is a Board Member of Bremer County Pheasants Forever, the Treasurer for the Redeemer Lutheran Church's trust fund, and a volunteer coach for youth sports.

Chris and his wife Jessica have three kids – one in elementary school, one in middle school, and one in high school. They are an active family, attending many activities together. Chris particularly enjoys hunting and fishing and always looks forward to summer, when he and his family make frequent trips to the Mississippi River to enjoy the outdoors.

First Security Bank & Trust has locations across North Central Iowa and head-quarters in Charles City. Member FDIC.



# Readlyn Community Library WE PUT THE READ IN READLYN



Kimberly Hollon, Director

Beth Kingdon, Librarian

Phone and Fax: 319-279-3432 Email: readlynlib@gmail.com Website: www.readlyn.lib.ia.us Text: 319-253-6802

#### **Donations**

In Memory of Jeanette Hesse Dean & Lois Buhr Marlene Kuker

In Memory of Mildred Clark Roger and Connie Buhr

In Memory of Verla Steege Barb Meyer

In Memory of Jane Meier

Readlyn Historical Society Don & Mary Billhorn Shirley Kuker Nancy Erhardt Kenny & Bonnie Piehl Connie & Roger Buhr Eldon, Beverly & Randy Leisinger Barb Meyer Janet & Larry Ladage Rochelle Kuethe Paul & Shirley Regengold Roger & Susan Garbes Shirley Thurm Esther Poock Todd & Kris Kuethe Luann Happel Joan Matthias Bob & Sylvia Casterton Ridgeway Bethel Baptist Church Marlene Kuker Toni Reimers

In Memory of Marilyn Lampe Roger and Connie Buhr

Barb Meyer Shirley Huck

#### Services

Fax / Print / Scan Conference Room Test Proctoring Interlibrary Loans Internet/WiFi/3D Printing/ Notary Public/Basic Graphic Design



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

#### Hours:

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

Join us on Thursday, June 8th @ 6pm to hear local author Betty Brandt Passick talk about organized crime in the 1920's—right here in Fairbank, IA! She'll be selling and signing copies of her book "Gangster in our Midst". Coffee, tea and snacks provided.

### Gangster(s) in Our Midst: The Untold Story





Fairbank, Iowa became a haven for mobster Louie La Cava in the early 1920s. Take a deeper dive into the history of Midwest gangsterism and its notorious past.

#### Readlyn Community Library

309 Main Street, Readlyn, IA

Thursday, June 8 - 6 pm

Readlyn Community Library presents:

**Summer Reading Program 2023** 



We have **LOTS** of great fun planned this summer. Mark your calendars to catch these

special programs—you won't want to miss a single performance:

BETTY BRANDT PASSION

June 7th @1pm—Bremer County Conservation will be at the RCL teaching us about 'Animal Voices'

June 16th @2pm—The Grout Museum will be here presenting their 'Mad Mixture' program. Combustion, rockets, chemical reactions and liquid nitrogen—if you like science, you'll love this!

June 19th @4pm—**Twisted Bo-Kay** will be using balloon animals to tell stories—everyone will go home with a balloon friend!

June 27th @3:30pm—**Duke Otherwise** will be performing silly songs and dancing. Check out his videos on YouTube—great entertainment for the whole family!

July 5th @2pm—Panning for Gold with Readlyn's own Grump! Larry Pavelec will teach you all about panning for gold. If you're lucky, you might find a speck or two!

July 13th—We'll close our Summer Reading Program with a pizza party and the opportunity to meet some very cool animatronic dinosaurs with **Strutz Entertainment's** 'Dinosaur Dimensions'!



# 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





he only thing I remember in the 1950s, hearing about Sweet Marsh while growing up in Readlyn, was rattlesnakes were native to the marsh. People also fished for bullheads in the marsh. Bullheads were prevalent in the nearby Wapsi at that time.

Last fall I contacted Jason Auel, who oversees the management of Sweet Marsh. I told him I would like to do a story about Sweet Marsh. He invited me to the marsh and gave me a two-hour tour. All I could say at the end of the tour was, WOW. I was surprised to find a scientifically controlled nature preserve.

Five employees of the Iowa State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) maintain Sweet Marsh, Big Marsh, lo-

cated between Parkersburg and Allison on Highway 14, plus other parcels equaling 16,000 acres in eight Northeast Iowa counties. Jason was quick to point out that no general funds from the state of Iowa are used in financing these Department of Natural Resources projects. Fishing, hunting and trapping licenses provide most of the revenue.

Jason earned his bachelor degree in Wildlife Management from Iowa State University. He, his wife, Angie, and family live on an acreage near Oran. The three children in the family attend Wapsie Valley Schools.

Sweet Marsh was purchased by the DNR in the '50s to provide a fall migration stop for waterfowl and to provide public recreation. The spring migration is huge at Sweet Marsh with many different species using the area. A host of birdwatchers find the marsh an excellent location to view and photograph the many species that appear in the marsh.

Ducks, geese, pelicans, sandhill cranes, etc. appear each year on their journey north. Some pairs of sandhill cranes remain as residents and raise their young here.

Sweet Marsh covers an area of approximately 3200 acres. The marsh is located two miles east of Tripoli, immediately east of the Wapsi.

There are eight miles of dike, six parking areas and three boat ramps in the marsh.

The water which sustains the marsh is provided by a dam on Plum Creek. Water flowing over the dam enters the Wapsi a short distance downstream. Water is diverted from the reservoir above the dam into the five segments of the marsh. Water is controlled, sustaining the level of water needed in each pool. Some pools are completely dried to plant millet, corn and other crops, then refilled later, providing food and cover for the waterfowl. Last fall, Martens Lake was emptied to enable a dike repair. The fish in the lake were stunned and removed to an adjacent pool.

According to Jason, good fishing is available in the marsh with northern pike, bass, crappies and bluegill present as well as rough fish such as suckers, carp and buffalo. Few bullheads! Jason stated that he doesn't know how the fish originally got into the marsh, but it has been maintained as a fishery. Some fishermen fish from boats and kayaks and some fish from shore.

Wild turkeys, raccoon, fox, rabbits, pheasants, coyote, rare protected red squirrels and five eagle nests are found in Sweet Marsh. Owing to the density of the habitat, rabbits are able to survive.

Otters were introduced several years ago. To control their number, trappers are permitted to trap them, with a limit of three. Otters are fun-loving mammals and, Jason says, are easy to trap. Otters have migrated downstream in the Wapsi near Readlyn.

A huge portion of the marsh is forest area managed with a newly-written Forest and Wildlife Stewardship Plan. Trees that are dead remain standing. Fallen trees are never moved unless they interfere with management. Approximately one third of the trees are ash, and are now dying due to Emerald Ash Borer.

# Massasauga (Rattlesnakes)

About 20 years ago, a neighbor reported finding a massasauga rattlesnake in his garden. The snake was caught, outfitted with a telemetry device and released in the marsh to track its movements. What they learned was it overwintered in crayfish burrows. The snake disappeared once the battery died.

The last encounter with a massasauga was a dead one on the road by Martens Lake parking lot in 2011. No massasauga has been seen since. Sweet Marsh manager Jason Auel said he would not be surprised if a massasauga did emerge.

Because of the potential of having a resident massasauga population, Jason is required to follow federal guidelines to manage for this threatened species by not mowing the dikes less than eight inches.

#### The Refuge

A roughly 260 acre waterfowl refuge is located in the southwest part of Sweet Marsh. This area is closed to all access from September 1 through the end of duck season to allow waterfowl a place to rest and refuel on their journey south. It also provides shelter from bad weather and hunters. This area is managed to provide millet, corn, and other crops, or left idle to come up with annual weeds, as a food source to keep ducks around longer. Geese are protected; hunting of geese in Sweet Marsh is not allowed. After entering Sweet Marsh from the entrances, yellow signs will designate the refuge.

Jason stated that the many geese who remain in the area year-round are safer in Waterloo and Cedar Falls than in the marsh. I remember seeing hundreds of geese on the CUNA grounds in Waverly. Measures were taken to keep them away.

#### **Visiting Sweet Marsh**

We have no state parks in our Bremer County area, only county parks. Sweet Marsh is available for us to visit, fish, hunt and birdwatch. Jason Auel invites us to visit and appreciate this wildlife management area. After my tour of Sweet Marsh, I encourage you to see for yourself this nature preserve located only six miles directly north of Readlyn.

