

## Save the date for the Readlyn Community Club Dinner

Save the date — Saturday, February 28, 2026 — for the Readlyn Community Club Dinner at Bents Smokehouse & Event Center, located on Main Street, Readlyn.

Enjoy an evening filled with delicious food, lively bingo, exciting prizes, and a few special surprises—all for just \$25.00 per person.

Social hour will be from 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. with dinner to follow. The menu includes: baked chicken and country fried steak, potatoes, two vegetables, salad bar, coffee and water, and a cash bar.

The Readlyn Community Club is a 501c(3) nonprofit, powered by active volunteers dedicated to supporting, promoting, and improving our city's events. Annual membership is included in your dinner cost. Members can participate as much or as little as they wish and stay informed via email and Facebook. For more information, follow us at <https://Facebook.com/ReadlynCommunityClub>; contact Michelle Harrington, 319-596-5151, or Louie Hartman, 319-239-0533.

### Upcoming activities for 2026-27:

Easter Egg Hunt.....	April 4
Grump Days & Fireworks.....	June 19-21 (Friday – Sunday)
School Supplies Drive.....	Late August/Early September
Fall decorations pole contest.....	October
Santa's Visit & Fireworks.....	November 28
Christmas decorations pole contest.....	November 14 - January 10

### CLIP AND RETURN

## Readlyn Community Club Dinner

### Payment Options:

Check: Payable to Readlyn Community Club.  
Mail to: RCC, P.O. Box 34, Readlyn, IA 50668  
Or drop off at Readlyn Savings Bank and Readlyn Library  
RSVP/Donation Form Deadline: Saturday, February 21.

Yes, I am enclosing \$25 per person for the RCC dinner event.

Number of meal - Meat choice: Baked Chicken  Country Fried Steak

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s): \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make a donation to RCC to help sponsor the fun.

# RTC Communications' Match Program Helps Push RESB Fundraising Past \$600K!

The Readlyn Emergency Services Building (RESB) project continues to gain momentum thanks to the incredible generosity of our community and the support of RTC Communications' matching donation program.

Here's what happened during the match period:

- 82 donations qualified for RTC's matching program, totaling an impressive \$91,529.68 in match-eligible contributions.

- Including personal donations made during this time (outside of the match program), the total raised during the match period reached \$113,507!

This surge in giving has helped us cross a major milestone: over \$600,000 raised to date! These funds include both community donations and RTC's generous match.

### What's Next for RESB?

Our ultimate goal is to raise approximately \$2 million to build a new essential facility for Readlyn Fire and EMS. Before we can pursue larger grants, we need to organically fundraise over \$1 million. The cost reflects strict code requirements for an essential facility and the complexity of the building design.

### How You Can Help

- **Donor Recognition:** Gifts of \$1,000 or more will be recognized in the new building. We offer multiple donor tiers, and contributions can be made as a lump sum or through installments.

- **Ways to Give:** Use our donation slip or contact Scott Broten at 319-240-5704 or [Readlynfire@gmail.com](mailto:Readlynfire@gmail.com) for options. We also participate in major workplace giving platforms like John Deere, Principal Financial, and TruStage.

- **Important Note:** If you wish your donation to go toward the new building, please make checks payable to RESB or note this in the memo line. Donations to Readlyn Fire or EMS typically support their respective needs unless specified.

### Thank You, Donors!

As of the end of 2025, we have several generous donors in the Captain tier and above. Please review the donor list and contact Scott if you notice any errors.

RTC Communications.....	Legacy
Readlyn Savings Bank.....	Legacy
L & L Ag Repair.....	Life Saver
Farmers Cooperative Company ..	Life Saver
Rex & Barb Blaylock.....	Life Saver
Scott & Hailey Broten.....	Life Saver
Brian & Brenda Meyer.....	Life Saver
In Memory of Robert Meyer served 1971-1991 by Barbara Meyer .....	Life Saver
In Memory of Wilbert & Elsie Gruber, Given by Ronald & Judith Gruber Leistikow .....	Life Saver
The Marvin and Helen Schumacher Family Fund .....	Life Saver
Zion Lutheran Church.....	Chief
Larry & Sara Oltrogge .....	Chief
James & Doris Wehling .....	Chief
Aureon Network Solutions .....	Chief
CoBank .....	Chief

Dalton & Brooke Meyer .....	Chief
Galen Nuss.....	Chief
ITC Power of Connection Grant.....	Chief
John & Nancy Kleitsch.....	Chief
Kevin & Deanne Leistikow .....	Chief
Myron Lockard .....	Chief
New Age Electric .....	Chief
Dennis & Lynn Kuger.....	Captain
In Memory of Laurie Brunscheon... ..	Captain
Barry & Karin McElhose .....	Captain
Laverne & Judy Leistikow.....	Captain
Barry & Lisa Wittenburg.....	Captain
Larry's Skelly .....	Captain
Crane Creek Fire .....	Captain
Todd & Jessi Block .....	Captain
Fairbank Knights of Columbus .....	Captain
First Maxfield Mutual .....	Captain
Prime Ag Services.....	Captain
Readlyn-Tripoli Tractor Pullers .....	Captain
Smith Excavating.....	Captain
TruServe Insurance Group, LLC .....	Captain
In Memory of Shane Buhr .....	Captain
Wittenburg Truck Line.....	Captain
In Memory of Don Heineman.....	Captain
Allen & Evelyn Harms.....	Captain
Arlo J Piphoo .....	Captain
Brenda Wedeking.....	Captain
Delbert Oltrogge .....	Captain
Don & Mary Lou Billhorn .....	Captain
Jeff & Judy Schutte .....	Captain
The Van Natta's. Sean, Lorna, Kamille & Kolton .....	Captain
In Memory of Galen Nuss.....	Captain
In Memory of Mary Lou Hennings. Captain	
In Memory of Ron L. Kohagen.....	Captain
Kevin & Norma Westendorf .....	Captain
Gary & Betty Matthias.....	Captain
Larry & Vicki Pavelec.....	Captain
Ron & Denise Oltrogge .....	Captain
Brian & Brenda Meyer Family Fund.....	Captain
In Memory of Evelyn Strottmann... ..	Captain
Kenny & Bonnie Piehl.....	Captain
Innovative Ag Services .....	Captain
Land O'Lakes Foundation.....	Captain
Thomas & Jodi Risse .....	Captain
Duane & Dr. Janet Kehe .....	Captain
In Memory of Kathy Heinemann....	Captain
In Memory of Laverne Oltrogge....	Captain
Bob & Dolores Ungs.....	Captain
Charles & Wilda Albrecht.....	Captain
Costello Diesel Service, Inc.....	Captain
Dan Schuldt.....	Captain

