U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Volume 18, No. 9, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Robin Harms, Tripoli, IA, September 24, 2025

# Community unites for Readlyn Emergency Services

## Fundraising momentum builds with pork dinner, 50/50 raffle, and more

Readlyn, IA — The Readlyn community continues to show unwavering support for the future Readlyn Emergency Service Building (RESB) through a series of successful fundraising events that have brought neighbors together and dollars closer to the goal.

The journey began with a pork dinner fundraiser, where the aroma of grilled pork and the warmth of community spirit filled the air. The event served 300 plates and raised an impressive \$10,920, all dedicated to the construction and outfitting of the new emergency services facility.

This event was made possible thanks to the generous contributions of several local donors:

- Bremer County Pork Producers
- Thrivent
- Kwik Star Readlyn

- Lou Fortsch Family
- Fareway Waverly
- Hy-Vee Waverly
- Sam's Club

Their donations of food, supplies, and financial support helped make the evening both enjoyable and impactful. "This is what community looks like," said one volunteer. "Every plate served was a step closer to a safer, better-equipped Read-

The fundraising continued at the Bremer County Fair, where a 50/50 raffle held during the thrilling Combine Derby raised \$712.

Adding even more momentum, RTC Communications has launched a matching program for business donations. Now through January 1, any company or business that contributes to the RESB fund will have their donation matched dollar-for-dollar by RTC. This initiative offers a powerful incentive for local businesses to get involved and amplify their impact.

And the excitement doesn't stop there—next up is a Gun Raffle! The RESB team will be selling 400 tickets for a chance to win three firearms, offering another opportunity for the community to support the project while participating in a popular local tradition. Details on ticket sales and drawing dates will be announced soon (see ad on Page 7).

#### **Recent Donors to the RESB Fund**

The Readlyn Emergency Service Building team would like to recognize and thank the following recent donors for their generous support: Larry & Sara Oltrogge, Ron & Denise Oltrogge, Mark McElhose, Todd & Jessi Block, Joan Matthias, Luann Happel, Mark Bohner, Hesse's D-H Farm, Steve & Brian Anderson Families, Don & Mary Lou Billhorn, Dennis & Lynn Kuker, TruServe Insurance Group, LLC, Farmers Cooperative Company, and In Memory of Verdeen Pavelec.

Your contributions are helping build a safer, stronger future for Readlyn. Thank you for being part of this mission!

With each event, the Readlyn Emergency Service Building project gains more traction and community backing. Organizers are energized by the outpouring of support and encourage everyone residents, businesses, and visitors aliketo take part in this meaningful mission.

#### Lois Buhr caps off 38 years; Kris McGrane is new City Clerk

After 38 years of service, Lois Buhr, the Readlyn City Clerk, retired on August 8, 2025. The City of Readlyn now welcomes Kris McGrane, from Fayette, as the new

McGrane was born and raised in Fairbank, and is very familiar with Readlyn and many of the citizens. Prior to coming to Readlyn, McGrane worked about 8



Lois Buhr retired in August.



TRICK-OR-TREAT

> in Readlyn Sunday, Oct. 26 4-6 PM

years as the City Clerk in Fayette before

working 2 years as the Finance Manager for County Social Services. Due to recent changes from Iowa legislation with disability and mental health services, McGrane and hundreds of other employees lost their jobs on June 30, 2025.



Kris McGrane

"Once I knew I was losing my job with County Social Services, I immediately started searching for my next adventure," stated McGrane. "I focused my search on city government because I enjoyed working as City Clerk in Fayette."

A resident from Fayette who was aware of McGrane's employment situation and knew the City of Readlyn was searching for a new City Clerk, mentioned something to Kris' wife. That led to McGrane speaking with Readlyn Mayor Dan Wedemeier about the City Clerk position. McGrane ap-

## Leaf burning allowed Oct. 1-Nov. 15 in town

The City of Readlyn will permit burning of leaves Oct. 1 to Nov. 15, 2025.

#### Things to Know:

No burning building materials or painted/treated wood

No burning household waste, plastics

No burning cardboard

No burning on streets or sidewalks

No burning wet leaves

No burning on a windy day

Keep a bucket of water, garden hose or fire extinguisher nearby

Be considerate of your neighbors when



plied for the job and was hired by the City

McGrane said, "Lois has really done a great job managing the finances of Readlyn and that will make it easier for me to pick up where she left off." He is looking forward to continuing to make Readlyn a great place and has big plans on working with the elected officials to expand city

McGrane will be updating the City's website and social media, working on offering automatic bank transfers/ACH and credit card payments for utilities, offering customers the option to receive utility bills via email, transitioning to more electronic services and less paper, among other

McGrane will soon be starting a monthly email called the "Readlyn Report." The community email will help keep Readlyn residents up-to-date with city news, events and information.

"When I started a community email in Fayette, I quickly discovered it was the best way to get city information and events out quickly to citizens," stated McGrane. Anyone is able to receive the email, even if you are not a resident of Readlyn. To sign up, email McGrane at cityhallreadlyn@rtc279. com and request to receive the email.

"I'm anticipating quite a few positive changes and updates over the next year and the easiest way for me to get the information out is through the 'Readlyn Report' community email," said McGrane.

McGrane currently resides in Fayette with his wife, DyAnna, their youngest son and two dogs. Their oldest son attends the University of Northern Iowa.

"Being back in Readlyn and seeing so many familiar faces has been very exciting," commented McGrane. "I hope Readlyn citizens reach out to me if they have any questions or concerns. Otherwise just stop in city hall and say 'Hi'.'

# "Country" Movie Night at Grumpy's

Coalition, along with Grumpy's Event Center (located at 209 Main Street Read-

lvn), is having a free showing of the 1984 movie, "Country," on Saturday, October 4.

The movie was filmed in the Readlyn and Dunkerton areas. Many locals were extras in the movie cast. The event center was shown as well in a dance hall scene. Join us in reminiscing while watching this movie 40 years later.

This community event is focused on connecting people, as we watch the challenges farmers faced during a time when no

one talked about the affects it had on mental health. Farmers today still face similar challenges. This is a timeless movie that brings generations together in remembering how families were able to persevere and move forward.

The Coalition wants people to know it is okay to not be okay. It's okay to talk about these challenges and how mental health can be affected. The Coalition is

The Bremer County Suicide Prevention working hard to decrease the stigma of seeking mental health services, as well as bringing awareness to suicide and suicide

prevention.

The doors will open at 5:30 p.m. to this free event. There will be family-fun activities with corn hole and card games. There will be plenty of food and drinks available to purchase from the Grumpy's menu. The movie will begin at 6:30 p.m. There will be individuals present from several mental health service providers along with resource tables from other

local agencies.

Following the movie will be a brief recap on farming challenges that farmers face, then and now. Come and enjoy this community event. Miss Readlyn Kiley Strottmann, and Readlyn's Grump, Mary Lou Ungs, will be present.

Please consider attending this important and timeless family-friendly presentation of the movie "Country."



# Grump's Grumblings



By Mary Lou Ungs, 2025 Grump

I had my 50th class reunion last

month. We were the largest class to graduate

from Wapsie at the time. We may still be. Who were all these old people? Luckily, we all wore name tags, which I did have to refer to a few times.

Only I didn't see us as old. We were a group of people mostly talking about kids, grandkids and great-grandkids, trips we have taken, challenges we have gotten through or are going through. Picking up on friendships as if you talked to them yesterday, even though it had been years. Talking about the fun of high school, but glad not to be in it now. Knowing they would be there if you needed them even 50 years later.

We were a group genuinely enjoying each other's company. These are true riches. Friends, family, health. Treasure these. If you don't have them, no amount of money will make you rich.

Editor's Note: Read more about the Wapsie Valley High School class of 1975 reunion on page 6, including photos.

#### Send news or ads to: **ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com**





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

#### 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 & Refrigerator Furnished • Laundry Facilities On Site 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

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Fettkether Fertilizer Co., LLC fettfarm@dunkerton.net INKERTON, IOWA Dunkerton, IA 319-404-0064 Specializing in starter fertilizer mixes, bulk UAN, Crop Chemicals, Seed & Planter Equipment



# Miss Readlyn Comments

By Kylie Strottmann

Hello, Readlyn Community!

I've absolutely loved representing the town of Readlyn-it's been such a fun and rewarding experience! In August, I hosted a dance camp and had the opportunity to connect with local youth and share something I'm truly passionate about. We had 12 kids sign up, and it was such a joy teaching them. At the end of the camp, we all shared our favorite parts, and many said it was making new friends and memories! For our mini-performance, we danced to "Can't Stop the Feeling" from "Trolls"the kids loved it, and it was amazing to see them try something new and have so much fun doing it.

I also just had my last first day of enjoy every minute of it!

school last month, which feels surreal! Dance season officially starts September 7. I enjoyed dance competition at my old studio and I'm excited to share that I joined the competition team at The Studio in Waverly this year. I'll be competing in six dances during my senior year and can't wait to get started.