Access from the south entrance is gained by driving east from the Tripoli VFW Post corner, where the C28 road meets Highway

93. Proceed east, and, after crossing the Wapsi, turn north into

After entering Sweet Marsh the first turnoff is a marsh segment. The water in the segment is three feet deep. Vegetation rises above the water. A dike is available for those who wish to walk and enjoy Sweet Marsh and its habitat. Proceed further north, another parking lot. Park and walk a short distance to the left. Four placards will explain the wildlife preserve and overlooks the refuge. Bring binoculars.

To enter Sweet Marsh from the north, exit off Highway 93 a short distance east of the Wapsi onto Quail Ave. Drive south passing the marsh office and garages onto a parking lot. Walk a few hundred feet to the south and you will find the dam on Plum Creek that channels water into the marsh. Another access is south of Reed Ave and 150th St. There is a large parking lot. There are no maintained nature trails in the marsh, but the dikes are available to explore the beauty of Sweet Marsh.

I enjoyed writing about Sweet Marsh because I discovered something that was only a mystery for me. Hopefully, this article will encourage more of you to visit Sweet Marsh. You will be amazed by the huge, well-kept, clean parking areas.

# Immanuel Lutheran: Promoting the arts... and having fun!

As mentioned in previous articles, Immanuel Lutheran - Klinger has a strong tradition of Christian education. An important element of education is having opportunities so children can be a well-rounded student in the classroom, in athletics and fine arts. One such opportunity began at Immanuel Lutheran School in the early 1980s. Mary Zimmerman, wife of Rev. Bruce Zimmerman who was pastor at Immanuel during this time, initiated the Arts Festival.

One of the neat features of the annual Arts Festival is that it involved the community. Students attending parochial school within the Iowa East District (IED) of the Lutheran Synod of Missouri Synod (LCMS) were invited to attend as well as St. Paul's Lutheran School-Waverly and Wapsie Valley Community School students

The idea originated when Mary Zimmerman was teaching at Community Lutheran School and completing her Master;s Degree in Education at UNI. One of her classes in the master's program required a project, to be implemented in the classroom, to further arts in a school setting. Mary had experience in directing plays and musicals for church youth and setting up speech contests at the high school level. She had also judged LCMS district Walther League contests and activities. Within Immanuel, she led Walther League participants in many musical dinners and theatrical endeavors.

At the time, Immanuel and St. Paul was in partnership to become Community Lutheran School but the new, larger school buildings had not yet been built. Also, the gym and Commons area at Immanuel were built much later. The logistics of space for practice and performance rooms for vocal, band, poetry readings, plays or skits, dance as well as art had to be considered. The first Arts Festival had over 300 entries and was hosted at Wartburg College.

The scheduling for this type of event was daunting to ensure no overlap of

**Sometimes** baby brothers were part of the performance. In this memorized reading in 1998, Josh Huebner used his brother, Ben, as one of his props.

performance times for a student. Each school sent their entries to be scheduled in each event type several weeks prior to the event. Mary recalls calling in favors from Immanuel and St. Paul parents to assist with typing out ballots, ordering ribbons, making signs for the event, providing a concessions stand, setting up chairs, scheduling parents to be door monitors and lots of other tasks. Parents who helped with the first few years include Elaine Matthias, Mary Matthias, Jan Matthias, and Linda Moeller. Event judges were often local teachers with a background in the event they were asked to judge. One requirement of judges was to determine a performance rating and to take time to make comments on the judging sheet for the student. Many judges donated their payment back to the event in appreciation of it being available to promote fine arts. Mary remembers Dan Ratcliff, the band instructor at Wapsie Valley Schools in particular being 'an awesome, supportive band director.'

In the almost forty years that the Arts Festival took place, it was primarily hosted at both Community Lutheran School buildings. The Wapsie Valley Elementary School gym in Readlyn was scheduled for plays and larger group events prior to the gym and Commons addition at the Klinger site. It was not unusual to have 400+ events to schedule between all locations. After Mary moved from the area, one of the PTO committee assignments was to coordinate the Arts Festival. This committee comprised of eight parents though all CLS parents were asked to assist on the day of the event. An opening and closing service was led by either Immanuel's or St. Paul's pastors. At the end of the day, ribbons and judge comment sheets were also distributed with thanks for a wonderful day of fellowship and fun in promoting fine arts. Unfortunately, due to declining entries and the demands of other extracurricular activities, the last Arts Festival was held three years ago. The Art Festival participants have fond memories of this event!



**CLS** Piano and Instrument Entries (1991) by Sarah Huebner.







**Top**: Dance group being judged (April 2001).

**Above**: CLS Play (1998) L to R: Jaci Schutte, Blake Bergeson, John Schutte, Josh Huebner.

Above right: Dance Group Contestants (April 2001) Back row: Bobbi Bockholt, Abby Larson, Lexi Kuhlmann, Mara Huebner, Danielle Armbrecht, Jacee Schuttecoach. Front row: Aarika Wittenburg, Ally-Larson, Alissa Wittenburg, Kelsey Watts, and Jacee Schneider.

**Right:** CLS Play (1996). L to R: Nick Bultsma, Heidi Schmidt, Courtney Warneke, Holly Schmidt, Josh Huebner, Kurt Hesse, Blake Bergeson, Brian Matthias.







### Dillon Law Office, PC

Patrick B. Dillon

209 East 1st Street, Sumner • patdillon@50674law.com

563-578-1850

General practice including but not limited to: Agricultural law • Taxation & Tax Preparation • Estate Planning • Bankruptcy www.50674law.com







#### **CrawDaddy Outdoors, LC**

Darrin Siefken, Owner

207 East Bremer Avenue Waverly

319-352-9129

info@crawdaddyoutdoors.com www.crawdaddyoutdoors.com

#### **Homestead Tax Exemption now** available for age 65 or older

Continued from Page 1

and exemption continues until the property owner is no longer eligible. Please refer to Iowa Code, Chapter 426A.

Application forms can be found on the Bremer County Assessor's section on the Bremer County's website https://www. bremercounty.iowa.gov/government/as-

sessor/assessor.php, or the Department of Revenue's website at https://tax.iowa.gov/ tax-credits-and-exemptions or by visiting the Bremer County Assessor's Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's Office 8-4:30 Monday-Friday at 319-352-0145. The annual deadline to apply is July 1 each year.



"OUR FAMILY CARING FOR YOURS"

Robert R. Pipho, D.D.S. • Brendon T. Boerm, D.D.S.

Call (319) 984-6191 or (319) 342-3622 to schedule your appointment in Denver today! 131 Tower Street, Denver • 319-984-6191

# Readlyn Historical Society

Troy A. Delagardelle, AAMS®

Financial Advisor 4901 University Ave - Suite B Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613 319.277.4446

Contact me today. >

Edward Jones



# STUMME, COLLINS, GRITTERS & EPLEY, PLLC

Corner of Magill & Main Street

For tours, call:

**319-279-3548** Ron or Judy 319-961-8379 Janet

**641-330-8978** Judy ATTENTION: Coming in June - 2024 Calendar

featuring Readlyn pictures - 120 years

**303 1st Ave. NE** Waverly, IA 50677 319-352-1637



171 E. Main St. Denver, IA 50622 319-984-5479

www.waverlydenverlaw.com



215 3rd St. NE, Waverly, IA • 319-352-3664 www.tatroeelectric.com

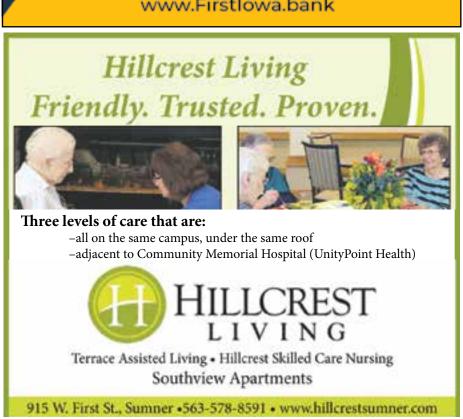
#### Jennifer Jaschen **Attorney At Law**

4817 University Avenue, Suite D Cedar Falls, IA 50613 jaschenlaw@outlook.com Phone: 319-553-3400

Specializing in: Real Estate, Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Estates, & Business Administration.