Dave & Kathy Shook Family.....	Captain
David & Jeanne Wheeler .....	Captain
Dennis & Janice Wittenburg .....	Captain
Denver Insurance Agency.....	Captain
Don & Joyce Heineman .....	Captain
In Memory of Burton H. Thies .....	Captain
In Memory of Clark Voge .....	Captain
In Memory of Glenn and Helen Wittenburg .....	Captain
In Memory of Steve Lundberg.....	Captain
Kuker Welding .....	Captain
Larry & Kathy Heinemann .....	Captain
Oran Mutual Telephone Company..	Captain
Randy & Glenda Kleitsch .....	Captain
Rich & Carol Peine .....	Captain
Rodney & Bonnie Wittenburg.....	Captain
Steve & Penny Kohagen .....	Captain
Thurm Brothers, LLC .....	Captain
Wiley Construction .....	Captain

### RESB Donor Tiers:

\*Be a "Legacy," "Life Saver," "Chief," or "Captain" donor and we will get your name, business, or memory plaque posted in the new building to forever be remembered. You can also join the donation service and become a Lieutenant, Cadet, or Jr. Cadet. This is a big project so any amount large or small would be helpful in meeting our goal.

Legacy.....	\$25,000 & up
Life Saver.....	\$10,000-\$24,999
Chief.....	\$5,000-\$9,999
Captain.....	\$1,000-\$4,999
Lieutenant .....	\$500-\$999
Cadet .....	\$100-\$499
Jr. Cadet.....	\$1-\$99

### Thank You for Believing in This Project

This isn't just about bricks and mortar—it's about protecting lives and supporting the people who show up when we need them most. Your generosity is making that possible, and we couldn't be more grateful.

But we're not done yet! Let's keep the momentum going. Every gift—big or small—moves us closer to building the new Readlyn Emergency Services Building. Together, we can make this



**OPENING DAY IS TUESDAY, JANUARY 27 • 8 A.M.-8 P.M.**  
**STOP IN AND MEET US! MAIN STREET, READLYN**

# Bremer County GOP Caucus will be held Monday, Feb. 2 at W-SR Middle School

On Monday, February 2, citizens will have the opportunity to voice their opinion about issues concerning the State of Iowa and the nation at Iowa's First in the Nation Caucus.

**What is a caucus?** A caucus is a party-led meeting at the precinct level, i.e. a small group, allowing voters to learn about state, local, and national candidates, to vote on planks that will be adopted by the state as their platform, and to become more involved in the party organizations. Planks are like resolutions or legislative goals. (For example: We, the so named party, believe the United States, local, and state government should have a balanced budget and live within their means.)

All Republican precinct caucuses will be held at Waverly-Shell Rock Middle School, with registration starting at 6:30 p.m. and caucus starting at 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 2. Caucus attendees need to check in at the site to be allowed entry. The caucus will be called to order and a chairperson and secretary will be elected for the evening.

The group will vote for delegates to the County Convention, which is a larger gathering, to debate and refine their platform. Each caucus goer will have the chance to sign nomination pa-

pers for various local, state, and federal candidates. The grassroots legislative process will begin by gathering resolutions/planks and discussing them. These planks will be forwarded on to the County Conventions for their considerations.

Bremer County will have a centralized caucus location, which will enable local legislators and candidates to address the group in an informal Q&A session.

**Why should you attend the caucuses?** The caucus is a grassroots process allowing your voice to be heard about what issues you would like to see enacted. The caucuses are a great way to learn more about our political system and to get more involved in the party organization.

**Who can participate?** Anyone who will be 18 years of age or older on the date of the General Election, which is November 3, 2026. You must be a registered Republican and may register or change your registration at the caucus site. To register you need proof of identity and proof of residency; bring your Government ID with your current address or bring an additional source, such as a utility bill, with your new address.

**Note:** Iowa law prohibits participating in more than one political party's caucus.



# Miss Readlyn Comments

By Kylie Strottmann

Hello, Readlyn Community!

It's crazy to think that my role as Miss Readlyn is already halfway over! I have truly enjoyed being able to be considered a leader in the town of Readlyn, where I grew up while also sharing my passion for the things I love most! When I was younger, I never believed people who said my high school years would fly by, but they absolutely did. December was an incredible month spent with family, friends, and most importantly, the Readlyn community at the Visit with Santa. It was so special to see familiar faces, meet new people, and watch how much the kids loved Santa. Christmas has always been one of my favorite times of the year.

Now that it's 2026, it's officially my graduation year! I couldn't be more excited to graduate and begin my future career this fall. I'm excited to share that I've been

accepted into UNI, where I'll begin my degree in elementary education. Teaching has been a passion of mine for as long as I can remember, and I'm so excited to pursue what I love. Lately, I've spent much of my free time preparing and ordering items for my graduation party. Since planning is one of my favorite things to do, I've been having so much fun with it.

While I'm incredibly excited to graduate and take the next step toward my future, I know I'll miss dancing. As we have started working on our recital dances, it makes it real that I'm beginning the end of something that has always been so special to me. We begin traveling for competitions at the end of January, starting with Omaha. This past week, we also began working on our recital dances, which made it feel even more real that my dance journey is coming to an end.

Send news to the *Chronicle*: [ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com](mailto:ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com)

**KAISER CORSON Funeral Homes, Inc.**

[www.kaisercorson.com](http://www.kaisercorson.com)

205 Highland Avenue, Readlyn, Iowa 50668

(319) 279-3551

**Farmers Cooperative Company**

Readlyn: 319-279-3396

Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. M-F

**We carry food for:**

Rabbits, Cats, Dogs, Chickens, Sheep, Horses & More

**Softener Salt:**

Delivery in town to those needing assistance

**Cedar & Pine Chips**

**Bird Seed • Grass Seed • Lawn Fertilizer**

**Bagged Shell Corn**

Stop in today!

**TruServe INSURANCE GROUP**

*DRIVEN BY SUCCESS*

**We are DRIVEN to help you SUCCEED**

Providing: Commercial and Trucking For-Hire coverages to our clients.

125 W. 1st St., Readlyn, IA 50668

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

[www.truserveins.com](http://www.truserveins.com)

**Weeds On Fire**

LAWN CARE SERVICES

• FERTILIZING • WEED CONTROL • AERATING • THATCHING • SEEDING • MOWING

CONTACT

DAN WEDEMEIER 319-269-6753

READLYN, IOWA [weeds.onfire@yahoo.com](mailto:weeds.onfire@yahoo.com)

**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

This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider.