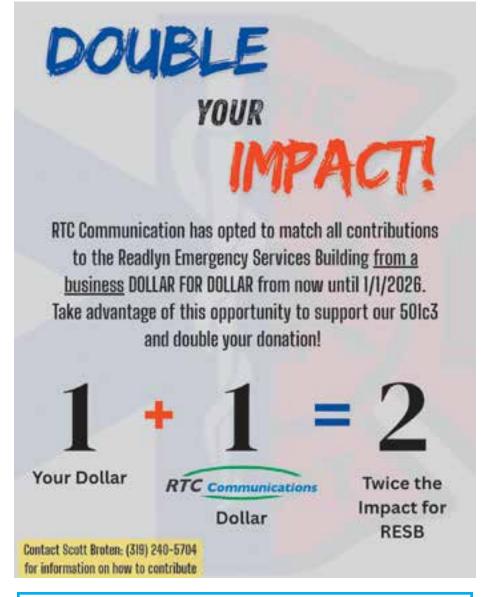
This past summer has also brought some exciting changes. I started a new job at Discoveries in Denver, and I absolutely love it! The kids are adorable, and the staff is so welcoming. It's amazing to be working in a field I hope to pursue in the future. Even though my schedule has been busy with morning and evening shifts, I truly

# Pepper Tournament is back Oct. 4

It's Pepper time again!

Come and join us at the Pepper Tournament at Grumpy's on Saturday, October 4 at 1:00 p.m. Entry fee is \$3.00.

Bring a partner and join in the fun!

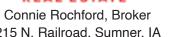




#### Tripoli Lot For Sale

908 3rd Street SE \$40,000

125' wide x 120' deep with the availability of adding more land.



563-578-8899 www.towncountryhome.com

Christopher Tibbott 319-404-9435

Agents:

Louie Hartman 319-239-0533 Gary Guether 319-415-9874

We serve the needs of our communities!

# RCC begins plans for Christmas event

**RCC** Meeting:

September 8, 2025, 6:00 pm @ library

Present: Michelle and Ed Harrington, Ron and Louie Hartman, Bonnie Wittenburg, John Gaylean, Ron Leistikow, and Pat Wehr. The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m.

**Secretary Report:** Moved by Bonnie and seconded by Ron to approve the minutes as emailed. Passed unanimously.

**Treasurer Report:** Presented by Louie. Michelle will help Louie with taxes. Moved by Ron and seconded by Bonnie. Passed unanimously.

**Old Business:** Cans, may go Friday and continue to go well.

Basketball hoops: Trouble with the existing cement. Work in progress.

Gazebo: City workers are working on the shelters, so they will get to it next year.

Craig Hesse is working on adding skaters; possibly more than two. Preliminary budget is \$1000 which may include lights.

**New Business:** Past members who did not renew membership: Pat will send a friendly reminder to the 11 not rejoining.

Picnic and School Supply Drive September 14 @ 11:30 a.m.: Hot dogs: Bonnie bought 48. Hamburgers: John will pick up 100 burgers from Oran Locker Saturday. Buns: Use the Kwik Star gift card; Michelle will order them. Condiments: Bonnie bought them at Sam's Club. Water: Ron will get it from Dustin Heine Saturday. Beans: Bonnie bought them from Sam's Club; will put in a warmer and doctor them up. Potato Salad: Louie will

pick up 3 gallons from Fairbank Saturday. Plates, silverware, and napkins: Louie still has some left from last year. Louie and Ed have warmers for hamburgers, hot dogs, and beans. Two coolers for water will be available. Jeremy will be doing cotton candy. School supply drive. Louie distributed posters. Setup for picnic: 10:00 a.m. Grills: Ed will bring over the Blackstone and Connect Four, plus bring a kettle to cook hot dogs. Volunteers. Spikeball. Splash Pad will be working for the picnic. Flying Gorilla will be playing. Balloon Man. Louie has Granny Pants game.

**Decorating for Halloween**: John and Ron H. know where to get the corn donated by Ron Leistikow Friday, September 19. Decorate Saturday, September 20, 9:00. Bonnie will make a sign-up sheet for the picnic. Louie will bring the twine.

Christmas Santa Visit: November 29: Ask Jess to do the parade.

Fireworks are booked.

Ham giveaway; will redraw if you are not present immediately to claim yours.

Ask Fire Department to donate s'mores. RCC does cocoa and cookies.

Nonperishable items will be collected for the Oran Food Bank. (Bring in the Kindness Cart.)

Michelle will book the Fire Station.

# Next meeting is Thursday, October 2, 6 p.m., at the library.

Ed moved and Bonnie seconded to adjourn the meeting. Passed unanimously. Respectfully submitted,

Pat Wehr, secretary



# Readlyn Savings Bank

Invites YOU to our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual

<u>Grümptoberfest</u>







RSB ~ Taking Good Care of You! ~ Since 1904 ASB ~ The Spirit of American Banking ~ Since 1899

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

FDK LENDER

American Savings Bank a location of Readlyn Savings Bank 312 S. Main Street - P.O. Box 909 Tripoli, IA 50676-0909 319-882-4279 or 800-853-4294 A COMMUNITY APPRECIATION PARTY!

October 23<sup>rd,</sup> 2025 4:30-8:30P.M

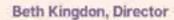
Grumpy's Event Center

- -Free Meal (Take out Welcome)
- -Live Music, Raffle, & Prizes
- Costume Contest 6:30 P.M. (All ages Welcome)

In Observance of Columbus Day; The Readlyn Savings Bank will not be open on Monday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025!



# Readlyn Community Library



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



#### **Memorial Donations**

In memory of Jim E. Schneider given by Roger and Connie Buhr

In Memory of Harlan Schweer given by Dan and Bev Huebner

### **Book Donations**

#### In Memory of Allison Mitcham

The Farm That Feeds Us by Linda Castaldo given by Kelly DeVoe



Fax/Print/Scan Conference Room Test Proctoring **Interlibrary Loans** Internet/WiFi/3D Printing **Basic Graphic Design** ZOOM Meeting Access

Mon - 10am - 7pm Tue - 10am - 5 pm Wed - 10am - 5pm Thurs - 10am - 7pm Fri - 10am - 5 pm Sat - 9am - 12pm Sun - Closed

BREMER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOOT CLINIC - THIRD THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH, CALL 319-352-0082 FOR AN APPOINTMENT.



Tuesday, September 30 - 3:30 pm - In the Kitchen With Laura - presented by the Readlyn Library and Readlyn Historical Society. The Museum will be open after the program.

Thursday, October 9 - 1:30 pm - Honoring Choices: How Advance Directives Benefit You at End of Life presented by Cedar Valley Hospice

October 16 - Foot Clinic resumes. Call the Bremer County Health Department to make an appointment. (319) 352-0082

# **INTERESTED IN BOOK CLUB?**

Our book club season got underway in September as we chose our books for the coming year, but we're always welcoming new members! If you're interested, contact the library and we'll add you to the mailing list for more information on upcoming meetings and titles. Not sure you can come each month or get all of the books read? That's ok! Come when you can and read what you canwe're a laid back and 'no pressure' group. We read a wide variety of titles and typically meet the last Thursday of each month at 6:00 pm.





# Readlyn Community Club Picnic 2025



Miss Readlyn Kylie Strottmann and runner-up Claire Beckham, Kelly, and Bronson Bockholdt display their O'Donnell add flair to the picnic as they learn a new trade.



treasures from the Balloon Man.



Balloon Man Daryl Andersen of Waverly is always a popular guy at Readlyn events.



A huge shout-out to Austin Matthias for turning on the Splash Pad for the picnic. The kids appreciated it!



The Flying Gorillas added music to the picnic. Left to right are Breven Biermann, lead singer and guitarist; Meghan Christensen on drums; Braden Sabin on bass.

**Justin Matthias** treats daughter

Bridget to cotton

candy as Louie

Hartman looks on.



Ed Harrington unselfishly dedicates his equipment and energy to make the Readlyn Community picnic a success. (Not pictured: His wife, Michelle, deserves equal kudos as president of the Community Club.)



One of two loads Louie and Ron Hartman hauled to the park for the picnic. Their ambition and dedication to the community is commendable.



Grump Mary Lou Ungs visits with band members and their families.

See these photos in full color when you read the *Chronicle* online at: https://www. readlyn.lib.ia.us

## Deadline for the Oct. 29 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., Oct. 16 at 5 PM. Send news items to: readlynchronicle@gmail.com

#### Page 8 from the 1936 Chronicle

Pages from the 1936 Readlyn Chronicle, entitled the "Campaign Issue," were found in a time capsule at the Bremer County Courthouse. Page 8, the final page

of that issue, is shown below.

To see past pages published in the Chronicle, go to: https://www.readlyn.lib.

# College News

#### Gunner Meyer Named to Central Kirkwood Community College College Dean's List

PELLA, IA (08/20/2025)-- Gunner Meyer, Fairbank, has been named to Central College's Spring 2025 Dean's List. Meyer, Class of 2026, is among the 410

To qualify for this honor, students must

# **Announces Dean's List Honors**

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (August 26, 2025) - Austin Eldridge of Readlyn was named to the Dean's List at Kirkwood Community College for the spring 2025 semester.

Students named to the list have achieved a 3.3 grade point average or higher after completing 12 or more credit hours at the college.

#### **Hawkeye Community College Announces Summer 2025 Graduates**

WATERLOO--The following are Hawkeye Community College summer graduates and their programs of study:

Fairbank: Bradley Gordon, Paramedic, certificate, graduated with high honors; Dayton Jergens, CNC Machining Technology, diploma; Justus Kelley, Liberal Arts, Associate of Arts degree.