Volunteers Still Needed: Grump Days 2023 Build Back Better is hoping to accept more volunteers for the event June 16-18. Just text Michelle Harrington at 319-596-5151.

# Candidates introduced for 2023 Miss Readlyn competition

Who will be crowned 2023 Miss Readlyn? Find out on Friday, June 16, at the City Park starting at 6 PM. Following are this year's candidates.

#### Lily Swickerath

Lily Swickerath, daughter of Dean Swickerath and Jill Swickerath, is sponsored by L & L Ag Repair. She is Vice President of Wapsie Valley FFA and will be Vice President for the North-



Lily Swickerath

an's Vacation Bible School. At either ISU or Morningside University, Lily plans to major in agricultural education while aiming to become a state FFA officer. Completing these goals will help her launch her career as an agriculture teacher in a town near Readlyn. She thanks a favorite teacher for pushing her to become a district FFA officer. Her strength is her flexibility to successfully serve as a silent, servant, or a bold leader. Lily appreciates Readlyn's caring and welcoming spirit.

#### Liz Tiedt

Liz Tiedt, daughter of Mike and Janeen Tiedt, is sponsored by Readlyn Telephone Company. She has been a boys' basketball



Liz Tiedt

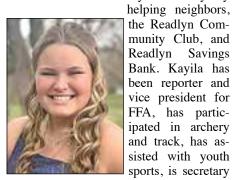
manager, ambassador, volunteer for Readlyn Community Club, and participates in Club sports. This summer she will be a life guard at Lost Island, babysit, and play sand volleyball. Liz plans to attend the University of Tampa to study criminology and

pursue playing volleyball. Her strengths

include being honest, loyal, passionate, animal lover, and child helper. Ten years from now she hopes to have the life and job she's always wanted, build a house, and help kids going through trauma and/ or experiencing a hard life. She believes Readlyn is built on a foundation of faith with big values. Citizens keep family first, yet generously support neighbors, and they know how to have a good time.

#### Kaliya Lampe

Kaliya Lampe, daughter of Jess Lampe and the late Wade Lampe, is sponsored by Michael Firewood and Tree Service. She actively participates at church by decorating, singing, and lecturing. In addition she assists in a myriad of ways by



Kaliya Lampe

the Readlyn Community Club, and Readlyn Savings Bank. Kayila has been reporter and vice president for FFA, has participated in archery and track, has assisted with youth sports, is secretary for the Rainbow Clovers and par-

ticipates in rugby, school musicals, softball, and FFA. Ten years from now she expects to be a member of the Iowa National Guard, have her own family, work in the architectural field, live in Iowa, and be involved in rugby. Her strengths are her positive attitude and being able to work with anyone. She appreciates Readlyn's family-like atmosphere.

#### **Matilda Miller**

Matilda Miller, daughter of Brian and Gin Miller, is sponsored by Larry's Skelly. She has been an FFA member throughout high school, helps at county fairs, has participated in 4-H at the Bremer County Fair, has managed the football and wrestling team, and is a member of the Denver Trapshooting team. This summer, she will be doing day care for a Readlyn family while continuing FFA and 4-H activities at county fairs. Upon high school graduation, Matilda will have completed enough college courses to easily complete prerequisites for med school at UNI or UI. Ten years from now she hopes to be in her



Matilda Miller

residency in a hospital. Having three younger brothers has enabled Matilda to hone what has become her best character strength, leadership. Matilda is impressed with Readlyn's teamwork; she has often witnessed how the town comes to-

gether when someone is in need.

#### Reagan Barnes

Reagan Barnes, daughter of Nate and Nicole Barnes, is sponsored by TruServe Insurance. She is a member of the Wapsie Valley Honor Society as well as Immanuel Lutheran Church where she does com-



Reagan Barnes

munity service. Reagan participates in volleyball, basketball, softball, and track; she also helps manage youth basketball and volleyball tournaments. Although unsure of her permanent profession, she plans to attend Hawkeye Community College to at-

tain a business degree. She attributes some of her positivity and kindness to one of her favorite teachers. Ten years from now Reagan hopes to be living in Readlyn with a great job, her own family, and a great group of friends. She has a carefree spirit and is proud of her loyalty to her friends and family. Reagan loves Readlyn's welcoming environment stating, "We may not have strength in numbers or size, but ev-

Cassy Hesse, is sponsored by Grumpy's Bar and Event Center where she works and will continue to be working this summer. She will also babysit and play sand volleyball in addition to spending time with friends and family. Her high school activities include being a part of the Silver Cord program, a two- year member of the stu-



Corina Gray

dent ambassadors. participating in volleyball and track. Ten years from now she plans to own her own house purchased with the money earned using the physical therapy or athletic training degree she wants to have attained

from UNI or Bradley University. Corina feels her strength is that once she focuses on something, she is determined to get it done. She believes Readlyn's strength is the nice and welcoming people; they are what make it such a wonderful place to

#### Veronica Wittenburg

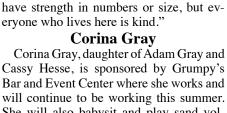
Veronica Wittenburg, daughter of Amy Lovell, is sponsored by Wittenburg Trucking. She volunteers at Readlyn Elementary, Helping Hands, and assists with assorted projects for the Readlyn Community Club. Veronica finds it exciting to create serious school spirit as a football and wrestling cheerleader. Her summer plans include continuing to work at the Fairbank Day



Veronica Wittenburg

Care and fishing with her family. In ten years she hopes to be living in her own home, to have started a family, and to have a stable job using her engineering degree from ISU. Perseverance and guidance from a math teacher are accred-

ited with her engineering goal. Veronica always tries to see the best in anything and approaches new challenges with an open mind and heart. She feels Readlyn's strength is that it is full of people who love and care for the town. She hopes Readlyn never loses its unique spark.





2034 Vintage Ave., Sumner, IA 50674 (319) 240-2432



www.kaisercorson.com 205 Highland Avenue, Readlyn, Iowa 50668 (319) 279-3551



#### WILEY CONSTRUCTION

Siding, Roofing Home Remodeling **Ag Building Repairs Nick Wiley** Cell 319-404-3518 Home 319-279-3518



Jeffrey F. Arians, CPA **Quality Accounting Services** 1002 Broadway Street Waterloo, IA 50703 319-234-2813 www.qasiowa.com

**READLYN GRUMP DAYS 2023** 

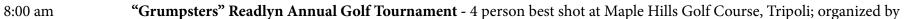
D BACK BETTE

JUNE 16, 17, 18, 2023

All events are in the City Park unless otherwise stated; remember your lawn chairs.



# Friday, June 16



Readlyn Savings Bank. For reservations contact Maple Hills at 319-882-4229.

4:00 pm **Vendors' Food Stands** open.

4:30 - 7:00 pm **Ice Cream Sundaes** (gazebo); sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank. 5:00 - 8:00 pm **Balloon Man** - Darrel Anderson; sponsored by Ron & Judy Leistikow.

5:00 pm 5th & 6th Grade Ball Games (ball diamond); organized by Kyle Shores. Concession stand – Readlyn Area Youth

5:00 pm **Pedal Pull** (sidewalk between the park and school); sponsored by Wapsie Valley FFA.

6:00 pm Little "Grumpsters" Crowning, Crowning of 2023 Readlyn Grump, 2023 Miss Readlyn, Volunteer Award and

**Readlyn Area Foundation presentation**; remember your lawn chair.

**Pepper Tourney** (gazebo); call Judy Henn at 641-330-8978 or Shirley Kuker 319-239-5193. 7:00 pm

**Live music at Grumpy's - "Cory Farley"**; enter through the alley due to our street construction. \$10 entry fee, wristbands

at the door, all ages are welcome.

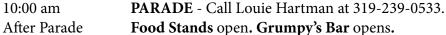
10:00 pm Fireworks (Launched east of V49, across from the ball diamond parking.) Bring a lawn chair. Sponsored by you and your

can donations. Thank you to everyone who donated. The concession stand at the Ball Diamond will be open during the

fireworks.



# Saturday, June 17



11:30 am – 2:30 pm **Kids in the Park** - \$10 wristbands are required; foam party, bouncy houses, slides, cotton candy, Treasure Island for ages 5

and under, cake walk, and face painting by WV art department.