**Dillon Law Office, PC**

**Patrick B. Dillon**

209 East 1st Street, Sumner • [patdillon@50674law.com](mailto:patdillon@50674law.com)

**563-578-1850**

General practice including but not limited to:

- Agricultural law • Taxation & Tax Preparation
- Estate Planning • Bankruptcy

[www.50674law.com](http://www.50674law.com)

Fettkether Fertilizer Co., LLC

[fettfarm@dunkerton.net](mailto:fettfarm@dunkerton.net)

Dunkerton, IA

**319-404-0064**

Specializing in starter fertilizer mixes, bulk UAN, Crop Chemicals, Seed & Planter Equipment

**FFC** DUNKERTON, IOWA

**BAYER Crop Science**

**David R. Wheeler**

8234 E. Marquis Rd., Fairbank, IA

(319) 230-1029

# Thimmesch is new Fair Assoc. President

The Bremer County Fair Association is proud to announce a new President for 2026!

Nicole Thimmesch was elected as President of the Bremer County Fair Association on November 24, 2025 during the annual meeting for 2026. Nicole Reynolds-Thimmesch is a lifelong supporter of the Bremer Co. Fair, 4-H alum and an active 4-H parent. She and her husband, Adam, live outside of Sumner with their 3 kids, Kenley, Riggs and Roland. They keep busy with a variety of animals, family activities and community involvement.

"I'm grateful for the trust placed in me and excited for the opportunity to serve as fair board president," Thimmesch said. "I'm excited to support my fellow fair board members, exhibitors, families, volunteers, community members and fairgoers. We have an amazing board with a wide range of expertise, and I'm looking forward to working together to keep the fair progressing and growing."

The Association thanks Josh Petersen of Waverly who is stepping down as president to vice-president and Josh Gilbert for his years of service as the previous vice-president. To complete the executive board, we have: Danny Buls - treasurer & financial manager, Dawn Bergmann, secretary, and Eric VerSteege, general manager.

Remaining voting members include: Randy Bergmann, Andy Demuth, Jon Elsamiller, Josh Gilbert, Walter Hinrichs, Jayson Hoppenworth, Tim Neil, Roy Petersen, Dan Richards, Jeromie Schroeder, Adam Thimmesch & Jared Uhlenhake.

4-H Extension members: Jenna Steffen - Bremer County Extension CYC & Ron Lenth - Bremer County Extension coordinator.

FFA Advisers: Waverly - Shell Rock - Amy Mitchell, Denver/Dunkerton - Karen Van De Walle, Wapsie Valley - Cameron Willie, Sumner-Fredericksburg - Jennifer Dillon & Nashua-Plainfield - Heidi Hull.

Non-voting Auxiliary members are: Travis Behrends, Tony Buls, Scott Buhr, Landon Burton, Logan Buseman, Jerry Elsamiller, Dave Foelske, Nancy Foelske, Dustin Gaede, Nylene Geerts, RJ Hennings, Melissa Hinrichs, Jonny Kleitsch, Natalie Koepke, Lisa Kramer, Brady Lahmann, Willie Morris, Renee Neil, Chelsea Petersen, Matt Petersen, Jake Poppe, Robert Prose, Eric Richards, Reily Richards, Jon Schellhase, Gary Schultz, Derrek Sommerfelt, Emilie Spratt, Tim Spratt, Gavin Wedemeier, Al Wehling, Chris Wehling, Dylan Wehling, Pat Welch & Tracy Weildeman.

We thank all our board members, volunteers, contributors, and our community for supporting us during our 2025 150th year celebration and our new facility! We had a record number of visitors by 10%! So let's "Make Memories Stick in '26!"

On Dec. 13-15, some of our members went to Des Moines for the AIF Convention to look for new ideas, book entertainment and learn by taking in the seminars.



Nicole Thimmesch

# Next Pepper Tourney is Feb. 7 at the library

The pepper tournament was held Saturday, January 3 at the Readlyn Library. The winners and their scores were:

1st: Dave Schumacher and Don Childs - 214

2nd: Roger and Connie Buhr - 211

3rd: Doris Hagenow and Therese

Schumacher - 151

4th: Millie Crawford and Judy Henn - 123

The next tournament will be held at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, February 7 at the Readlyn Library (use back entrance). Entry fee is \$3.00. Bring a partner.



**TOWN & COUNTRY**  
REAL ESTATE

**I'm all ears**

to listen to your needs, and ready to take care of business!



Connie Rochford, Broker  
215 N. Railroad, Sumner, IA  
**563-578-8899**  
www.towncountryhome.com

Agent  
Louie Hartman  
319-239-0533

**Serving the needs of our communities is important to us!**

## 4th Annual Wapsie Writing Contest

Subject: Of your choosing  
 Length: 100-1500 Words  
 Genre: Short Story, Poetry—Fiction or non-fiction  
 Format: MS Word

3 Age Categories:  
 Adults — 19 years and older  
 Youth — 12 to 18 years  
 Children — 11 years and under

Judging: By Committee  
**Cash Prize!** (each age category)  
 Submitted for publication in regional newspapers

Submissions: [bbpassick@comcast.net](mailto:bbpassick@comcast.net)

Contest Rules: [BettyBrandtPassick.com](http://BettyBrandtPassick.com)

**CONTEST STAGES:**

- 1) Submission: **Jan. 1st**
- 2) Deadline: **March 15th**
- 3) Judging: **After March 15**
- 4) Winners\* Announced: **May 15**



# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

## WE OFFER E-STATEMENTS!

- ♥ **Fast** - Your statement is delivered sooner than having to wait for the mail
- ♥ **Secure** - Robust online banking protections safeguard your personal data
- ♥ **Free** - Avoid statement copy fees

Contact us and go paperless today!