Readlyn: Isabel LaRue, Liberal Arts, Associate of Arts degree.

## **Bremer County** Community **Foundation Awards** \$214,635.32

The Bremer County Community Foundation (BCCF) held its grant awards celebration at the Waverly Area Veteran's Post on July 10, announcing the distribution of \$214,635.32 to 30 projects of organizations serving Bremer County through its 2025 grant cycle.

The 2025 grant recipient organizations, project the grant will fund, and grant amount are listed below by funding area.

Arts & Culture

Bremer County Fair Association – Doors for Livestock and Show Arena - \$5.000.00

City of Waverly - Chamber - Shades of Rhythm Amphi-

Warburg Community Symphony Association – Family Holiday Concert: The Christmas Carol – \$4,250.00
 Waverly-Shell Rock Community School District – Ele-

mentary - Go-Hawk Pride Sculptures - \$5,000.00

Community Betterment · City of Frederika - Fire Department - Quick Attack Truck

-\$10,000.00

· City of Plainfield - Fire Department - Turnout Gear -\$10,000.00

· City of Readlyn - Library - SmartBoard Replacement -\$3,000.00

· City of Sumner - Parks & Rec - Sumner Trail Enhance-

ment - \$10,000.00

• City of Tripoli – Fire Department - SCBA Compressor – \$10,000.00

City of Tripoli – Pool Board - Slide Replacement – \$10,000.00

City of Waverly – Public Parks - Basketball Ball Hoops Upgrade – \$3,450.00

· Readlyn Volunteer Firefighters Association – Fire Depart-

ment - Bunker Gear - \$10,000.00
• Thomas E Wood Post 223 American Legion - Increasing

Accessibility for Legion Facilities - \$7,763.57

• Waverly Volunteer Fire Association - Radio Equipment

Upgrades - \$9,000.00

**Education & Youth Development** 

• All in Mentoring – General Operating Support – \$5,000.00 • Leader Valley Foundation – Leader in Me Bremer County

Sumner Daycare and Learning Center, Inc. – Enhancing Outdoor Learning and Comfort – \$10,000.00

· Waverly Child Care and Preschool - Playground -

· Senior Citizens Group of Waverly Inc. - Building Remodel - Lower Level - \$10,000.00

• Support SEMS – SEMS - Rapid Stabilization – \$8,751.75 Human Service

Families Helping Families of Iowa – Support for Bremer County Children in Foster Care – \$5,000.00

Fostering Families Together - Back to School Picnic -\$3,500.00

· Friends of the Family - Ending Homelessness in Bremer County - \$5,000.00

· Iowa Heartland Habitat for Humanity - Critical Home Re-

pairs – \$9,000.00
• North Star Community Services, Inc. – Ensuring Commu-

nity Access – \$3,500.00

Northeast Iowa Community Action – NEICAC 2025 Crisis

Assistance Program – \$10,000.00 Northeast Iowa Food Bank – Feeding Communities –

• Riverview Center, Inc. – Supporting Trauma Survivors and Helping Them Heal – \$3,820.00

The Larrabee Center Inc. – Employment Support Ser-

vices - \$10,000.00 Waverly-Shell Rock Area United Way County Crisis Housing Assistance – \$5,000.00

students named to the Dean's List.

earn a 3.5 GPA or higher on a 4.0 scale while taking 12 or more graded credit hours for the semester.

\$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

No Fullian Assessments As old established outsion to the part of both parties in Kansas was an assessment of five per cent on office-bidders for exampling person. One of the first acts of Landon as governor of the state was the outliering of any assessment on any office-bidder.

#### VOL. HII NO. 30

Dunkerton

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B. C. Service State of Control Science Control Wellier, Character Welling, Ott. 21.

READLYN, IOWA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1936

special guest.

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The D. J. D. Clab enjoyed a dinner.

The September party in Waterloo Monday.

Mrs. Coulists. held a party at the advectional forms. Friday evening, Oct. 16.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Agrew. Wairrion.

Mr. and Gerchen Chomplin of Lean Fulls series dashley disser greats in the A.O. Agreew bonne.

Mrs. John Ordenell and Mrs. Will Jeans antestaked Group 2 of the Replaced Land Wednesday alternoon.

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Mary Catherine Combin. Lenia Will

Distribution String

On top of croop plowed under and pigs killed by coder of the gentleman farmer in the White Hoose, an similarly Providence shows its are greater than the brain of man, or any one man. The crops are riside even smaller—Sections Farmer. Ratter and Egg Marker.
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Year Parties Entitle.

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Roth Waters—Margery Strain
Mary Jame Deligen Rein
Frod Raymond—Gooden Dukkatten
Mette Whiten-Marine Rosen
Com Wagninger—Visian Wineler
Away Wappinger—Kelly Winelek
Runkleberry Flan—Cillion Rockken

John Finn-Darrett Gelaud! Ten Rawyes-Eicherd Shirey

TVA Goes Witz Congress appropriated 25,000,000 r a ten year period for TVA. the Erst is months the superiors had emounted to \$110,000,000 the ten period \$170,000,000 as a bicinese of cost.

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Exceeds First 121 Years in the first three years of the sevent administration the governer appear in the sevent appear in the first 122 years are exceeding to first 122 years are exchange as a saido, and ing those 122 years we lought r wars, including the one been the states.

# Grand Theatre

In 1935 these was imported into the United States a total of 344,345 hashels af core. In 1933, under the Booarest herit program, On importation of core from broken harms emousied to 42,342,239 bushels, the production of 1,814,000 acres.

The Best Amusement Value Always A

Better Shows.

Attend Our Daily Matiness Copy, Restful Comfort.

Matiness of Sop m and of 7 and 6 p. m.

Continuous Show Sundays Starting at a o'clock.

Friday and Saturday, October 30 and 31 BANK NIGHT. (Register Friday or Matines Saturday

Joan Bennett and Cary Grant in "Wedding Present" With George Baneroft and Corred Negel.

Sunday and Monday, November 1 and 2 Midnight Show Hollower's Night Starts at 11:00 P. M. Pre-View Showing Saturday Night.

Loretta Young and America in "Rumona" All in the New Perfected Technicolor. Come and See the Most Beautiful Show Screeged.

Tuesday, November 3 BANK NIGHT Come Get the Cash. Stewart Erwin and Forence Rice

"Women are Trouble" If you doubt it just res this and he convinced.

Wed. Thurs and Friday, Nov. 4, 5 and 6 On account of it being a road show we will have only two shows a day. Matters starts at 1:00 p on Evening at 7:00 p, m. Will on Puwell and Myssa Loy in

"The Greta Ziefeld" The Mexical Secretion of the Year wite 60 Stars and 500 Gergens Girly. A Brid Show at Popular Prices. Pun't Mile Got Seeing This

# Tell the Voters the Truth

Formers have all found out that increased taxes paid by them resulting from the reles tax, state income taxes and additional property taxes have far exceeded any suppose benefits derived from A. A. A.

Tell the Voters the Truth

# in its price class!

AMERICA'S BEST



# For Better, Easier, More **Profitable Dairying**

If your cream separator is losing money by wasting butterfat at the skimming spout, its high time to invest a new McCormick-Deering Ball Bearing Cream Separator. A Sabcock test of the skimmilk will tell whet er you can afford to continue using your cream separa-

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# A. H. Miller Implement Go.

Readlyn

# SPECIALS FOR NOVEMBER

PERMANENTS

TWO STEAM OIL PERMANENS FOR

Let one of our fine Permanents bring out the true beauty of your hair. Soft Water Shampooing.

READLYN BEAUTY SHOP

OTHER PERMANENTS

Phone 2110.

\$1.95 AND UP

MODERN BEAUTY SHOP

Phone 34 for Appointment.

Tripoli, loww

Readlyn, Iowa

\$5.00

# Readlyn Senior Citizens group welcomes new member

On August 27, 2025, 20 members attended the 11:30 a.m. Senior Citizen's lunch and meeting at the Tripoli Panther Lanes in Tripoli, IA.

The meeting was called to order by President Ron Leistikow and he led us in prayer before our wonderful meal.

We all welcomed a new member, Barb Meyer. We are all pleased that she joined our Readlyn Senior Citizens group!

The birthdays celebrated for the month of August were Lois Thacher, Judy Leistikow, Judy Henn and Charles Albrecht. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to all of them. There was one anniversary celebrated for the month of August. Charles Albrecht and Wilda celebrated 62 years of marriage. We all sang "Happy Anniversary" to them. Congratulations!

The group expressed their deepest sympathy to Larry and Vicki Pavelec as Larry's mother, Verdeen Pavelec, had passed on August 3, 2025. Verdeen was a long-time member of the Readlyn Senior Citizens group and the secretary for years. We all will miss her.

We all signed a sympathy card for Loren Sommerfelt as his wife, Sharon, passed away and the funeral was August 20, 2025. We also signed a sympathy card for Sharon Funk as her husband, Everette, passed away on August 18, 2025. Visitation was held on August 21, 2025. We all extended our deepest sympathy to both of them.