**Dunk Tank** – EMS/Fire Department Fundraiser

1:00 - 4:00 pm **Spike Ball** (ball diamond); organized by Denver Lions; grades 6 – 12 recommended; no charge

**Schafskopf Card Tournament** (tent); call Deanne Leistikow at 319-231-7906. 1:00 pm

2:30 - 4:00 pm Bingo for All Ages (gazebo); sponsored by Judy and Ron Leistikow; various prizes; no charge

**Vendors** stay for the evening meal. 5:00 pm

7:00 pm Live Music at Grumpy's - Jarrod Hogan and South 55 opening for Red Dirt Road; enter through the alley due to our

street construction. \$10 entry fee, wristbands at the door, all ages are welcome.



Sunday, June 18



BBB

**Community Church Service** hosted by St. Matthew in the City Park; remember your lawn chair. 9:00 am

PARKING LOCATIONS: No parking along the parade route during the parade, then everywhere EXCEPT Main Street—you'll see why!

MOST EVENTS AND CONCESSIONS WILL BE CASH ONLY.

LOST & FOUND AND FIRST AID KIT are in the big tent on the trailer.

Deadline for the June 28 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., June 15 at 5 PM





**The** newly elected Wapsie Valley officer team for the 2023-24 year will be (left to right) Madyson Richards, Lily Schwickerath, Addisyn McElhose, Ella Schares, Reese Peine, Andrew Matthias and Kylie Strottmann.

# Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter holds 46th Annual Banquet

By: Reese Peine, Chapter Reporter

On Sunday, April 30, Wapsie Valley FFA held the annual chapter banquet. FFA members, parents, and guests came together to recognize all the hard work and achievements of FFA members throughout the 2022-2023 year.

The event started out with a meal prepared by FFA members. Members and guests made their way to the awards banquet which was held in the Wapsie Valley High School auditorium. The 2022-23 Wapsie Valley chapter officer team came together to recognize achievements of FFA members. They also thanked their supporters for all they have done for the chapter throughout the year.

The 2022-23 officer team said their goodbyes as they prepared to welcome the newly elected officers to take their places as the 2023-2024 Wapsie Valley chapter officer team.

The Wapsie Valley FFA chapter would like to thank all of their supporters for their continued support of the chapter.

We deeply appreciate the support of the community, and parents. Your support has helped us become the successful chapter we are today.

The following individuals have received recognition at the banquet for their achievements and hard work throughout the year. We recognized our supporters. The blue and gold award was presented to Kevin Voy. The honorary reward was presented to Wyatt Forsyth, Dan and Jenny Richards were presented with the Distinguished Service award.

The Star Greenhand Award was presented to Kylie Strottmann, Star Sophomore was awarded to Andrew Matthias, this year's star junior was Dayton Jergens, and the Star Senior was Maesi Wahl. The Star Overall Award was presented to Delaney Youngblut. The top fruit salesman was Madyson Richards.

Congratulations to everyone who was rewarded for their hard work and dedication this year!

Being prepared with the right insurance for your farm and crop matters.

Call us to talk to one of our experienced AgriBusiness Advisors today at 319.483.4854 or visit our website at acceladvantage.com.







# Readlyn Senior Citizens meet

On April 19, 22 members attended the 11:30 Senior Citizen's lunch and meeting at Panther Lanes Bowling Alley in Tripoli.

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Leistikow. We had our monthly meeting first and then enjoyed a great lunch. Ron Leistikow led us in prayer before our meal.

We sang "Happy Birthday" to six members having birthdays in the month of April. They were: Darlene Peters, Alice Soldwich, Roland Schmidt, Mary-Lou Billhorn, Wayne Kuethe, and Tony Thran.

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

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was \$208.00. A correction for the treasurer's report from March: It should have been reported as a balance of \$186.00 instead of the \$176.00. Motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Verdeen Pavelec to accept the treasurer's report with the correction from last month's balance. Motion carried.

The secretary's minutes were read by Lois Thacher for the month of March 15, 2023. Motion was made by Marlys Deterding and seconded by Larry Ladage to accept the secretary's report with the correction of the amount of the balance in the treasurer's report from \$176.00 to \$186.00. Motion carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

It was discussed to purchase a flagpole, light and flag to have on Highway 3 by the Readlyn welcome sign. Roger Deterding checked into the cost of a 20-foot flagpole with Miller Fence in Waterloo and found out it would cost around \$300. A 3x5 flag would be donated by a member. Roger Deterding is going to the Readlyn Council to get the approval to put a flagpole and light out by the City's sign. We will discuss again at our next month's meeting in May to see if it gets approved.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Bob Thran was in attendance at the meeting and stated that he would have enough articles for the *Chronicle* until the end of 2023! We all gave him a hand for his interesting articles in the *Chronicle* each month and his hard work writing up the articles.

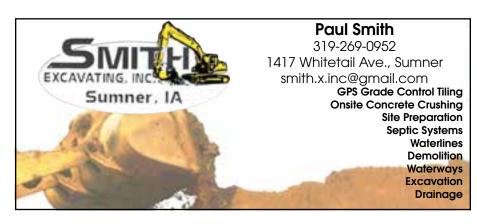
It was reported by Ron Leistikow that the *Chronicle* acquired two new sponsors. One was Wendy Stromer-Mohlis, Realtor in Denver, IA. The second was Wells Hollow Landscaping in Waverly, IA. Thank you for sponsoring the *Read-lyn Chronicle*.

The next Senior Citizen meeting will be held May 17 at 11:30 at Panther Lanes Bowling Alley, Tripoli.

Marlys Deterding made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Don Billhorn seconded it. Motion carried.

Lois Thacher Secretary.

# Services: Custom Welding Power Equipment Hydraulic Hoses 57/HL TORO 412 7th Street, Janesville (319) 987-2801 • Cell: (319) 230-7770 www.stokeswelding.com email: shop@stokeswelding.com





# Send news to: readlynchronicle@gmail.com





340 S. State St. Denver, IA 50622

319-984-5691

denverdrugandphoto.com



#### Jonathan Smiley, D.M.D

2024 3rd Ave. NW, Waverly, IA 50677 319-352-2270 • SmileyFamilyDentistry.com

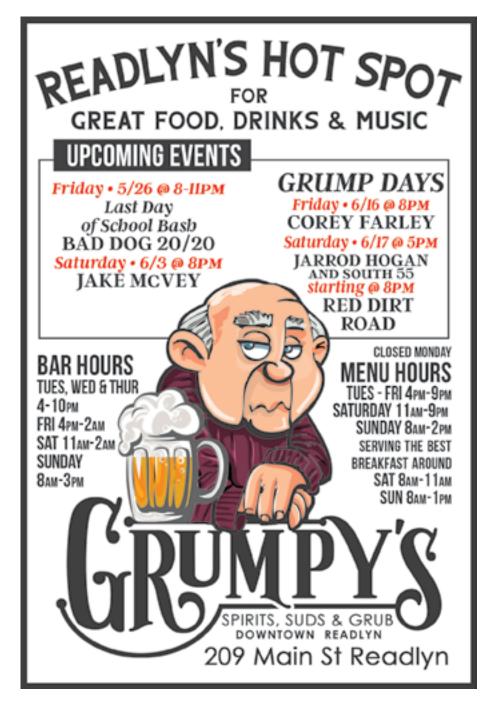
#### New patients welcome!

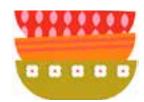
Proud to continue Dr. Rettig's tradition of excellent dental care.





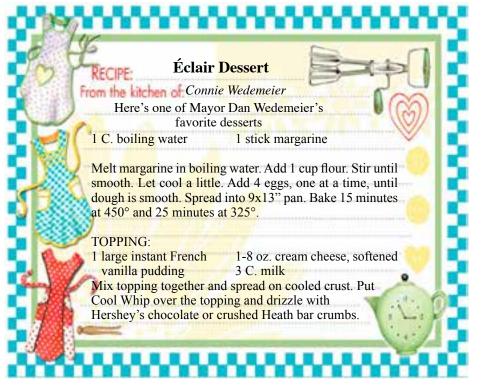






# What's Cooking?

A recipe to share can be sent to billhorn@rtc279.com



Owners
Jerry and Jon Elsamiller

1004 E. Bremer Ave.

Waverly, IA 319-352-3917

Electrical Wiring of all Types:

Commercial Residential Farm Industrial

Isamiller lectric Co.

Family Owned and Operated for Over 30 Years!