The Readlyn Savings Bank will be closed Monday, February 16, 2026 in observance of Presidents' Day



Readlyn Savings Bank  
141 Main Street - P.O. Box 40  
Readlyn, IA 50668-0040  
319-279-3321  
Website: [www.readlynsavingsbank.com](http://www.readlynsavingsbank.com)  
Email: [info@readlynsavingsbank.com](mailto:info@readlynsavingsbank.com)



AMERICAN SAVINGS BANK  
A location of Readlyn Savings Bank  
312 S. Main Street - P.O. Box 909  
Tipton, IA 50676-0909  
319-882-4279 or  
800-853-4294

RSB - Taking Good Care of You! - Since 1904

ASB - The Spirit of American Banking - Since 1899




# Readlyn Community Library

**WE PUT THE READ IN READLYN**

319-279-3432 www.readlyn.lib.ia.us

## Memorial Donations

### In Memory of Arlyce Harms Heideman

Charles and Mary Casterton  
Marj Macken and Family



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Children's Program** - Wednesday, Feb. 4,  
2:30-3:30 pm (no school) Presented by  
Bremer Co. Extension- **Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**Grade children are all invited!**

**Novel Knitters:** Mondays at 4:00 pm  
**Ladies' Coffee:** Wednesdays at 10:00 am  
**Cribbage Club:** Thursdays at 10:00 am  
**Book Club:** Last Thursday of the month,  
6:00 pm

\*interested in joining a group? No problem!  
Please join us!



The Bremer County Health Department holds Foot Clinics on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Call 319.352.0082 to make an appointment

## SERVICES

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

## HOURS

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

## READLYN COMMUNITY LIBRARY

The library is fully accredited (Tier 3), the highest accreditation number given by the State of Iowa. We are a Size B library in the NE library district and serve the city of Readlyn as well as rural Bremer county and other area residents.

### Funding



The library is funded primarily through municipal tax dollars, as well as additional funding from Bremer County and a small amount from the State of Iowa.

- Received from City's General Fund: \$91,228
- Received from Bremer County: \$19,026
- Received from State of Iowa: \$1,798

### Materials

- Printed (physical) books: 13,730
- Audio materials (physical): 201
- Video materials (physical): 1146
- Puzzles, activity kits, etc; 125



The library also provides access to tens of thousands of e-books, e-audio, video, and other downloadable or streaming materials through Libby/Overdrive, Hoopla, and other services.

### Circulation



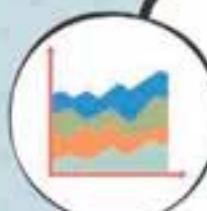
Last year, our patrons checked out **5,262** physical items and **2,673** downloadable materials for a circulation of **7,935** items. We provided **341** titles to other Iowa libraries via Interlibrary Loan and received **307** titles for use by our patrons. Our physical circulation numbers are remaining steady and downloadable usage is growing.

### Additional Usage

- Door Count: 10,864
- Reference transactions: 612
- Computer Users: 2,244
- Wireless usage: 933
- Website visits: 4,477
- Open hours: 2,185



### Programming



The library hosts a number of programs for all ages, including a robust Summer Reading Program, Book Club, Novel Knitters, Cribbage and Gaming groups, as well as serving as a meeting space for the community.

- Total Number of programs: 98
- Total Number of people attending a program: 1,927
- Total Number of Children's Programs: 31

# Readlyn Senior Citizens meet for Christmas party

On December 17 at 11:30 a.m., the Readlyn Senior Citizens met at the Tripoli Panther Lanes for their Christmas party, meeting and delicious food.

Ron Leistikow called the meeting to order and led us in prayer.

Birthdays for the month of December were Ron Leistikow, Doris Hagenow and Lorene Sommerfelt. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to them. Anniversaries: None.

**Sick Bay:** It was brought to our attention that Roland Schmidt was brought to the New Aldaya Lifescapes in Cedar Falls. A card was sent to him to let him

know that we all missed him and that we were praying for his recovery.

**Secretary's Report:** The secretary's report was read by Lois Thacher from the notes of November 19, 2025. Wilda Albrecht made a motion to approve the notes as read and Judy Leistikow seconded it. Motion carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Charlie Albrecht stated that the balance in the account after a deposit and expenses was \$166.00. The group had passed last month in November that our dues would be raised to \$2.00 per person starting in

January 2026. Charlie had already collected January's extra dues this month of December for January which is reflected in the balance. In January, everyone will only pay a dollar each as the extra dollar was already paid for by 20 people that attended the December meeting. Judy Leistikow made a motion to approve the treasurer's report as read. Millie Crawford seconded it. Motion carried.

**Old Business:** The group had a discussion about the Wapsie Valley Education Foundation that was held in Fairbank with a dinner and auction. The meal was en-

joyed by all and the auction was a success.

On December 13, Readlyn celebrated their Christmas on Main that was to have been on November 29, 2025. It was postponed due to the bad winter weather.

Santa came and passed out Christmas sacks to the children. The vendor fair and the lighted parade were canceled again because of the severe cold weather. The BBQ food truck came and everyone enjoyed great food. People stayed for the drawings and the fireworks went on as planned and were enjoyed by everyone.

December 13, the Cookie Walk at the Readlyn Library was a success. That day around \$700.00 was made from the cookie sales. Thanks to all that came and brought homemade cookies and thanks to those that came and purchased cookies.

**New Business:** Starting in February our meetings will be held at the new Bents Smokehouse and Pub in Readlyn. We will miss the people of the Panther Lanes Bowling Alley in Tripoli as we were fed delicious food and we were all in agreement that we were treated so very well.

Our meeting in January we will be playing Bingo again after our meeting and meal.

The next meeting will be January 21, 2026 at 11:30 a.m. at the Panther Bowling Lanes in Tripoli, IA.

Charlie Albrecht, before we adjourned our meeting, read a book to our group, "My Cup of Christmas Tea." A big thank-you to Charlie for reading to us as it was very meaningful around the Christmas season.

Motion was made by Don Billhorn to adjourn and Shirley Kuker seconded it. Motion carried and meeting adjourned.

*Lois Thacher, secretary*

We enjoyed our great meal and had our cookie exchange followed by a group picture.



Merry Christmas and very blessed New Year 2026 from the Readlyn Senior Citizens! Front row, left to right: Larry Ladage, Don Billhorn, Mary Chapin, Luann Happel, Wayne Kuethe, Doris Hagenow; back row: Lois Thacher, Janet Ladage, Mary Lou Ungs, Marylou Billhorn, Millie Crawford, Shirley Kuker, Judy Henn, Ron Leistikow, Judy Leistikow, Larry Pavelec, Vicki Pavelec, Wilda Albrecht, Charlie Albrecht.