The secretary's report for July 16, 2025 was read by Lois Thacher. We had canceled our meeting for August 20, 2025 as the Tripoli Bowling Alley closed because of the funeral of Loren Sommerfelt's wife, Sharon. Marlys Deterding made a motion to approve the minutes as read and Janet Ladage seconded it. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht. The balance in the account after expenses was \$174.00. Don Billhorn made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Larry Pavelec seconded it. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: The attendance at the Readlyn Historical Society's ice cream sundae day on August 10, 2025 was 80. The 2025 Readlyn Grump Mary Lou Ungs and Miss Readlyn Kylie Strottmann served the ice cream sundaes for 25 cents! A number of visitors took advantage of the ice cream social to tour the Museum.

The third Annual Readlyn Community Picnic will be Sunday, September 14, at 11:30 a.m. It will be at the pavilion by the Splash Pad. Bring a dish to share and hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, beans, potato salad, and water will be furnished.

The Bremer County Fair from July 27, 2025 to August 2, 2025 was a success in their new location this year!

**NEW BUSINESS:** Congratulations to Larry and Janet Ladage for being picked and having the honor of the September Yard of the Month in Readlyn.

The Readlyn Community Library and the Readlyn Historical Society are sponsoring "IN THE KITCHEN WITH LAURA."The date is Tuesday, September 30, at 3:30 p.m. at the Readlyn Library. Everyone will be able to try some pioneer recipes!

The next Senior Citizens' meeting will be September 17, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the Panther Lanes in Tripoli. Roland Schmidt made a motion to adjourn and Don Billhorn seconded it. Motion carried. Meeting

adjourned.

We played bingo after our meal and meeting. The winners of traditional bingo were Marilyn Lampe and Vicki Pavelec and they each won scratch tickets. The winner of four corners was Larry Ladage and he won homemade plum jam. The winners of blackout bingo were Barb Meyer and Millie Crawford. They each won a gift card to Kwik Star. Fun was had by all!

Lois Thacher, Secretary



**Receiving sympathy cards** at the Senior Citizen meeting were, left to right: Larry Pavelec for the loss of his mother, Sharon Funk who lost her husband, and Loren Sommerfelt, whose wife passed away.

# Read this and past issues of the *Chronicle* online at: https://www.readlyn.lib.ia.us



# Wapsie Valley High School Class of 1975 celebrates 50th reunion

Oran, IA – The Wapsie Valley High School Class of 1975 celebrated their 50th high school reunion with a memorable gathering at the Oran Community Hall. Held on August 16, 2025, the event brought together forty-four classmates, (plus spouses), who reminisced about their high school days and celebrated five decades of friendship and shared experiences.

The reunion weekend featured a golf outing at the Maple Hills Country Club in Tripoli, a social evening at The Outpost in Oran, and a catered lunch at the Oran Community Hall. A slideshow of high school photos and past reunions was followed by a short musical performance honoring classmates who have passed, and our military. Classmates reconnected, shared updates, and told

stories from their time at Wapsie Valley High School.

The organizing committee was thrilled to have had such a wonderful turnout for our 50th reunion. It was a special time to reflect on our journey since graduation and to celebrate the enduring bonds that have kept us connected over the years.

The Wapsie Valley High School Class

of 1975 extends their gratitude to the Oran Community Hall for hosting the event and to all the classmates who attended, making the reunion a resounding success.

For more information about the reunion or to stay connected with the Wapsie Valley High School Class of 1975, contact WapsieValleyHS1975@gmail.



The Wapsie Valley class of 1975 had a class reunion dinner on Aug. 16 at the Oran Community Center. It consisted of a wonderful meal and a beautiful presentation with music from Steve Pavelec and Terry Gruetzmacher with technical assistance from Jerry Gipper. There was a beautiful tribute to classmates no longer with us. Deb Albrecht and Linda Corcoran came from the farthest away (both from California) and Dan Lundt was closest at about 1 mile away. Before the occasion, there was also a float in the Readlyn and the Fairbank parades with about 20 people at each parade, and a golf outing. It was wonderful to see so many classmates and a wonderful time was had by all.



**Steve Pavelec** (right) and Terry Gruetz-macher provided musical entertainment, assisted by Jerry Gipper.







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Edward Jones





## Obituaries

#### James "Jim" Edward Schneider

James "Jim" Edward Schneider, age 66, of Readlyn passed away suddenly on Tuesday, August 19, 2025.

Jim was born January 31, 1959 in Wa-



Jim Schneider

terloo, the son of Carl and Lori (Mangrich) Schneider. Jim attended Wapsie Valley Community Schools and graduated with the class of 1977. On October 6, 1984, he married Jody Otto at Immanuel Lutheran Church in

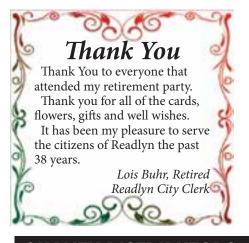
Klinger. Jim began his career in agriculture at Readlyn Farm Center. He worked in the feed mill and hauled feed for local farmers in the area. After the closing of Readlyn Farm Center, he continued the work he loved at Dunkerton Co-Op Elevator. Jim continued serving in the agricultural industry until he retired within the last few years. When he wasn't working his day job, he could be found doing handyman chores and fixing up things around the house. Jim loved the outdoors, whether it was hunting or farming, it was for him. Most recently, his favorite hobby was spending time with his five grandkids that he loved so much.

Jim is survived by his wife of 40 years, Jody, a daughter, Jenna Schneider of Jesup; a son, Justin (Abbie) Schneider of Jesup; another daughter, Jacee (Travis) Kvach of Cedar Rapids; five grandkids, Bo, Ava, Kylie, Jack Schneider, and Madden Kvach; one sister, Linda (Norm) Delagardelle; one brother, Bob (Jackie) Schneider; mother-in-law, Bev Otto; and brother-in-law, Gary Weber.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Karl and Lori Schneider; sister, Joyce Weber; and father-in-law, Darwin Otto.

Visitation was 3-7 p.m., Monday, August 25, 2025 at Woods Funeral Home. Funeral Mass was at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 26, 2025 at Immaculate Conception Fairbank. Interment was in Immaculate Conception Cemetery. Lunch was served at the Immaculate Conception Parish Center in Fairbank following the service. Memorials may be directed to the family for later designation.

Online condolences can be left at www.woodsfuneralhome.net.



#### Katherine "Kathy" Rose Heinemann

Katherine "Kathy" Rose Heinemann, 82, of Readlyn, passed away Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at UnityPoint-Allen Hospital in Waterloo.



Kathy was born July 31, 1943, in Amery, Wisconsin, the daughter of Ervin and Ellen (Swank) Staack. She was baptized at St. Luke's Lutheran Church March 9, 1944, and confirmed her faith

Kathy Heinemann at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Readlyn, on April 14, 1957. She attended St. Paul Parochial School and graduated from Wapsie Valley High School. On June 14, 1964, she was united in marriage to Larry Heinemann at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Readlyn. In addition to being a homemaker and farm wife, she was employed by Vic's Grocery Store and Bender's Grocery Store, retiring in 2005. For over 40 years, she lovingly baked cakes for every occasion, celebrating life events of family, friends, and countless members of the surrounding communities. She also served as the "bus driver" for the Heinemann family singers.

Kathy was a longtime member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church where she served as a Mary and Martha Circle Member. Along with Larry, she was active in square dancing where they served as president of the Independence Merry Mixer Square Dance Club and secretary for the NE Iowa Square Dance Federation. For over 60 years, she and Larry were a part of a card club group in Readlyn. She loved to sew, bake and, of course, square dance. She was currently a member of the Star Dusters Square Dance Club.

Kathy is survived by her husband, Larry of Readlyn; four children; Roxie (Mitch) Gipper of Fairbank, Sandy (David) Muzzey of Webster City, David (Jodie) Heinemann of Readlyn and Daryl (Lynae) Heinemann of Ventura; 11 grand-children and 13 great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Keith (Janell) Staack of Shell Rock and Kevin Staack of Lusk, Wyoming. She is preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Kenneth Staack.

Funeral services were at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, September 6, 2025, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Readlyn with burial following in the church cemetery. Visitation was from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, September 5, at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn and for an hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday. Memorials may be directed to the family for a later designation to St. Matthew Lutheran Church and St. Jude's Hospital. Online condolences may be left at kaiser-corson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn was in charge of arrangements.

# Crop Protection Custom Application Third Party Agronomy Chemical & Fertilizer Sales & Trucking Seth Walker CILI 319-352-1619 Crop Protection Custom Application Third Party Agronomy Chemical & Fertilizer Sales & Trucking

#### Mark "Tony" Scheibe

Mark "Tony" Scheibe, 69, of Dunkerton, Iowa, passed away on Wednesday, August 27, 2025, at Select Specialty Hospital in Des Moines.



Mark "Tony" Scheibe

Tony was born on February 15, 1956, in Augusta, Georgia, the son of Harry A. and Dorothy (Roberts) Scheibe. He graduated from Jasper High School in Jasper, Texas in 1974 and shortly after joined the United

States Air Force. Tony served with the Air Force for 22 years and was honorably discharged in June of 1996. While serving, Tony was united in marriage to Linda Berry in December of 1974 and together they had three children, Glenwood, Ronald and Elizabeth. The couple was together for 26 years

Soon after his retirement from the military, Tony started working for the Red Cross, a position he held for 15 years. Just prior to his time with the Red Cross, Tony had enrolled at Wayland Baptist University in Fairbanks, Alaska and received his bachelor's degree in Disaster Management on August 22, 1998. He most recently had worked for the Veterans Administration prior to his retirement.