#### We are DRIVEN to help you SUCCEED

**Providing:** Commercial and Trucking For-Hire coverages to our clients. **125 W. 1st St., Readlyn, IA 50668** 

210 220 777E 077 410 2000 (Tall Free

**319-238-7775** • 877-418-3090 (Toll Free)

www.truserveins.com



# **CHRONICLE** Sponsorship **DIRECTORY**

#### As Resources **Bayer Crop Science**

David R. Wheeler, 8234 E. Marquis Rd., Fairbank, IA (319) 230-1029

#### **Farmers Co-op**

223 E. 1st St. • (319) 279-3396

#### Fettkether Fertilizer Co. LLC

7634 N. Ordway Rd., Dunkerton, IA (319) 404-0064 or (319) 939-8339

**Precision Planting - Mike Heineman** 2919 270th St. • (319) 279-3136

#### PRime Ag Services - Channel Seedsmen

Brian Pottebaum (515) 290-4098 Steve Rathe (319) 269-8083

Quality Distributors, Inc. - Brian Meyer 101 Main St. • (319) 279-3555

#### Readlyn Vet. Association

2636 230th St. • (319) 279-3867

#### **Rock On Wheels**

Roger Wheeler (319) 404-0407 Randy Wheeler (319) 231-3859

#### Smidt Crop Management, Inc.

Thomas B. Smidt, President 303 North 2nd St. PO Box 594, Greene (641) 823-4817 or cell (641) 330-6717 smidtcrop@iowatelecom.net

#### **Spring Center Farm**

Pioneer - Dean Buhr 2034 Vintage Ave., Sumner, IA 50674 (319) 240-2432

Stokes Welding - 412 7th St., Janesville • (319) 987-2801 Cell: (319) 230-7770

#### Weeds On Fire Custom Application

LLC - Dan Wedemeier, Owner Dan at (319) 269-6753 Elton at (319) 231-5104

#### Wittenburg Truck Line, Inc.

117 Malone Ave. • (319) 279-3371

#### Attorneys and Realtors

Advanced Realtors®, LLC 814 S. Frederick, Oelwein 283-2242

#### Dillon Law, P.C. - Patrick B. Dillon Attorney at Law

209 E. 1st Street, Sumner, IA 50674 (563) 578-01850 • Fax: (563) 578-1312 patdillon@50674law.com

#### **Jennifer Jaschen -** Attorneys at Law 4817 University Ave. STE. D

Cedar Falls, IA 50613 jaschenlaw@outlook.com (319) 553-3400

#### Fischels Residential Group

Joe Leehey, Residential Broker (319) 415-7349 joe@fischelsgroup.com www.fischelsgroup.com 3510 Kimball Ave. Ste. H, Waterloo, IA 50702 • Tel: (319) 234-5000

#### Re/Max Alliance Wendy Stromer-Mohlis, Realtor

319-269-5089 300 S. State St., Denver wendymohlis@gmail.com

#### Stumme, Collins, Gritters & Epley, PLLC

Attorneys 171 E. Main, Denver, IA 50622 Phone: (319) 984-5479 www.waverlydenverlaw.com

#### Town & Country Real Estate

Louie Hartman 319-239-0533 hartmanlouie@gmail.com www.towncountryhome.com 215 N. Railroad, Sumner, IA 50674 Connie Rochford, Broker Office 563-578-8899

#### Auto Sales and Repair

#### Del's Auto Repair Inc.

2308 Piedmont Ave. • (319) 279-3785

#### Larry's Skelly Inc.

430 E. 1st St. • (319) 279-3307

#### Building and Repairs

#### **Crystal Heating Plumbing** and Excavation

1210 W. Bremer Ave., Waverly 319-352-0513

#### Edgeton Hardware & Repair

5104 Main St., Oran (319) 638-7206

#### Elsamiller Electric Co.

1004 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly 319.352.3917

#### **Gingerich Roofing Solutions**

1501 Fairbank Amish Blvd., Hazleton 319-505-3938

#### **Meyer Construction**

1781 Viking Ave., Sumner, IA (888) 578-5985 Or: (319) 231-9022

#### Smith Excavating, Inc.

1417 Whitetail Ave., Sumner (319) 269-0952 Fax (563) 578-1008

#### Tatroe Electric, Inc.

215 3rd St. NE, Waverly 319.352.3664 www.tatroeelectric.com

#### **Wiley Construction**

Denver, IA (319) 404-3518 • (319) 279-3518

# Family Needs

#### **Denver Drug and Photo**

340 S. State St., Denver (319) 984-5691 • (800) 974-5691

#### **Denver Family Dental**

131 Tower St., Denver 319-984-6191

#### **Edward Jones-Troy Delagardelle**

4901 University Ave., Suite B, Cedar Falls (319) 277-4446

#### Fidelity Bank & Trust

Adam Schaufenbuel Waverly 319-483-1001 Megan Niewoehner Oelwein 319-283-2524

# Friends of the Chronicle

Community Lutheran School Mike & Sue Kirchoff DA Acres - Leistikow Family Wapsie Farm Partnership Randy Abbas Readlyn Senior Citizens

You can become a Friend of the Chronicle! Call RON LEISTIKOW for details! (319) 279-3548

#### First Bank (fka First National Bank) (319) 352-1340 www.myfnbbank.com

#### Hillcrest Living

915 W. First St., Sumner • 563-578-8591 www.hillcrestsumner.com

#### **Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home**

205 Highland Ave. • (319) 279-3551 www.kaisercorson.com

#### Parkview Assisted Living

Fairbank, Iowa • (319) 635-2585

#### **Quality Accounting Services**

1002 Broadway St., Waterloo (319) 234-2813 www.qasiowa.com

#### **Readlyn Community Library** 309 Main St., Box 249 • (319) 279-3432

Readlyn Savings Bank 141 Main St. • (319) 279-3321

#### American Savings Bank-Tripoli 312 S. Main St. • (319) 882-4279

**RTC Communications** 121 Main St. • (319) 279-3375

#### **Security State Bank**

103 3rd St., Frederika, IA 50631 (319) 275-4301

#### **Tripoli Nursing Home**

604 3rd St. SW, Tripoli, IA 319-882-4269

#### Food and Restaurants

#### Grumpy's Bar & Event Center

Main Street, Readlyn, IA

#### **Douglas Den**

1195 Hilton Ave., Plainfield (319) 275-4528

#### Hair and Beauty

#### Mane Event Family Hair Salon

69 Main Street, Readlyn Salon: 319-279-3060 Becky South ~ 319-464-2614

# Insurance

Farm Bureau - David C. Matthias Office: (319) 352-3667 Home: (319) 279-3545

**Security Mutual Insurance** 234 Main St

319-279-3893, 319-267-2035

#### The Accel Group

Waverly • Cedar Falls • Denver (800) 369-3525 www.AccelAdvantage.com

#### **TruServe Insurance Group**

125 W 1st St., Readlyn, IA 50668 877-418-3090

#### VanDaele Insurance, Inc.

119 E. Main St., Fairbank, IA 319-635-2526

#### Landscaping & Nursery

#### Tiedt Nursery

(319) 404-9133 Ask for Zach Kuhlmann or Matt Wells www.wellshollowlandscaping.com

#### Wells Hollow Landscaping

2419 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly (319) 352-0418

#### Machine/Tractor Repair

L&L Ag Repair 2220 Reed Ave. (319) 279-3363

#### Schuldt Repair

2261 Reed Ave. (319) 279-3539

# Specialty

#### CrawDaddy Outdoors, LC

Owner: Darrin Siefken 107 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly (319) 352-9129

#### The Jig & Fly Shop and Gary's Wood & Craft

**Garylee Thurm** 405 5th St. Place, Readlyn (319) 279-3219

#### **Myers Polaris**

304 E. Main, Fairbank, IA (319) 635-2311 (888) 282-9992 www.myerspolaris.com

#### **Schumacher Elevator Company**

One Schumacher Way, Denver, IA 800-7795438 www.schumacherelevator.com

#### **Smiley's Family Dentistry**

2024 3rd Ave. NW, Waverly 319-352-2270

#### Tenenbaum's Jewelry

219 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly 319-352-4112

#### Wapsie Valley School Board - March 20 and March 29, 2023

Wapsie Valley CSD - Work Session & Regular School Board Meeting - March 20, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance President Wolfe called the Work Session to order