 INSURANCE HEADQUARTERS INC.  
**VANDAELE INSURANCE, INC.**  
greatrates@vandaeleins.com  
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**

**Trusted Accounting Services**  
for Individuals & Businesses

 **Quality**  
ACCOUNTING SERVICES

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

 **STOKES WELDING**

**Services:**  
Custom Welding  
Power Equipment  
Hydraulic Hoses

 **STIHL TORO**

412 7th Street, Janesville  
(319) 987-2801 • Cell: (319) 230-7770  
email: shop@stokeswelding.com

www.stokeswelding.com

 **GINGERICH**  
**Roofing Solutions**

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

**CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE**  
**319.505.3938**  
1501 Fairbank Amish Blvd.  
Hazleton, IA 50641

 **Troy A. Delagardelle, AAMS®**  
Financial Advisor  
4901 University Ave - Suite B  
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50613  
319.277.4446

Member SIPC

Contact me today. >

 **Edward Jones**

Owner  
Jon Elsamiller

101 39th St. NE  
Waverly, IA **319-352-3917**

**Elsamiller Electric Co.**

Electrical Wiring of all Types:  
**Commercial**  
**Residential**  
**Farm**  
**Industrial**

www.elsamillerelectric.com

**"Family owned and operated since 1983"**



**Paul Smith**  
319-269-0952  
1417 Whitetail Ave., Sumner  
smith.x.inc@gmail.com

GPS Grade Control Tiling  
Onsite Concrete Crushing  
Site Preparation  
Septic Systems  
Waterlines  
Demolition  
Waterways  
Excavation  
Drainage

**Build Confidence.**  
**Build Wealth.**  
I can help.



**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.fbsagents.com



**FARM BUREAU FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

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)

**Hillcrest Living**  
*Friendly. Trusted. Proven.*



**Three levels of care that are:**  
 -all on the same campus, under the same roof  
 -adjacent to Community Memorial Hospital (UnityPoint Health)



**HILLCREST LIVING**  
Terrace Assisted Living • Hillcrest Skilled Care Nursing  
Southview Apartments

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

**RTC Communications**

**WE ARE READY TO SERVE YOU!**

- Local Customer Service
- Fiber Optic Internet
- Telephone
- Digital Television
- Consistent & Affordable Pricing

121 Main St. PO Box 405 Readlyn, Iowa 50668  
319.279.3375 | www.readlyntelco.com




Broadband Enabled. Locally Driven. Globally Connected.

# Wasn't it Yesterday? *Wishing Life Away?*

I unfastened my tool belt and headed to the deck to cash in on a moment's worth of relaxation. I just finished putting the finishing touches on a wishing well I built in the secluded corner of my backyard. Earlier in the day, I planted several trees around the well, so until they grow taller, "secluded" will only be realized in the future. I couldn't have enjoyed a more perfect day if I would have ordered up the weather myself. I poured a strong one and sat back in my chair and just listened easy.

A gentle wind rocked the trees like a sleeping child, as the birds sang through the leaves in all of their colorful glory. Off in the distance, I could hear a half-muted sound of a dog barking, as my foot kept time with the thumping of a low car tire, pushing down the blacktop. Further, it's not lost on me, the sounds of the snapping and cracking of the ice cubes in the bottom of my glass. All of which were the music, the melody, the songs of life.

After a thorough review of my backyard, I thought to myself, "I can't wait until my new trees grow tall enough to touch the lowest part of the skyline, far off in the distance." I realized it then, I had just made the first wish upon my new wishing well. But then, if that wish were to come true, that would put me another 25 years older than my 67 years now. I've never thought of it in this way, that my life is focused on thoughts and wishes, that only serve to wish life away.

The young wish to get older, the student wishes for school to begin, or for school to end. Students wish for summer to come, a young teen wishes to be 16, to get a driver's license, a 16-year-old wishes to be 21, to be of legal age, a worker on Monday wishes it was Friday, or when Friday comes, the

worker wishes it was getting closer to vacation time. When vacation time comes, I believe I hear a wish for retirement? A new father wishes his boy was old enough to play ball or fish, a new mother dreams of her daughter old enough to marry, and once married, thoughts about the grandchildren.

Wishing life away? I'd have to plead guilty as charged. Life is a series of stages, therefore, impatience and boredom are often born, when life's precious images slowly fade from the living color once experienced in the past. Wishes are an unrealized heart's desires or dreams, but sitting here on my deck, on such a beautiful day, I have to be thankful for all of the years of unanswered prayers and wishes. My wishes at the time may have been "missteps" in time.

My life thus far, has all played out in proper order, with school, summers, licenses, and the legal drinking age. I've experienced the Fridays, the Mondays, children, the grandchildren, all wishes at one time, have been realized. Blessed, I am, that they weren't granted when I made them in younger days. Somehow the view from my deck, to a rather unsecluded wishing well, looks just fine as it is. And let it stay that way for as many years as it takes for the trees to grow as a shelter. But it silently seems to beg me for another wish. I wonder now, with the wisdom of age, would it just be an unanswered misstep, if I wished to go back in time and do it all over again?

### Here In The Middle

I never believed I would read from this page  
Where my youth has come to pass  
Looking at the backside of older, middle-age  
A close neighbor of time, that refused to last

A child, I prayed that time step aside  
And allow my passage through the old, rusty gate  
Painfully unaware that leaving would be denied  
With no key to unlock, the hands of fate

I see it plain, what I couldn't have seen  
After wishing beyond the youth I couldn't bear  
Now, I'm here in the middle, a man in between  
Of the end of my life, and a young child's prayer

[jdframpton@msn.com](mailto:jdframpton@msn.com)

## College News

### Fall Dean's List

PELLA, IA -- Each semester, Central College recognizes students who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement by naming them to the Dean's List. This distinction is reserved for those who have earned a semester grade point average of 3.5 or higher while

completing a minimum of 12 graded credit hours. The students exemplify academic excellence and a strong commitment to their education.

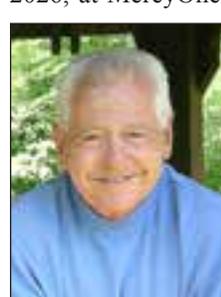
Named to the Dean's List were Drew Lansing, Class of 2029, and Gunner Meyer, Class of 2026, both of Fairbank.

See more College News on Page 10.

# Obituary

## Milan Earl Bellile

Milan Earl Bellile, 92, of Readlyn, Iowa, passed away on Monday, January 5, 2026, at MercyOne Des Moines Medical



Milan Earl Bellile

Center surrounded by his loving family.

Mike was born on June 30, 1933, to Harold and Florence (Howe) Bellile. He was baptized, confirmed, and a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Klinger, IA.

After graduating from Hillsboro High School in 1951, Mike served in the United States Army in Germany during the Korean Conflict with his twin brother, Galen. Mike then graduated from the University of Iowa (class of 1959) and met the love of his life, Beverly Otto. They were united in marriage on August 31, 1958, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger, IA.