While living in Alaska, he met Jean Wolff and they were united in marriage on July 26, 2009, in Chaska, Minnesota. Tony adopted Emma soon after their marriage. Tony and Jean have lived in Dunkerton since 2022.

Tony was baptized in 1962 and as a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Readlyn was confirmed into the Lutheran Faith on Easter Sunday of this year.

At an early age, Tony became a scout, a

passion that he continued when he served as a scout leader. He shared his enthusiasm for scouting with his grandchildren as he would share stories and the history of scouting with them. Tony enjoyed going to auctions and his biggest finds were when he came across anything to do with scouting. He also enjoyed going for drives and traveling, especially their trip to Ireland.

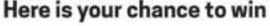
Tony is survived by his mother, Dorothy Scheibe of Jasper, Texas; his wife, Jean Scheibe of Dunkerton; a son, Ronald Alan (Sarah) Scheibe of San Antonio, Texas; a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Strange (Scheibe) of Lake Stevens, Washington; a daughter, Emma Louise Scheibe of Colorado Springs, Colorado; a son, Alexander Alan Jacobs of Des Moines; five grandchildren, Joe Hutt, Jayden Scheibe, Scarlett Scheibe, Violett Scheibe and Alette Scheibe; a brother, Alan (Ann) Scheibe of Kennesaw, Georgia; a brother, Gary (Shelly) Scheibe of Cypress, Texas; and a sister, Julie Scheibe of Jasper, Texas; a daughter-in-law, Melissa Scheibe of Puyallup, Washington; and his father-in-law, Roger Wolff of Readlyn.

He was preceded in death by his father, Harry A. Scheibe in 2008; his son, Glenwood Scheibe in 2023; the mother of his children, Linda Ann (Berry) Scheibe and his mother-in-law, Oriel Wolff.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, September 3, 2025 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Readlyn from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and continued for one hour prior to services on Thursday at the church. A funeral service was held on Thursday, September 4, 2025, at St. Paul Lutheran Church with Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano officiating. Burial followed in St. Paul Lutheran Cemetery, Readlyn. Memorials may be directed to St. Paul Lutheran Church, Readlyn or to Scouting America.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.





Henry Golden Boy Rimfire lever action 22 LR rifle (Value \$550)



Springfield Armory XD mod.3 OSP Compact optic ready 9 mm pistol (Value \$300)

Details

Readlyn Emergency Service Building with Readlyn EMS and Readlyn Fire will be selling raffle tickets to win these guns

Each ticket will be \$20 each

Only 400 tickets will be sold

3 guns will be raffled

First ticket drawn will get the Henry, second ticket Savage, and third ticket Springfield

Drawing will happen after all 400 tickets sold. Must be 18 years or older. Winners will be notified of svinning and will claim price at Schwele in Cedle Falls and all paperwork will need completed if server does not work their finance they will be precented with in-stone credit.

# Deadline for the October 29 Chronicle is Thurs., Oct. 16 at 5 p.m.

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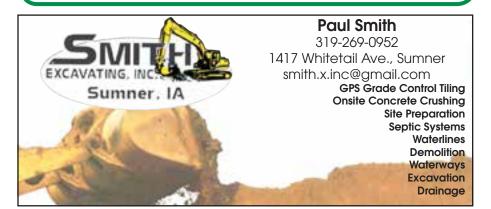
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Wapsie Valley Welcomes New Staff for the 2025-26 School Year — This year Wapsie Valley welcomes 9 new staff members to the team. The new staff and their positions (L to R) are: Kim Williamson-Fairbank Elementary Associate, Cindy Shupe-Study Hall/Spanish Room Supervisor, Morgan Reinking-Fairbank Elementary Associate, Andrea Rademacher-JH/HS Associate, Jenna Platte- Readlyn Elementary Custodian, Jaylyn Gibbs -5-12 Band, Marlene Franzen-JH/HS Science, Corynn Downs-Elementary Counselor, Reese Balvanz-3rd Grade Teacher Fairbank Elementary. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting 2025-26 school year. As always, if you have any questions or concerns please reach out to your building and speak with your child's teacher or building principal. If you have district questions please reach out to Mr. Hoover at the JH/HS building. Thank you for your support and Go Warriors!

#### Get to know our 3 teachers, counselor a little better



My name is Corynn Downs, and I'm so excited to join Wapsie Valley as the elementary school counselor. I'm passionate about helping kids build confidence and resilience, and I can't wait to get to know

the students, families and community. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family, traveling and reading.



My name is Jaylyn Gibbs and I will be teaching 5-12 band. I grew up in New Hartford, lowa and I am excited to be at Wapsie Valley this year!



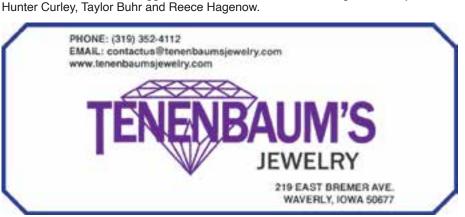
I am Ms. Franzen. I will be teaching 7th grade science and high school Biology this year! I graduated from Upper Iowa University last December and I am very excited to become a Wapsie Valley Warrior this year!



Hello Wapsie Valley Community! My name is Ms. Balvanz and I will be teaching 3rd grade at Fairbank Elementary. I am so excited to be a part of this district and get to know all of you!



**2025 Wapsie Valley Homecoming Candidates** — Left to right: Norah Oldfather, Ari Behnke, Maren Jones, Briggs Boehme, Ava Auel, Tanner Bergmann, Maya Barnes, Hunter Curley, Taylor Bulby and Bases Hayrest Auel, Tanner Bergmann, Maya Barnes, Hunter Curley, Taylor Bulby and Bases Hayrest Auel, Tanner Bulby and Bulby and Bases Hayrest Auel, Tanner Bulby and Bulby and Bases Hayrest Auel, Tanner Bulby and Bases Auel,



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Deadline for the October 29
Readlyn Chronicle
is Thurs., Oct. 16 at 5 p.m.
Send news items and ads to the
Chronicle at
readlynchronicle@gmail.com

CLS staff: (back left to right) Lowell Kuecker, Krissy Franck, Shari Ambrose, Jenna Steffen, Lesley Mohlis, Audrey Kaufman, Teresa Imbrogno; (front) Judy Schutte, Kerry Even, Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano, Valerie Wilkening, Madison Belcher (not pictured) Amanda Eike. Community Lutheran School is a ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Readlyn, IA. Our mission statement is: "Providing a Christian environment for a quality education while inspiring students to go forth living Christ-centered lives as witnesses of the one true faith in God's Kingdom."



Let's Make a Joyful Noise! The theme for the 2025–2026 school year is "Let's Make a Joyful Noise!" inspired by Psalm 98:4. The theme focuses on how in all we do and in every situation we praise God for His blessings here in our community and throughout all the earth



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Seventh and eighth grade



3-year-old preschool (Mon., Wed., Fri.)



3-year-old preschool (Tues., Thurs.)







Third and fourth grade



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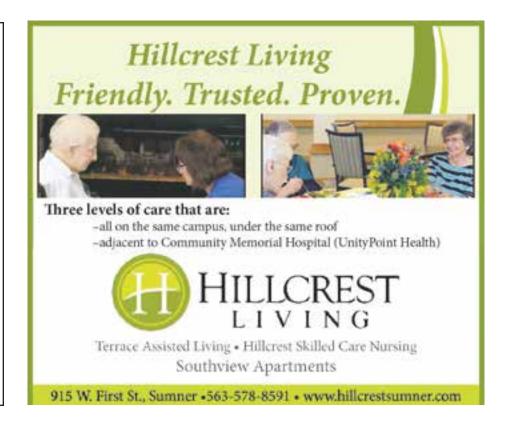


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#### Why should we take interest in interest rate decisions?

As I write this, the Fed has not announced interest rate cuts but the rumor mill assumes we will see a cut in September. Some think a cut of .25bps, some think a "mega" cut of .50bps, is on the table. By the time this article prints, the September 16 or 17 Fed meeting decision will be two weeks past and we will know whether the cuts came through as anticipated.

So, whether they cut, remain the same, or raise rates, why do interest rates matter to us?

Interest rates effect the influence of borrowing money for large financed purchases. Lower interest rates, for example, encourage people to obtain loans for vehicles, homes, home improvement projects, etc. Lower interest rates also tend to foster growth in businesses from expansion plans to hiring more workers. On the surface, lowering interest rates has a positive effect on the overall day-to-day economy.

The stock market typically responds positively to lowering rates as long as the context behind the decision is that the economy is on the right track to absorb growth and expansion. The market can, however, have negative reactions if the context of the lowering is due to economic strain like a slowing job market or inflation.



#### Things that make the rate cut in September likely:

Slowing economic growth and cooling labor market reports

#### Why the Fed may continue to wait:

- Some inflation reports show optimism while other inflation concerns remain in the midst of tariff negotiations
- There is still economic data to be reported in the coming days so "they might not know until they know" as reports come in right up until the Fed Meeting on Sept 16-17.

Projections from economists are that there will be a cut in September, another in December, and more scattered throughout 2026 and 2027.

While cheaper is rarely better, in the world of financing money and boosting the economy "cheaper money" from lower loan terms would be a positive impact on your everyday person.