- @ 5:33 p.m. A. Directors: Wolfe, Sauerbrei, VanDaele, & Auel, Aiello (virtual),. Declare a quorum. B. Administration -
- Supt. Hoover & Board Secretary: Kim Arndt C. Others Present: Janice Martins, Gina Schell-
- horn, Courtney Rochette, Brenda Kleitsch, & Kim Gray, & virtual participants
- 2. Discussed board policy series 200-Board of Directors, Series 300-Administration, 401.14-Employee Expression, 406.05-Licensed Employee Group Benefits, & 412.03 Classified Employee Group Benefits. Also discussed attendance at rural buildings, communication between board members and the Amish community, and curriculum.
  - 3. Other Items: Nothing
- 4. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to adjourn at 6:37 p.m. Motion carried 5-0
- 1. President Jeannie Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:37 PM.
- A. Directors: Wolfe, Sauerbrei, VanDaele, & Auel, Aiello (virtual),. Declare a quorum.
- B. Administration: Supt. Hoover, Principals: Murphy, Hurley, Forsyth, & Secretary Arndt
- C. Others: Brett Bergman, Vaughn Gross, Jody Busch, Mandy Bockholt, Jason Franck, Kyle Schores, Mark Sabotta, Danny Adams, Readlyn 5th & 6th-grade
- students, & virtual participants. 2. Communication & Consideration of additional items for the Agenda: Amended agenda to add board policy 412.03- Classified Employee Group Benefits & Riley Little as a volunteer
- 3. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the amended agenda as presented. Motion car-
- 4. Public Comment: Vaughn-discussed PTO, prom collaboration with post prom committee, Leader In Me, Student Council, Mental Health day, Robotics, and insurance increases for negotiations.
  - Mr. Hoover discussed interest-based bargaining

and a win/win situation for WV Board and WV Educational Association

- 5. WV Educational Association presented the WV School Board with their interest-based bargaining pro-
- 6. The WV Board presented the WV Educational Association with its interest-based bargaining proposal.
- 7. Spotlight in Education-The Readlyn 5th & 6thgrade students shared the positives of switching classrooms to experience what is to come when starting 7th grade. Students felt there are stronger bonds, liked different teachers and their passions, different environments, different classrooms, & more organization.
- 8. Consent Items: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Brent Sauerbrei with informational open enrollments IN for 23-24 school year: Tess Bartels kindergarten son from Oelwein, & Jessica Novak's 2nd and 4th students from Oelwein; OUT-Sylvia King's 10th-grade daughter to Clayton Ridge virtual academy, & Rachel & Mark Scribner's 7th-grade daughter to Dunkerton. Motion carried 5-0
  - 9. Communication & Reports: Board: None.

Superintendent: Mr. Hoover's report included base-ball lights update, negotiations, HR position, shared Transportation Director, and Special Education Director, Fairbank Administrative position, health insurance increase, and staffing realignment.

District: Report includes Professional updates, Parent/Teacher conferences

Fairbank Principal Hurley: Report includes PLC's, PK/Transitional/Kindergarten enrollment, Leader In Me, PTO, Literacy week, & moving forward with the building-level improvement plan.

Readlyn/Rural Principal Forsyth: Report included Literacy week, welcoming student teachers, frozen yogurt provided by Fayette County Dairy Producers, and

items delivered on behalf of WVEF grants. Thank you! 7-12 Principal Murphy: Report included Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention, Student Ambassadors, Honor Society, & NICL Academic Awards.

10. Personnel Actions- Resignations: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the resignation of Mike Duffy, Custodian effective June 30, 2023, & Tom Joeken - JH Baseball Coach if a suitable replacement is found as presented, and thank them for their service to Wapsie Valley. Motion carried 5-0

Contracts & Volunteer: Moved by Auel, Seconded Sauerbrei to approve contracts for Paula Schares-Special Education Paraprofessional-\$12.76 P/H, & Volunteer - Riley Little-Track coach as presented. Motion carried 5-0

11. Old Business-Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve the quote from Phillip's (\$12,533) for the multi-purpose room batting cages as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

12. New Business-Arndt presented the FY24 preliminary budget, FY24 budget guarantee and FY23 budget amendment Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Sauerbrei to publish the proposed budget with a tax rate of 13.70628 & set the public hearing date for the FY24 budget, FY23 budget amendment, 23-24 School Calendar for April 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve WV/CLS 23-24 PK Agreement as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve 23-24 AEA Purchasing Agreement as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve hiring '23 summer custodial staff for up to 34 hours as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve 21-22 audit as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve Infinite Campus Prime Online Registration set up fee (\$10,140), estimated renewal (\$7,500), and assistance from Chris Braun - \$150 P/H for set up-approximately 20 hours as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve the 23-24 Operational Sharing Transportation reement with Jesup as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the Premier quote for lunch tables (\$23,906.77) as prented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve a full-time Human Resource Director-Tina Kaufman for the 23-24 school year as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve a full-time Business/CAPS teacher-Jordan Cusick for the 23-24 school year as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve Board Policy Series 200-Board of Directors, 300-Administration, 406.05-Licensed Employee Group Insurance Benefits, & 412.3 Classified Employee Group Insurance Benefits, exclude board policy 401.14 Employee Expression as presented. Motion carried 5-0 Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to go into closed session at 7:43 p.m. Roll Call-All AYES Motion carried 5-0 Closed session 21.5 (i) To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation, and that individual requests a closed session. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to exit closed session at

8:11p.m. Roll Call-All AYES-Motion carried 5-0

13. Board Talking Points - None.14. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to adjourn at 8:37 PM Motion carried 5-0 Wapsie Valley CSD Special Board Meeting Minutes

#### March 29, 2023

Pledge of Allegiance

- 1. President Wolfe called the Special Board meeting to order @ 6:00 p.m.
- A. Directors: Wolfe, Sauerbrei, VanDaele, Auel, & Aiello. Declare a quorum.
- B. Administration: Supt. Hoover, Principal Murphy (left at 6:08 p.m.) & Board Secretary: Kim Arndt; C. Public: Megan & Randy Etringer arrived at 6:10 p.m.

2. Moved by Aiello. Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0

- 3. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the quotes from Shawver Well Company to rehabilitate the Readlyn elementary well using option 1 (\$18,480), option 2 (\$6,270), and option 3 (\$7,856) if needed plus any clean up as presented. Motion carried
- 4. Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to go into closed session at 6:04 p.m. Roll Call-All AYES Mo-
- 5-0 Closed Session 21.5(1) (e) To discuss whether to conduct a hearing or conduct a hearing for suspension or expulsion of a student, unless an open meeting is requested by the student or the parent of the student. Exited closed session at 6:07 p.m.

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the expulsion for the remainder of the 22-23 school year of a student as presented. Motion carried 5-0

- 5. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to go into closed session at 6:10 p.m. Roll Call-All AYES Closed session 21.5 (i) To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation, and that individual requests a closed session. Exited closed session at 7:19 p.m.
- 6. Board Talking Points Follow up on items discussed
- 7. Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Sauerbrei to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried 5-0

#### Wapsie Valley School Board - April 17

#### **Public Hearing & Regular Board Meeting** Minutes April 17, 2023

- 1. President Wolfe called the Public Hearing on the 23-24 Budget and FY 23 Amendment to order at 6:34 PM. Roll call - All Ayes Motion carried A. Directors: Auel, Sauerbrei, Wolfe, & Van
- Daele Aiello (excused) B. Superintendent Hoover, Secretary Arndt &
- Principals Hurley, Murphy, & Forsyth C. Others: Mandy Bockholt, Vaughn Gross,
- Sawyer Krall, Wally Kaufman, Bailey Murphy, Ella Morarend, Jill Krall, Jennifer Merdinger, and virtual attendees
- 2. Mrs. Arndt presented FY24 Budget & FY23 Amendment - Discussion was held on proposed tax rate, SAVE dollars, & bond payment.
- 3. Hoover presented the 23-24 School Calen-
- 4. No public comment on the budget, amendment, or the school calendar
- 5. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to close the Public Hearing and adjourn at 6:36 PM -Roll Call - All Ayes Motion carried
- 1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6.36 PM. No changes to
- 2. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried
- 3. Public Comment: 8th-grade student council presented fundraising opportunities to fund their class trip to Adventureland on May 22, 2023. Vaughn gave prom updates and also looking for service learning opportunities for mental health
- 4. Consent Items: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Auel as presented. Motion carried 4-0. Open enrollment was informational Alaina Campbell requests her 10thgrade daughter open enroll to Oelwein - O2 pro-
- 5. Communication & Reports: Board: Jeannie thanks for a successful negotiation session with

Superintendent: Report included Safe+Sound Iowa tool, Legislative updates, & Gabbart website

District - report included Professional Development updates

Principal Hurley: Report included PLC's, Leader In Me, Parent/Teacher conferences, field trips to see plays, earth day activities, and nonfiction animal books created by 2nd-grade students.