A motivated provider for his family, Mike dedicated many years to Allstate Insurance Co. and farming. However, he found the most joy in life outside of work. The life of the party, Mike adored music and dancing. His clever humor and infectious laugh never failed to light up a room. Mike loved to travel, and after retirement could be found with his wife, Beverly, on his sailboat, in his RV, or around the world. Wherever he went, his confident optimism and caring nature made people feel loved. Mike also valued fitness and the outdoors; so biking (he rode RAGBRAI many times), golfing, basketball, ping-pong, and hiking were favorite activities. Watching the Hawkeyes always made him happy. He cherished his family

most of all, finding joy in sharing life with his kids and grandkids. Mike will be remembered with gratitude and affection by all who loved him.

Mike is survived by a son, Kevin (Kellee) Bellile of Clive, Iowa, a daughter, Lynne Bellile of Readlyn, and a son, Rick (Valerie) Bellile of Marshalltown; five grandchildren, Madilyn, Morgan, Karissa, Brandon and Kennoniah (Sophia); Mike's loving companion, Sarah Gorrell; his twin brother, Galen Bellile; a nephew, David (Beverley) Bellile and a niece, Heidi Bellile; two sisters-in-law, Lavonne Horman and Dorothy Rundle, and a brother-in-law, James (Janet) Otto, as well as many beloved nieces and nephews.

Mike was preceded in death by his loving wife of 57 years, Beverly Bellile; parents, Harold and Florence Bellile; his aunt, Wilma (Howe) Doan, and his uncle, Lawrence Howe; and a niece, Sonia Bellile; his father and mother-in-law, Herbert and Frieda (Moeller) Otto; three sisters-in-law, Marlys (Bob) Minneart, Janette (Ron) Wolff, and Sandra (Don) Jerke; a niece, Camilla Horman, and a nephew, Brian Wolff.

A funeral service was held at 2:30 p.m. on Friday, January 9, 2026, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger, rural Readlyn with Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano officiating. There was a visitation at the church on Friday from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the service. Burial followed in Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Klinger. The service was livestreamed on the Kaiser-Corson YouTube page. Memorials may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger: 2683 Quail Ave, Readlyn, IA 50668.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.

**Deadline for the Feb. 25 Chronicle is  
Thurs., Feb. 12 at 5 p.m.**

**Tatroe ELECTRIC, INC.**  
215 3rd St. NE, Waverly, IA • 319-352-3664  
[www.tatroelectric.com](http://www.tatroelectric.com)

**Tripoli NURSING & REHAB**  
*Creating Family, Enhancing Lives*

Tripoli Nursing & Rehab is a non-profit 28 licensed bed long-term care setting certified by Medicare and Medicaid. We are committed to providing excellent care and support to residents, families, the community and our employees. We provide skilled nursing, rehabilitative therapy services, continuous nursing care, social services and activity programs designed to meet various types of individual needs.

**Independently Owned & Operated**  
**Tripoli Nursing & Rehab**  
604 3rd Street SW, Tripoli, IA 50676  
**319-882-4269**  
[trnuhome@butler-bremer.com](mailto:trnuhome@butler-bremer.com)

MEMBER FDIC

**FIRST BANK**  
*Serving You First*

Cedar Falls | Plainfield | Waverly  
[www.FirstIowa.bank](http://www.FirstIowa.bank)

# Deadline for the Feb. 25 Chronicle is Thurs., Feb. 12 at 5 p.m.



## Community Lutheran Preschool 2026-27 Registration Night

Thursday, February 26, 2026

5:00 – 7:00 p.m.

124 West 4th Street, Readlyn  
Phone: (319)-279-3541

Email: [office@communitylutheralschool.com](mailto:office@communitylutheralschool.com)



### Program Options :

- ✓ 3 year old preschool
- ✓ 4 year old preschool
- ✓ Part time and full time options
- ✓ Before and after care available

**Christ based**



More information and registration paperwork:  
[www.communitylutheralschool.com](http://www.communitylutheralschool.com)



Mission Statement: Community Lutheran School exists to provide 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.

# It's National Lutheran Schools Week

Community Lutheran School in Readlyn is blessed to participate in National Lutheran Schools Week and National School Choice Week January 25-31, 2026!

We understand parents have a choice in Iowa as to what school best fits their child's needs and family values. Community Lutheran School proudly partners with our Readlyn and surrounding communities in offering a Christian education option for students and families. We greatly appreciate

the vision and dedication of Readlyn and surrounding community members, especially the congregation members of St. Paul and Immanuel, in all that they do to support our students and teachers.

Let's make a joyful noise proclaiming God's Word! Our mission 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.

Send ads to the  
**Readlyn Chronicle** at  
[readlynchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:readlynchronicle@gmail.com)

Community Lutheran School

**WE LOVE OUR SCHOOL**



**NATIONAL SchoolChoice WEEK**

Let's Make a Joyful Noise 2025-26

For More Information  
[www.communitylutheralschool.com](http://www.communitylutheralschool.com)  
319-279-3541

PARTY WITH A PURPOSE  
SUPPORT OUR LOCAL HEROES

**Heroes' Ball**

ALL PROCEEDS SUPPORT THE  
READLYN EMERGENCY SERVICES  
BUILDING FUND

**MARCH 21 2026**

**BENTS SMOKEHOUSE & PUB**  
309 MAIN STREET - READLYN

- HAPPY HOUR & SILENT AUCTION 5PM
- DINNER 6PM
- LIVE AUCTION, MOTIVATIONAL SPEAKER, AND LIVE MUSIC.



**QUALITY DISTRIBUTORS**

**FAIRVIEW Ag**

1508 190th Street  
Waverly, IA

Seth Walker  
CELL 319-352-1619

Tyler Hemer  
CELL 319-269-7675

Crop Protection  
Custom Application  
Third Party Agronomy  
Chemical & Fertilizer Sales & Trucking

**STUMME, COLLINS, GRITTERS & EPLEY, PLLC**

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



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

[www.waverlydenverlaw.com](http://www.waverlydenverlaw.com)

# Heroes' Ball Needs Heroes: Seeking Donations for the Auction

Continued from Page 1  
vision a reality.

## Upcoming Events to Help Reach Our Goal

• **March 1, 2026 – Fireman's Breakfast** — Start your day with a hearty breakfast prepared by the best—our local heroes! Hosted at Bents Smokehouse, this event is a great way to fuel up and show your support.