As active fiduciary advisors, times like this keep us on our toes. We will be watching closely to see what decisions are made and what new or ongoing asset classes are to gain from said decisions. No matter who is President or what is going on in the world, there are things to be done to put our clients in the position to win over the long term.

We appreciate, more than ever, our ability to be autonomous and nimble on behalf of our clients so we can represent their ambitions in concert with the moving parts of the world. Sometimes it is easy, sometimes I notice new grey hairs in the mirror... but we love to help people win so we never back down from the challenges. Let us help you bring confidence to the commotion!

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

Johla

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## Readlyn City Council - Sept. 8, 2023

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:45 PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:02 PM for the regular meeting. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Wedemeier. The following named council members were present: Nicole Barnes, Keith Brunscheon, Rocco Imbrogno and Joseph Jones. Absent: Jason Franck. Others in attendance: Austin Matthias, Barney Wiersma and Kris McGrane.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to approve the minutes from the August 11, 2025 council meeting. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to approve bills for payment. All said yes. Motion carried. Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to approve clerk and treasurer's reports. All said yes

Motion carried. Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to approve budget and library reports. All said yes. Mo-

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to approve the police report. All said yes. Motion carried.

Wiersma provided an update on the public works department. A portion of the city sewer lines were recently televised, Wiersma will be getting prices to clean water filters and there was a water main break over the Labor Day weekend but it was quickly repaired. The CMR's for electric came in and Butler County REC is working with their software for compatibility and Wiersma will get prices for street repairs around town. Wiersma received bids to remove ten dead/dying trees in the city right of way and the lowest bid was \$3,050.00. These dead trees are near power lines. The company will start taking down the trees tomorrow.

Matthias provided an update on the parks department. Matthias is waiting for chemicals to treat the Ash trees. The community club will be donating new basketball hoops for the park and will be working on repairing the gazebo at city park. Matthias advised he will be turning on the splash pad for one day during the community club picnic event on September 14

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to approve the public works and parks reports. All said ves, Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Imbrogno to approve agenda as printed. All said yes. Motion

Motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to adopt Resolution 2025-12: Authorizing early payment of

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to adopt the first reading of Ordinance 364, amending the code of ordinances of the city of Readlyn, Iowa, by amending Chapter 92 Water Rates, Section 4 Billing for Water Service. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance 364, amending the code of ordinances of the city of Readlyn, Iowa, by amending Chapter 92 Water Rates, Section 4 Billing for Water Service. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to approve the public works employees to attend the fall wastewater conference. Roll call, all said yes. Motion

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to approve the city clerk to attend the fall lowa Municipal Finance Officers Association (IMFOA) conference. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on purchasing new holiday decorations/lights for downtown. There was a suggestion to go with LED lights for any decorations purchased. Public works employees will bring suggestions to a future council meeting. No formal action was

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to approve setting a date of Sunday, October 26, 2025 from 4pm to 6pm for city wide trick or treating. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve fall leaf burning in city limits from October 1, 2025, to November 15, 2025. Roll call, all said yes.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to authorize the mayor and city clerk to execute information and forms, to take the necessary steps to move forward with the amount discussed and agreed upon by the council, and to complete the nomination agreement and any other required documents which relate to electric transmission planning and construction and critical energy infrastructure. Roll call, all said yes. Mo-

Correspondence – the mayor reminded the council and public that city election paperwork must be turned into the Bremer County courthouse by September

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned

## Wapsie Valley School Board - August 18, 2025

Wapsie Valley CSD Regular School Board Meeting August 18, 2025

- Pledge of Allegiance
  1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:30 PM
- A. Directors: Aiello, Auel, Kaufman, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Declared a quorum
- B. Superintendent Hoover, Secretary Arndt & Prin-
- cipals Murphy, Forsyth, & Myers C. Others: Vaughn Gross, & virtual participants. 2. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to ap-
- prove the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0 3. Public Forum Mr. Gross explained summer
- training for robotics with the STEM grant he received. 4. Consent Items - Moved by Auel, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Adam Kaufman and the open enrollment as follows-Christine & Luke Taylor request to open enroll their 9th & 10th-grade daughters to WSR after a move from Missouri effective the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried-5-0 FYI-Patrick & Julie Lansing will be transferring their 10th grade daughter to Don Bosco; Steve & Kayla Belinsky will be transferring their 7th, 10th, & 11th-grade daughters
- to Don Bosco. 5. Board - None
- 6. Superintendent Hoover's report includes Thank yous, 7-12 HVAC project, Readlyn little warrior, before & after school program, preservice/welcome back,

summer work, & Spanish program.

District, PK-6 & 7-12 Principals - report included learning opportunities, welcoming new & existing staff,

warrior walkabout, & activities.
7. Personnel - Resignations - Moved by Sauerbrei, econded by Aiello to approve the resignation of Kaleb Krall-Assistant Wrestling Coach, Austin Jeanes-JH Girls Track Coach, & Brylee Bellis-Assistant Cross Country Coach and thank them for their service to the students and staff at WV as presented. Motion carried

Contracts: Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Kaufman to approve the 25-26 Contracts as presented: Jeni Nuss \$1,066.00-Co-Student Ambassador-Base 1/ Year 3, Zane Sittig-\$1,066.00-Co-Student Ambassador-Base 1/Year 3, Jennifer Merdinger-\$801.00-JH Student Ambassador-Base 2/Year 5, Fall, Tyler-\$3,116.00-7-12 Vocal Sponsor-Base 1/Year 1 & \$1,640.00-Musical Director-Base 1/Year 1, Gibbs, Jaylyn-\$3,346.00-HS Marching Band-Base 1/Year 0, Weepie, Kim-\$1,640.00-Play/Musical-Base 1/Year 3 & \$3,280.00-Speech-Base 1/Year 2, Bockholt, Amanda-\$1,457.00-Website & Facebook-Base 2/Year 7, Gross, Vaughn-\$728.50-Website-Base 2/Year 7, & \$3,570.00-Robotics-Base 3/Year 14, Cusick, Katelyn-\$820.00-Silver Chord-Base 1/Year 1, Nitz, Katelyn-\$965.00-NHS-Base 2/Year 5 & \$1,066.00-Co-Prom Advisor-Base 1/Year 4, Gross, Jennifer-\$1,066.00-Co-Prom Advisor-Base 1/Year 4, & Jenni Gross-\$1,640.00-Football Cheerleading Coach-Base 1/ Year 1, Foster, Duane-\$1,579.00-.3 Strength & Conditioning-Base 2/Year 5 & \$4,737.00-Head Football-Base 2/ Year 5, Gunner Rodgers-\$1,530.67-.3 Strength & Conditioning-Base 1/Year 1 & \$2,132.00-JH Football-Base 1/Year 1, Zane Sittig \$1,530.67-.3 Strength & Conditioning-Base 1/Year 1 & \$3,242.00-Asst Football-Base 3/Year 13, Davie, Justin-\$3,425.00-Head Cross Country-Base 2/ Year 8, Danny Adams-\$2,113.00-JH Cross Country-Base 2/Year 6, Katelyn Cusick -\$2,230.00-Assistant Cross Country-Base 1/Year 0, JD Stover-\$2,952.00-Asst Football-Base 1/Year 1, Jones, Cody-\$3,387.00 Asst Football-Base 4/Year 16, Joey Rigdon-\$3,097.00-Asst Football-Base 2/Year 6, Brady Weepie-\$2,132.00-JH Football-Base 1/Year 0, Shepherd, Austin-\$3,425.00-Head Volleyball-Base 2/Year 5, Lenth, Brittany-\$2,375.00-Asst Volleyball-Base 2/ Year 8, Peyton Parker-\$2,230.00- Asst Volleyball-Base 1/Year 2, Heather Robinson-\$2,403.00-JH Volley ball-Base 4/Year 16, Liz Bergman- \$2,113.00-JH Volleyball-Base 2/Year 7. Motion carried 5-0

8. New Business-Moved by Sauerbrei Seconded by Auel to approve the 25-26 AEA Instructional Ser

Agreement for Spanish as presented. Motion carried 5-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Kaufman to approve Emergency Operations Manual for 2025-26 as presented. Motion carried 5-0

- 9. Board Talking Points Movie & discussion on Suicide Prevention will be held tentatively at Grumpy's
- 10. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Auel to adjourn at 6:51PM. Motion carried 5-0 Respectfully, Kim