Principal Forsyth: Report included 6th-grade DARE graduation, Easter egg hunt, Family Consumer Science class sewed monsters that PK students designed. 4th-grade students attended The Little Mermaid, Rural schools participated in Literacy week, and lighthouse meetings.

Principal Murphy: Report included Hope Tree Counseling, Mental Health Month, Leader in Me, Prom, Game of Life, Little Mermaid Musical, Run, Hide, Fight, Counseling updates, Spring sports, and FFA annual convention.

6. Personnel-Resignation: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the resignations of Valerie Pickett-MS/HS Science Teacher, Kevin McRae-Special Education Teacher effective end of the school year, Mark Sabotta-7-12 Math Teacher, Anna Benhart-Elementary Special Education Teacher, Caitlin McElhose-Special Education Paraeducator & Cheer Coach, Nicole Meagher-Special Education Paraeducator Instructional Associate, & Liz Bergman-JH Volleyball Coach all effective at the end of the school year and thank them for their service to the students and staff at Wapsie Valley. Motion carried 4-0

Contracts: Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve a contract for Nancy Kleitsch -Special Education Paraeducator - \$12.67 P/H as presented. Motion carried 4-0

7. New Business: Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Auel to approve FY24 Budget with a tax rate of \$13.70628 & the Amended Budget for FY22 increasing Instruction, Total Other Expenditures due to increased expenditures as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the Budget Guarantee that will levy property tax for FY24 for the regular program budget adjustment as allowed under section 257.14, Code of Iowa as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Auel, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the updated 23-24 school calendar as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the 2023 anticipated graduates as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the 23-24 registration fees as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the 23-26 Timberline (Medicaid) contract as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve the 2024 anticipated early graduates-Kirsten Wierck, & Reese Peine as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to approve a two year increase for licensed staff for FY24 adding \$1,000 to base salary (\$37,589) (3.6% total package) & FY25 added \$750 to Base Salary (\$38,339), (2.65% total package) to Base Salary (\$38,339) as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei. Seconded by Van Daele to approve a two year increase for Support staff - FY24 - 3.6%, FY25 - 2.65% and Nick Tobey-Mechanic to \$20 P/H as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to approve the SU Insurance Equipment Breakdown renewal for FY24 (105,091) as presented. Motion carried 4-0

Moved by Van Daele, Seconded by Auel to approve the purchase of football helmets (\$6,985.95) from general fund for the 23 season as presented. Motion carried 4-0

- 8. Board Talking Points -Angie can the Gallup Trust pay for HVAC for auditorium
- Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Van Daele to adjourn at 7:01 PM. Motion carried 4-0

#### May 8, 2023 The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, May 8, 2023 at 6:45PM

Readlyn City Council Meeting

for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00PM for the public hearings followed by the regular meeting. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Nicole Barnes, Rocco Imbrogno, Keith Brunscheon, Jason Franck, Joey Jones. Others in attendance: Barney Wiersma, Steve Aiello, Todd Tatroe, Dennis Moothart, Aaron Moothart.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to approve minutes from the April 10, 2023 council meeting. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

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

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to approve budget and library reports. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

Mayor Wedemeier opened the Public Hearing on the proposed FY22/23 Budget Amendment. Notice of time and place had been published in the Waverly Newspapers on April 27, 2023. No written or oral objections were received. After all desiring to be heard motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to close the Public Hearing. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to introduce Resolution No. 2023-04

"RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CUR-RENT FISCAL YEAR BUDGET ENDING JUNE 30, 2023". Roll call vote. AYES: Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2023-04 duly adopted.

Mayor Wedemeier opened the Public Hearing on the Special Permit request from Dennis P Moorthart and Aaron S Moothart 210 Briggs Ave, Readlyn, IA. Pursuant to the Provisions of the Readlyn Restricted Residence Ordinance Sec VIII Special Permits. If approved the Special Permit would allow a solar panel North of

the existing garage. Notice had been published in the Waverly Newspaper on April 25, 2023. Mayor Wedemeier read a letter from Bremer County Building and Zoning concerning safety concerns with the proposed projects. Discussion with the property owners during the public hearing. Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to close the public hearing. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to deny Special Permit request from Dennis P Moothart and Aaron S Moothart at 210 Briggs Ave, Readlyn, IA due to issues not in code compliance. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Council received an update on the Readlyn Main Street Reconstruction Project. Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve Pay Request #2 in the amount of \$154,606.40 to Dave Schmitt Construction. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Franck to approve Steve Aiello to attend the Iowa Police Chiefs Conference May 23-26, 2023. PM. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion car-

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to approve cigarette/tobacco/nicotine/ vapor permit for the Kwik Trip, dba Readlyn Kwik Star #708 effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. Roll call vote. AYES: Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Council received an update on the recent Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation Board meeting.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Franck to approve proceeding with necessary legal paperwork concerning Richard and Carol Peine easement request. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Imbrogno, Jones, Barnes. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Flag pole on City of Readlyn sign on Hwy 3 no action needed

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15PM.

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



#### "Keeping An Open Mind For Angling Success"

Ejohnston@mossyoakprostaff.com

I've been told many times over the years that change can be a good thing. While most of us struggle to deal with change, and fight it all we can, I have come to find that change can actually be a good thing in the fishing world. While it's very easy to become locked in your comfort zone and have decent success in angling, I've recently found that stepping out of that comfort zone on areas and techniques can raise the ceiling on your angling abilities. This month I'll dive into what I mean with this

You've heard it many times, I'm certain, "The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results." This applies heavily in fishing. As you might imagine, my bass tournament fishing is now past 20 years of experience, most of that experience on the Mississippi River, specifically pools 9 and 10. In that time, I've found myself locked into certain areas that have histor-

ically been good at one point or another in my career, to a point sometimes my stubbornness on an area producing has hurt me badly in tournaments. "I caught 18 pounds off this sandbar in 2008 at this very water level and time of year." "They've gotta be here." I've said this to myself in my head more times than I would care to admit. As an angler gets older and more experienced, especially on a certain body of water, they become stubborn and try to tell the river how it's gonna go, instead of listening to what the river and fish are telling you they want. Last time I checked, Mother Nature is undefeated and I don't see her losing anytime soon. This year in the off season, I had a lot of reflection on why I've struggled in tournaments. I've had some good finishes but haven't won since 2017. That's

six years without a win this coming August 17. I decided to make a change on things I can control, like personal health, boat and tackle care and maintenance, etc. But I've also made the conscious decision to fish with an open mind. The big reason out-of-state tournament participants beat locals on their home waters is due to the fact they don't have preconceived notions on where the fish "should" be. Instead, they use their skills of season, water level and weather to find areas that are conducive to where to find fish. I made up my mind this spring to look at the river as a blank slate. Sure, I still check in on spots that have produced before, but I'm not living or dying by them. Instead I'm forcing myself in my "practice days" to do nothing but fish areas I've never fished before to seek out new bass hiding spots. This year, it will be especially important to do so as the big river had its third highest crest ever back in early May. This will most certainly bring that keyword of "change" into the picture. Floods change rivers tremendously and this season will be a whole new world out there. For once I'm hoping to be ahead of the game on changing my mindset!

Another element in fishing that can hurt your success is becoming locked on certain baits or colors because, once again, "I hammered them on black and blue here in 2002, it's gotta be the color!" Take a walk through your local tackle shop and look at all the different colors and types of baits on the shelves. While some are there to catch anglers, there's a reason for so much variety as fish prefer variety. Keep an open mind and try different baits and techniques.

Speaking of techniques, don't hesitate to try new ones. Never used a drop-shot before? Try it out! The list of different techniques is endless for all species of fish and the beauty of today's tech world is we have YouTube University in the palm of our hands to not only learn how to rig different techniques, but also how to fish it and under what conditions to do so. Utilize the technology resource no matter what species you're after. Technology has come so far in the last five years for fishing. Some of it honestly scares me for the future of not only tournament fishing, but Mother Nature's resources as well. With things like GPS mapping and, yes, I'm gonna say it..... FORWARD FACING SONAR.