• **March 21, 2026 – Heroes' Ball** — Join us for an unforgettable evening at the brand-new Bents Smokehouse & Pub in downtown Readlyn! This elegant community event celebrates and supports the future of our local emergency services. Here's what's in store:

- A mouthwatering dinner featuring smoked prime rib or chicken, paired with savory sides and decadent desserts
- Silent & Live Auctions packed with exciting items and experiences
- An inspiring motivational speaker to leave you energized and uplifted
- Live music to keep the celebration going

All of this for just \$50 per person—a small investment for a big impact!

• **Ticket Reservations** — Tickets can be ordered online through our Facebook event or the Readlyn Fire Department Facebook page. The link will guide you through selecting your meal choice and payment option.

You may pay by:

- Venmo: @ReadlynFire
- Credit Card: Select this option on the form and a payment link will be emailed to you
- Check: Mail to: RESB

P.O. Box 276  
Readlyn, IA 50668

Tickets will also be available for purchase at Bents Smokehouse & Pub once they open.

Not a Facebook user? No problem! Just reach out and we'll take care of the reservation for you:

- Jessica Anderson: 319-504-5903
- Hailey Broten: 319-415-5797

We will be accepting reservations through March 17, 2026.

• **Want to join later in the evening?** If you can't make it for dinner but want to enjoy the auction and live music, we will be selling \$10 admission tickets at the door.

• **Heroes' Ball Attire** — Yes, it's a Heroes' Ball—but don't over-think it! Dress up, dress down, come exactly as you are. We just want you there.

Mark your calendars and reserve your spot today. Let's come together to build the new Readlyn Emergency Services Building and celebrate the heroes who serve our community.

## Heroes Need Heroes — Heroes Ball Auction - Seeking Donations

The Readlyn Fire Department, Readlyn First Responders & EMS, and the Readlyn Emergency Services Building Committee are preparing for the Heroes Ball, a night of dinner, inspiration, live music, and a Live & Silent Auction—all to support the future Readlyn Emergency Services Building. We will be accepting donations through March 17, 2026.

As a small rural town in Bremer County, we are incredibly thankful for the businesses in Readlyn and across the county who have already stepped up in a big way. Their

generosity has been amazing—and now we're inviting community members, makers, families, and supporters to help us take this event to the next level.

## We Are Currently Seeking:

### \* Product & Handmade Donations

- Custom wood or metal signs
- Home décor, wall art, or furniture
- Gift baskets or themed packages
- Services or experiences
- Anything unique that will draw interest and drive bidding

### \* Sponsored Big-Ticket Auction Items

— We're also looking for individuals, families, or groups to team up and sponsor a high-value auction item, such as:

- Grills or outdoor equipment
- Vacation stays
- Sports tickets

- Power tools or equipment
- Other standout pieces

These items will be featured in the auction and receive special recognition at the event and on social media.

## How You Can Help

- Donate an item or experience
- Sponsor a big-ticket auction piece
- Spread the word and invite friends to attend
- Volunteer to be part of our planning committee

If you have an item to donate or want to be part of our committee, please reach out to Jessica Anderson (319)504-5903 or Hailey Broten at (319)415-5797.

Together, we can make this building a reality—and ensure our heroes have the resources they need to keep us safe.

## Donation to RESB



There are 3 payment options: Make checks payable to: RESB

- 1) Mail to : RESB P.O. Box 276, Readlyn, IA 50668
- 2) Venmo: @ReadlynFire
- 3) Drop off donations at Readlyn Savings Bank

Please print the name or names that you wish to have listed on the plaque.

---



---



---

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

*All donation tiers are tax deductible*



**DENVER, IA**

## WILEY CONSTRUCTION

- Siding, Roofing
- Home Remodeling
- Ag Building Repairs

**Nick Wiley**

Cell 319-404-3518

Home 319-279-3518

PHONE: (319) 352-4112  
EMAIL: [contactus@tenenbaumsjewelry.com](mailto:contactus@tenenbaumsjewelry.com)  
[www.tenenbaumsjewelry.com](http://www.tenenbaumsjewelry.com)



219 EAST BREMER AVE.  
WAVERLY, IOWA 50677

# 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](http://acceladvantage.com).



## Bremer County Cattlemen's Assoc. annual banquet is Saturday, March 7 in Waverly

The Bremer County Cattlemen's Association will host their annual banquet on Saturday, March 7, 2026 at the Waverly Area Veterans Post with the social beginning at 5:00 p.m., and the prime rib dinner at 6:00 p.m. The prime rib dinner will be \$15 with a paid membership, with memberships being able to be paid at the door. Non-members are welcome to attend and can purchase a meal for \$25.

Following the meal, the banquet will continue with an auction, awards, and the crowning of the 2026 Beef Royalty. Any questions about the banquet can be directed to Valerie Gaede at 563-880-8279.

### Candidates Sought

Additionally, the Bremer County Cattlemen's Association is seeking young women who are interested in running for the title of 2026 Bremer County Beef Queen, Princess, and Junior Princess.

The Cattlemen are now accepting applications from young women who are actively involved in the beef industry within Bremer County. The duties of our royalty

court include, but are not limited to:

- attending grill outs and other events during the Bremer County Fair
- assisting with presenting awards during the Bremer County Fair 4-H/FFA & Open Beef Shows
- working the Cattlemen's Beef Quarters at the Iowa State Fair
- participating in as many Bremer county parades as possible
- attending other scheduled local grill outs with the cattlemen
- attending the annual Bremer County Cattlemen's Association banquet

The Queen will be presented with a scholarship and will also be highly encouraged to run for Bremer County Fair Queen. The Queen/Princess must be between the ages of 16-21 and the Junior Princess must be between the ages of 12-15 as of the day of the annual banquet on Saturday, March 7, 2026.

Please contact Hayley Meister for an application or more information at hayley.folkerts@yahoo.com or 319-493-5135. Application deadline is February 22, 2026.



Deb Sauerbrei (left) is presented her Iowa Master Gardener certificate by Jean Ebert, president of the Bremer County Master Gardener chapter.

## Deb Sauerbrei earns Iowa Master Gardener title

Readlyn resident Deb Sauerbrei was recently honored with the Iowa Master Gardener degree at the year-end meeting of the Bremer County Master Gardeners and Friends. The event was held at the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office in Bremer County, Tripoli.