95 PERCENT GROUP INC \$6,383.90 AGVAN-TAGE FS, INC. \$13,018.39 AHLERS & COONEY, P.C. \$137.50 ALLIANT ENERGY \$248.84 Amazon \$3,037.41 ARNOLD MOTOR \$484.46 BELIN-SKY, KAYLA \$210.07 BLACK HAWK SPRINKLERS \$390.00 BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$72.89 BUC-EES \$97.30 BUTLER COUNTY REC \$4.834.36 CASEY'S \$42.83 CB INNOVATIONS \$1,354.08 CEDAR FALLS CSD \$8,454.54 CENTRAL IA DISTRIB \$3,478.00 Central Rivers AEA \$9,204.04 CHEMSEARCH \$693.55 CITY OF FAIRBANK \$3,508.76 CITY OF READLYN \$2,223.79 COLUMN SOFTWARE \$191.59 CONTINENTAL RESEARCH \$271.91 CURRICU-LUM ASSOC \$1,555.84 DAS SERVICES \$650.00 DIAMOND VOGEL \$62.99 DON'S TRUCK SALES \$32.32 DUNKERTON CSD \$11,298.12 EAST-CEN-TRAL IA REC \$316.63 ELITE SPORTS \$630.00 Employee Benefit Systems \$78,943.22 Farmers Coop \$103.00 Gross, Vaughn \$286.40 HAPPEL, ALLIE \$180.00 Hawkeye Alarm & Signal \$600.00 HILLYARD/ DES MOINES \$3,426.47 HILTON GARDEN \$538.63 IA REGIONAL UTILITIES \$295.36 ISFIS \$1,500.00 JENSEN, CHASITY \$150.00 JOSTENS \$18.45 Kendall Hunt \$2,774.00 KENWORTHY, STOREY \$9,995.94 KLUESNER SANITATION \$640.00 KWIK TRIP \$37.36 LANSING, PATRICK \$420.14 LINDA-MAN, ASHLY \$75.00 LOVES \$92.30 MATT CNSTRCT \$150.00 Menards \$2,056.41 MIDWEST COLLISION \$420.00 MODERN BUILDING \$384.69 MURPHY USA \$38.53 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$161.00 PILOT \$124.10 PIONEER \$3,755.45 RAINBOW RE SOURCE \$469.65 READLYN TELEPHONE \$193.27 ROAD RANGER \$55.01 ROCHESTER 100 \$160.00 SAI \$1,065.00 SCHOLASTIC INC. \$254.86 SCHOOL SPECIALTY \$352.70 Shepherd, Austin \$50.01 Teachers Pay Teachers \$75.58 TEAM LABORATORY \$1,040.00 Tobey, Nicholas \$70.00 UBIQUITI STORE \$6.00 WEEDS ON FIRE \$2.493.50 WILSON RESTAU-RANT \$398.14 General Total \$186,734.28 BREMER CO. MUTUAL INSURANCE ASSOC. \$2,036.24 Employee Benefit Systems \$5,458.38 Management Total \$7,494.62 ACCESS SYSTEMS \$1,919.40 Amazon \$766.89 BASEPOINT BLDG AUTO \$4,100.00 CDW LLC \$13,156.81 Hawkeye Alarm & Signal \$600.00 JET ENTERPRISES \$11,395.00 KENWORTHY, STOREY \$9,089.34 LAMPE, JESS \$2,380.00 LIFETIME COAT-INGS \$5,100.00 MARTIN GARDNER \$1,718.70 PHIL-LIPS' \$39,530.00 PRIMARY SYSTEMS \$67,000.00 STEEGE CNSTRCT \$275,432.55 STICKFORT ELEC TRIC \$1 014 73 WILSON RESTAURANT \$644 75 WOOD'S CNSTRCT \$5,201.68 Yondr \$8,352.75 YOUNG PMBNG & HTNG \$2,374.59 SAVE Total \$449,777.19 ACCESS SYSTEMS \$1,663.30 BRAUN, CHRIS \$975.00 CEDAR FALLS CSD \$977.86 Central Rivers AEA \$887.04 GIGFIRE \$70.00 ORAN MUTU-AL TELEPHONE \$100.00 ROCKET ALUMNI SOLU-TIONS \$750.00 SAM'S CLUB \$1,002.80 PPEL Total \$6,426.00 Amazon \$9.99 IA HIGH SCHOOL MUSIC ASSN. \$25.00 Gallup Trust Total \$25.00 APPLEBEES \$490.69 BSN SPORTS \$2,591.76 CASEY'S \$49.70 ELITE SPORTS \$2,256.22 FOGLESONG, JULIE \$580.00 IA CNTRL COMM CLGE \$1,026.50 IGCA \$85.00 IHSAD \$208.00 IHSAA \$1,000.00 IA SPORTS SUPPLY \$1,706.20 IA STATE FAIR \$504.00 Jimmy Johns \$227.93 KWIK TRIP \$5.58 MATTHIAS, DER-EK \$60.00 MODERN BUILDING \$136.70 NORTH LINN CSD \$109.04 OMEGA PRKNG \$5.00 REBEL ATHLETIC \$246.99 ROSEN INN \$2,733.84 Walmart \$287.76 Activity Total \$14,310.91

#### claims to avoid late fees and to utilize available disat 8:05 PM. What's Cooking? A recipe to share can be sent to billhorn@rtc279.com Peanut Butter Passion Bars Submitted by Robin Harms **Ingredients** 1 cup of flour 2 cups of traditional rolled (old-fashioned brand) oats 1 cup of brown sugar 1/2 teaspoon of salt 1/2 teaspoon of baking soda 3/4 cup of butter, diced, at room temperature 3/4 cup of peanut butter 1 cup of semi-sweet chocolate chips 1 can (14 oz) sweetened condensed milk 2 teaspoons of vanilla extract

#### Instructions

- 1. Preheat oven to 350°F. Grease a 9x13-inch baking pan.
- 2. Mix flour, oats, brown sugar, salt, and baking soda in
- 3. Blend diced butter into dry mix until crumbly. Press half in pan as base.
- 4. Combine peanut butter and sweetened condensed milk in another bowl. Add vanilla and mix.
- 5. Spread peanut butter mix over base. Sprinkle chocolate chips on top.
  - 6. Crumble remaining flour mix over chips.
  - 7. Bake 25-30 minutes until golden. Cool in pan on rack.
- 8. Cut into bars. Enjoy this peanut butter and chocolate delight!



# 125-year-old Bible finds its way back to Readlyn

Editor's Note: This is a story of a 125-year-old Bible finding its way back to Bremer County, Readlyn, Iowa! It was written by Connie Rommel.

William and Lydia Rommel Rathbun were married at the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Waverly, Iowa in 1900. Through their life, they settled in Oregon where William died first and then Lydia passed away in 1964. They had no children so a neighbor took possession of the Bible they received for their wedding.

In 2019, the neighbor's granddaughter tried to find a relative to pass the Bible to. She found the Rogue Valley Genealogical Society in Oregon and donated the Bible to them requesting they try and return it to a Rathbun/Rommel relative. In searching, the society found Tom Pederson of Arizona had made entries on Ancestory.com and had updated profiles to the Rathbun family line.

In September or October, Tom received a call to see if he was related to William Rathbun. Tom had found he was William's 6th cousin three times removed. Tom took possession of the Bible after no one else closely related was found. He learned from his parents the importance of tracking his ancestry so he started doing some research for the next three years to find someone closer in relation to the couple.

He decided to come to Iowa knowing William and Lydia's parents were buried in Grove Hill Cemetery. On July 10, 2023 he started off in Waverly at the library and received a copy of their marriage certificate and also the Bremer County Histor-

ical Society. He then drove to Grove Hill Cemetery where he located all the grave sites he was looking for.

Tom went back to Waverly and took the Bible into the *Waverly Democrat* newspaper office stating he thought he had a human interest story. A couple hours later, he left with an article in the works and, two days later, his picture, Bible picture and story were printed.

The editor told him about Readlyn's Historical Society and to contact Ron and Judy Leistikow. Tom left Ron a message about the Rathbun/Rommel Bible and when Ron called him back he asked how to spell Rommel. Ron informed him his kindergarten teacher was Mrs. Rommel. After getting directions, Tom took off to visit with Ron and Judy at their farm. He took in the Bible and other documents to



**Connie Rommel and Mary Jo Rommel Juel** are shown with the display case that was built specifically to house a 125-year-old Bible. The Bible is now on display at the Readlyn Historical Society Museum.



# Looking back to '85

**HERD HONORS**—"Receiving Dairy Herd Improvement Association production

awards ... during the Bremer County Dairy Banquet in Readlyn were (above) Wilson



Milius Dairy Inc., represented by Tom and Sue Milius of Denver, far left, for the top herd/milk production; White Gold Dairy, represented by Terry and Kelly Eick of Tripoli, for top herd/fat and protein; Neil and Nancy Jaschen of Tripoli for 'Top Cows' in milk production; and Allen, Dixie and Doug Blasberg of Tripoli, represented here by Doug Blasberg, for 'Top Cows' in fat and protein."

Courtesy re-printing from Waverly Newspapers

PORK ROYALTY—"Reigning as this year's Bremer County Pork Queen (photo at left) will be Cheryl Calease, left, daughter of Dale and Ellen Calease of Rt. 1, Waverly. Assisting in pork promotions will be the 1985 Little Miss Pigtail, Alicia Calease, daughter of Jerry and Kathy Calease of Rt. 4, Waverly" (from 1985).

Courtesy re-printing from Waverly Newspapers

share with them including Lydia's obituary which said she was survived by one younger brother, L.W. Rommel. Ron informed him they were country neighbors back in the 1960s. Tom left the next day for home with the Bible, knowing he had leads on finding a Rommel family member

On July 12, 2023, Jim and Karen Boehme, from Waverly, via Readlyn, contacted me by email saying an article in the paper might be of interest to our family. Not knowing if we were related to them or not, as our nephew who was searching our family history had passed away, my sister, Mary Jo Juel, and I took off for Grove Hill to get pictures of all the Rommel headstones as a way to start tracking. Karen gave me other ways online to get information.