For those not completely in tune with the fishing industry 24/7 as I am, FFS or "livescope" is new technology that came on the scene a couple years ago and has become quite a hot button topic on both sides of the argument for and against. FFS is a depth finder that shoots a signal out to 100 feet in front of the boat and shows fish swimming in front of you, around structures, and shows a detailed picture of the bottom of the lake and you can even see your bait and the fish reacting to it in real time. Some have started calling it "video game fishing." If set up correctly, you can literally stare at the screen all day long, looking for and catching fish. I fought hard not to have it for the last two years, but this spring I made the purchase as, in the tournament world, I don't want to get left behind as so many others have it and many tournaments are won with it. I'm still very inexperienced with it, but I have it dialed in well enough to see fish and my baits and have caught some fish using it. Personally, I feel it takes the magic and wonderment out of fishing and I'm not real accepting of that change.

A big thrill for me, and I'm sure most anglers, is not knowing what's there every cast you make. I'm also fearful of it for our pan fish population as it makes it very easy to find the fish in a hurry. Will it ever be banned? Too soon to tell, as these electronic companies pump a lot of money into the tournament organizations with sponsorship dollars. Its hard for a tournament organization to turn that extra money away by banning the use of it in their tournaments. My opinion on it for

bass fishing is it's another tool in the arsenal to help me locate fish. Time will tell its future and FFS is a topic for a full article down the road.

To sum this column up for the month is the fact that fishing, like everything else in life, is ever changing. The best way to deal with change is embrace it and keep an open mind. Try new areas and techniques often. Challenge yourself to learn a new technique by taking only one rod with you and sticking to that technique until you get good with it.

The same applies to areas. Pick out a certain section of the river on a map you've never before been and focus on it for a day and learn new spots to fish. Or try a new body of water altogether; the exploration and learning is what makes the angling journey more fun! Until next time, GET OUT-DOORS!









319-279-3893 319-267-2035

securitymutualins.com

234 Main Street • Readlyn, IA

# Quality Distributors, Inc. BRIAN L. MEYER, C.C.A. Distributors of

P.O. Box 332 101 Main Street Readlyn, IA 50668



Bus. 800-817-6843 Cell 319-269-3941 Fax: 319-279-3380

Email - qualdist@netins.net

Fertilizer & Chemical Sales, Soil Testing & Custom Application

# Readlyn Area Housing IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY

62 years of age or older, handicapped/disabled regardless of age

Very Low or Low-Income Families
 One or Two Bedrooms
 Ground Level
 Stove
 All Electric Units with Thermostat in Each Room
 Ample Closet Space
 Rent Based on Income



For More Information Contact KarTay Apartment Management 319-334-7110 This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.



Several members of St. Matthew's Martha Circle cut, sewed, and tied 35 quilts during Lent this spring. There were also a few talented and gifted St. Matthew's members who helped get these beautiful quilts finished. The finished quilts are pictured (at left) on the backs of the church pews to be blessed during church services. Each year the quilts are sent away to Lutheran World Relief to be distributed to third world countries

# 4th graders tour Historical **Society**

Imagine Readlyn as a vast prairie in 1900. People were settling in this area as farmers because of the fertile soil. The Ohlendorf family was German and one of the first families to settle in Readlyn as farmers.

The first baby born in Readlyn was Imelda Marsch. She was born in the barn as the Marsch home was still being built and Readlyn didn't have a hospital yet.

Tours of the Readlyn Historical Society are available by contacting a Historical Society member. Readlyn had many businesses, such as millinery, drugstore, barber shop, livery stables, blacksmith shop, grocery store, and more. It was a compete one-stop-to-shop for everything.



Way to go Wildcats! These CLS athletes proudly competed in the IDE track meet today in Williamsburg. There were a total of five schools who competed. All of their training and hard work paid off! We are proud of their determination and team work! A special thank you to our volunteer coaches Lizzie Mathias and Keri Kono for their time and commitment in supporting these athletes to push themselves in trying something new!



Pictured are the fourth graders along with their teacher, Mrs. Lincoln, and teachers' aides Mrs. Schneider and Mrs. Galyean. Judy Leistikow, along with her husband, Ron, gave the tour.



# Mollie B & SqueezeBox with Ted Lange

As seen on the "Mollie B Polka Party" TV Show



Fairbank, lowa 8:30 Polka Mass at

Immacuate Conception Church

#### 12:00 Performance at Riverside Park

Sunday, June 4, 2023

Brunch served in the church hall from 9:30 to noon. Boyd's Food Stand available during afternoon performance. Your chance to see Mollie B!

Bring lawn chairs. Coolers allowed. FREE WILL DONATION!!

\*Mollie B - Host of the Mollie B Polka Party" & "Polka!" as seen on

\*Ted Lange - Two-time GRAMMY Nominee

They have been featured in the 2018 Warner Brothers Movie, 'The Mule, starring Clint Eastwood; named male and female vocalists of the year; G inducted into the International Polka Hall of Fame.



For more information, email ICFairbank@gmail.com or visit: IC Fairbank.weebly.com

# News from Community Lutheran School





Thank you to the group of fantastic Wapsie Valley Jr. High and High School students and staff who helped at our Klinger and Readlyn campuses in our classrooms, office, and maintenance on the playground on May 1! We appreciate your day of community service!















# Tree planted for Immanuel's 150th Anniversary

Forty-plus Community Lutheran School and local homeschool students planted a Scarlet Oak tree in honor of Immanuel Lutheran's 150th Anniversary year! The tree was planted behind the church near the parsonage and memory garden.





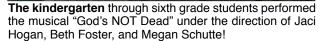






These students in the 3- and 4-year-old preschool performed songs of praise and The Jesus Shuffle dance at our spring musical on May 3!









#### Deadline for the June 28 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., June 15 at 5 PM



#### **Immanuel Lutheran Church**

2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Pastor Philip Giradin Divine Service 10 a.m.



#### St. Matthew's **Lutheran Church**

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. Adult 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.



#### Helping Hands **Clothing Closet** 2029 Viking Ave.

Hwy. V56 - Sumner

Hours: Tuesdays, 9-11 AM Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM First Saturday of the month 9-11 AM

**Brief application required;** providing FREE clothing to those in need

#### **His Hands Food Pantry**

5002 Main Street Oran

Hours: Tuesdays, 5-8 PM Fridays 9 AM-12 Noon

Brief application required **Currently serving Denver, Fairbank,** Frederika, Maynard, Oran, Randalia, Readlyn, Sumner, Tripoli and Westgate area residents

319-638-4357

1195 Hilton Ave., Plainfield For reservations, call 319-275-4528

Available for rent for graduations, small parties, wedding receptions & more.

40'x72', full kitchen, freezer, refrigerators, air conditioning and restrooms.



#### 311 E. 2nd St., Sumner \$145,000

Dutch Colonial 1 1/2 story offers larger rooms, 3 large bedrooms & 1 full bath up, 3/4 bath & laundry on main floor, wood floors, elec. f/p, full basement, 1+ det. garage. Priced to Sell!



#### 213 5th Ave. S.W. **Oelwein**

Updated 1 1/2 Story, 2 Bdrm, 1.5 bath, Mainflr laundry, Newer Furnace, c/air, Newer Windows, 1 ½ car det gar.

\$89,500!



701 7th St. S.E. **Oelwein** 

#### **801 1st Ave. NW Oelwein**

Nicely bidden e of town 94/Acres m/l

#### **BUILDING SITE AVAILABLE!**



105 & 107 12th Ave. NW **Oelwein** 

2 parcels total .55/acre m/l, Corner lot size 150'x160', city utilities to the lot. \$25,000

**LISTING** 2745 270th St. Winthrop

**NEW ACREAGE** 



NEW KITCHEN & MAIN FLOOR BATH, Main floor laundry, 4 bedrms, Machine Shed, long lane, Selling "AS IS". Call for more information or your private showing.

# ADVANCED, REALTORS®

814 S. Frederick, Oelwein 283-2242

Lori Beierschmitt Broker/Owner Cell: 319-238-1700





Bonnie Schulz Bender Broker/Assoc. 319-269-9591

REALTOR.COM

REALTOR.COM