In doing all of this, we found that Lydia was our great-grand aunt on our Dad's, Bud (Earl) Rommel's, side. Jim and Karen told us Ron (Leistikow) was involved in all of this so we contacted him and went and talked with Judy as Ron was mowing and she gave us the information to contact Tom Pederson. We tried calling him while at the farm and had to leave a message. He called back the next day and we confirmed that Lydia was indeed our greatgrand aunt and that we would love to get the Bible back to Iowa.

In talking with our other family members, it was decided to donate the Bible to the Readlyn Historical Society for others to see. In talking with Ron, he had suggested to put the Bible in a display case. We had our Dad's wood he had cut down and planed so I contacted John Harrell, who I had talked with at a craft show, to make the display case for us. When John came over to see the Bible and take measurements, he informed me that he was a pastor. What a proper way to display this family Bible with our Dad's wood made by a pastor.

In all of our discussions and help from Tom Pederson, he also found out that we are his 13th cousins once removed on our Mother's side, Ethyl McCoy Rommel. What a small world......... So, after 124 years, the Bible is back in Bremer County where it started from.

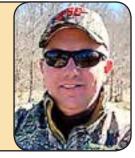
We, as a family, would like to thank Tom Pederson for his hard work in locating us, Ron and Judy for your help getting us in contact with Tom, Jim and Karen Boehme for contacting us to look at the article, Pastor John Harrell for making the display case and the Readlyn Historical Society for accepting the Bible for display.

Connie Rommel Mary Jo Rommel Juel Dennis Juel

If you have a story of historical significance concerning Readlyn, we'd love to hear about it! Email readlynchronicle @gmail.com

# **READLYN**OUTDOORS

By Eric Johnston Ejohnston@mossyoakprostaff.com



#### "Fall Fishing Frenzy"

Fall is in full swing and most outdoorsman and outdoorswomen turn their attention to the many hunting opportunities around the area. I'm guilty of this as much as anyone, but what most don't realize is right now is some of the best fishing you will experience all year. Weather patterns stay more consistent and the rivers are around normal levels so the fish no matter the species you're after stay in a more consistent pattern as the water cools. This month I'll break that down for you.

Anyone who knows me, and as you read my articles, you will find that I'm a bass nut! So a lot of what I'll be touching on is with bass in mind, but a lot of the information pertains to all species of fish we have around northeast Iowa. My tournament season has wound down and most of those early fall tournaments centered around one pattern, BAIT FISH. What I mean by bait fish are minnows and shad that school up and head shallow as the water temperature drops.

In my last tournament, we knew going into practice we would need to be following bait fish to find quality bass. Our first morning of practice dawned chilly and foggy for a mid-September day. The first couple areas we stopped on we managed a few bites, but we weren't seeing the bait fish we knew we needed. As we moved around through the day, we found a wing dam at the top of a point near the main channel with a creek mouth that fed into the river. There were bait fish everywhere

we looked in this area. We didn't even make a cast in this area — we could see bass chasing the bait all over.

As we often do in tournament practice, we left the fish alone to not educate or sore mouth them by catching them before the tournament. Throughout the day, we found a few more productive areas that we felt like we could catch a good bag of bass. One pattern throughout this tournament was the key ingredient in every area, bait fish.

As we started the tournament, we were very confident that we had quality areas and were hoping for a couple big fish in our five-fish limit. The first spot we stopped on was the wing dam point we found in practice. I cast my rattle trap towards the top of the wing dam and immediately hooked up with a small-mouth bass. As I battled him, the fish jumped and spit the hook. I cast right back out and another one loaded up with the same result. Adam cast in there and lost a couple as well. For whatever reason, we couldn't keep the big fish pinned that day. We ended the tournament with a fourth place finish and a feeling of a missed opportunity for a win.

This bait fish pattern is the deal in the fall for all species of fish. What happens is, as the water temperature starts to drop off of its summer time temp, the bait fish will school up and move shallow. A general rule temperature wise that I like to use to put them into a fall pattern is usually in September and a drop of ten degrees from



summer temps. The fish will use this feeding pattern right up to freeze up as they bulk up for the long winter months when they move into deep wintering holes. It always amazes me how shallow fish can get in the fall. In that last tournament Adam and I caught 30 fish off of one log that was in a foot of water! So don't be afraid to get shallow when looking for the schools of bait fish.

As far as baits to use, I like to mimic the bait size as best as I can. I love using a spinner bait this time of year. I will select a blade size that is roughly the size of the shad I'm seeing in the water. Also it's tough to beat small, shallow-running crank baits in the fall such as a Rapala DT4 or lipless crank baits such as Rat-L-Traps. Another tactic that is great for bass in the fall is top water, I love to throw a Pop-R or a Zara Spook. The bass will absolutely blast it on top and it's such an exciting way to fish in the fall. As far as

colors go, you also want to mimic the color of the bait in the water — flashy colors and one of my favorites is gold. These same tactics also work for walleyes and crappies — you try your best to mimic the bait

Walleyes will be all over your crank baits and rattletraps in the fall. Also a twister tail or flashy colored ringworm will work well for walleyes in the fall. You can get after the crappies the same way by throwing in-line spinners or a minnow-colored Twister Tail.

There are many areas along the Wapsi and Cedar Rivers right here in the area where you can use this tactic to catch some quality fish. Check out Bremer and Black Hawk Counties' conservation web pages to find great accesses and parks along the rivers and lakes that have fantastic fishing opportunities. You just might have some of your best fishing of the year!

Until next time, Get Outdoors!







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Congratulations! On August 17, the Readlyn Fire Department honored Chris Joerger and celebrated his retirement at their annual fireman's picnic. Chris "Vern" volunteered in the fire department for 25 years and is highly respected by all of his peers. Chris still resides in Readlyn with his wife, Angie. If you see Chris around, thank him for his many years of service and congratulate him on a well-deserved retirement. Pictured at left is Chief Randy Kleitsch awarding Chris a plaque for 25 years of service. Pictured above are members of the Readlyn Fire Department that were in attendance at the

# Wasn't it Yesterday? All Wrong, All Right

I really don't consider myself a pessimistic person by any stretch, but I do tend to over-evaluate the negative in any given situa-



By J.D. Francis

tion. I've had enough negative things happen in my life that it just comes naturally, I guess. Where I'm concerned, thinking the worst always seems to fit the best. I make this claim in general terms, my negative analyzing isn't always 100%

proof positive. I do have in my possession, that one case in point where it all went wrong and I was way off the rails in my consideration of the worst possible scenario

It was a beautiful, summer Sunday afternoon and I was walking down the colorful, exposed-aggregate sidewalk in the local park. I could hear the neighborhood kids laughing while playing softball on the ball diamond just ahead. My "slate" was clean and I had nothing but time on my hands. I didn't have anything better to do at the time, so I thought I would check out our future, professional ball players

The portion of the park where the ball diamond was, had a chain link fence surrounding the field. As I walked along the fence, I strummed my fingers across the links, creating rhythmic variations of pleasing musical tones. The tune reminded me of when I was once a kid in the park, when I used to pin cards on the spokes of my bicycle wheels with clothespins. I've never been able to fathom that transition from being a kid to a middle-aged, well, I

should say, the old buzzard that I am now.

As I watched the kids playing ball, I noticed up ahead was a youngster sitting against the fence and not playing with the others. I immediately became suspicious, as I knew the student and knew he wasn't quite suited for ball games. He was much heavier than the others and likely wasn't considered to be a good ball player. I was aware that he grew up without a father in the household and he wasn't afforded the typical lifestyle pleasures that most all kids experience.

As I got closer to him, I could see he was just closing his phone and he must have called someone for help. I could see he was crying. The other kids must have been picking on him and wouldn't let him play with them. Though I didn't let it show, I was angry this could happen. Children can be so mean at times and unaware of the lasting hurt that their words and actions can cause.

I approached him on the opposite side of the fence and knelt down to his level. He wiped his eyes fast and furious as if he wasn't crying, though I could see otherwise. Careful not to embarrass him, I asked why he wasn't playing ball with the others. He said he was but he stopped to make a phone call. I asked

him if the kids were all playing nice and treating him all right. He said they were. I was confused and wondering if he was afraid to tell me the truth, that maybe the kids wouldn't allow him to play with them. He was crying for a reason and I figured he was afraid to tell me of any bullying that may have occurred.

I asked him one last question as to why he needed to make a phone call? "I called my mom," he said. "She had a doctor's appointment today and she just found out that she is cancer-free.

He turned and ran back to the game. I stood up and watched as he joined his teammates. They all huddled around him close. Apparently, he told his friends the good news, that his mom was cancer-free, because they all yelled out and smothered him with close, warm hugs.

I walked away contemplating how that group of youngsters gave me quite an education. After imagining all of those negative things how they were treating that young man, they showed me the bright and shiny reality. Right about then, his world was filled with red balloons and carnival tunes, with his friends there to share in his excitement. I was certainly all wrong, all right.

jdfranpaint@msn.com



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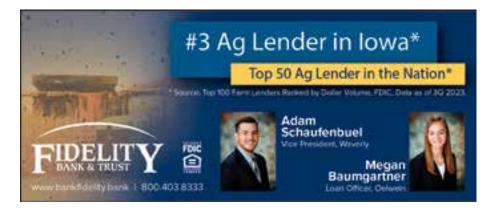


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