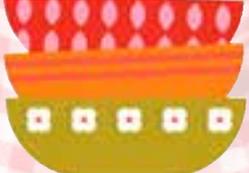
Sauerbrei joins more than 15,000 Iowans who have completed the rigorous Iowa Master Gardener program, which includes a 10-week educational course followed by a minimum of 40 hours of volunteer gardening service to their community. Sauerbrei far exceeded that requirement, completing nearly 100 hours of volunteer service locally in 2025.

She was presented her Master Gardener certificate by Jean Ebert, president of the Bremer County Master Gardener chapter.

Sauerbrei serves as the leader of a dedicated group of 12 Readlyn volunteers who generously donate their time and talents to care for and nurture 14 gardens throughout the community. Among their projects is the popular city welcome sign along Highway 3, which reads, "Readlyn—Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump," seen by thousands of travelers each year.

The group's newest project is an attractive butterfly pollinator garden located along the Readlyn Grump Bike Trail west of town, further enhancing the community's beauty and commitment to supporting pollinators.

Through her leadership and volunteer efforts, Sauerbrei has made a lasting and visible impact on the Readlyn community.



## What's Cooking?

A recipe to share can be sent to [billhorn@rtc279.com](mailto:billhorn@rtc279.com)

### Chicken Cordon Bleu Casserole

**Ingredients**

- 12 oz egg noodles, cooked and drained
- 2-3 cups cooked chicken, shredded or diced
- 1-1.5 cups cooked ham, diced
- 1 can (10.5 oz) cream of chicken soup
- 1-1.5 cups Swiss cheese, shredded
- Salt, pepper, and dried parsley to taste
- 1-1.5 sleeves Ritz crackers, crushed for topping

**Instructions**

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Cook egg noodles according to package directions.
3. In a large mixing bowl, combine cooked chicken, ham, cream of chicken soup, and shredded Swiss cheese.
4. Stir until well combined.
5. Add cooked egg noodles to the mixture and stir until coated.
6. Transfer the mixture to a 9x13 inch baking dish.
7. Sprinkle crushed Ritz crackers on top.
8. Bake for 25-30 minutes or until the top is golden brown and the casserole is heated through.
9. Serve hot and enjoy!



PROVIDING  
POLICY HOLDERS  
**SECURITY & SERVICE**  
FOR OVER 280 YRS

A GRINNELL  
MUTUAL MEMBER.



**319-279-3893**  
**319-267-2035**  
securitymutualins.com

**234 Main Street • Readlyn, IA**

## College News

### 570 Wartburg students named to Fall Term Dean's List

WAVERLY, IA -- Wartburg College has recognized 570 students who were named to the 2025 Fall Term Dean's List.

- Those honored include:
- Gabriel Matthias, of Readlyn.
  - Chloe Rehmert, of Fairbank.
  - Elle Voy, of Fairbank.
  - Brady Weepie, of Fairbank.
  - Ella Weepie, of Fairbank.

Wartburg College is a four-year liberal arts college internationally recognized for community engagement. A college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, Wartburg is dedicated to challenging and nurturing students for lives of leadership and service as a spirited expression

of their faith and learning. The college is characterized by vigorous academic expectations and community engagement within an environment of strong personal support.

### HCC Announces December 2025 Graduates

WATERLOO--The following are Hawkeye Community College fall semester graduates and their programs of study.

**Fairbank:** Noah Richards, certificate, graduated with high honors, Precision Agriculture, and diploma, General Agriculture.

**Readlyn:** Elizabeth Tiedt, Transfer Major: Criminal Justice, Associate of Arts.



## PIONEER®

BRAND · PRODUCTS

### Spring Center Farm

Dean Buhr & Kyle Devoe  
2034 Vintage Ave., Sumner, IA 50674  
**(319) 240-2432**

### Readlyn City Council - January 12, 2026

The Readlyn Finance Board met in open session at 5:45 PM on Monday, January 12, 2026 to review bills. Keith Brunscheon and Rocco Imbrogno were present.

The Readlyn City Council met in open session at 6:00 PM on Monday, January 12, 2026 for the regular meeting. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Wedemeier. The following council members were present: Nicole Barnes, Keith Brunscheon, Jason Franck, Rocco Imbrogno and Joseph Jones (arrived at 6:06 PM). Absent: None. Others in attendance included: Steve Aiello, Barney Wiersma, Austin Matthias and Kris McGrane.

During citizen comments, India May introduced herself and informed she is running for the Iowa House of Representatives.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve consent agenda items, which included the regular council meeting minutes from 12/8/2025, the claims list from 12/9/2025 to 1/12/2026, the December 2025 reports (Budget, Treasurer's & Financial) and ownership update amendments to the Kwik Trip Inc, Class "B" retail alcohol license. All said yes. Motion carried.

Jones arrived at this time, 6:06PM. Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to approve the agenda. All said yes. Motion carried.

The mayor advised that Bent's Smokehouse and Pub, the new business opening in Readlyn, is hoping to open to the public by February 1, 2026. Iowa State Senator Sandy Salmon will be holding town hall meetings in January and February, if anyone is interested in attending.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve receiving reports from the city clerk, police, public works, parks and library. All said yes. Motion carried.

Mayor opened the public hearing on the adoption of Ordinance #365, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 156 entitled

Building Code, as posted and published, at 6:18 PM. There were no written or verbal comments. Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:18 PM.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to approve the third and final reading of Ordinance #365, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Readlyn, Iowa, Chapter 156 entitled Building Code. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to approve Resolution 2026-1, establishing a new energy cost adjustment (ECA) rate. The energy cost adjustment was set at \$0.02367 per kilowatt-hour (kWh), an increase of \$0.01006 per kWh from the current ECA rate, effective with utility usage on or after January 12, 2026. Roll call, all said yes, motion carried.

Motion by Frank and seconded by Barnes to approve the following appointments: Finance Board-Keith Brunscheon (chairperson), Joseph Jones and Rocco Imbrogno; Parks & Recreation Board-Jason Franck (chairperson), Keith Brunscheon and Joseph Jones; Public Safety Board-Joseph Jones (chairperson), Nicole Barnes and Keith Brunscheon; Public Works/Utilities Board-Rocco Imbrogno (chairperson), Jason Franck and Nicole Barnes; Mayor Pro Tem-Nicole Barnes; East Bremer Regional Recycling Authority (EBRRA) Board-Dan Wedemeier and Jason Franck; Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation Board-Dan Wedemeier and Rocco Imbrogno; Board of Appeals-Larry Pavelec; City Clerk/City Treasurer-Kris McGrane; Readlyn Police Chief-Steve Aiello; Bremer County E-911 Board-Steve Aiello; Black Hawk County E-911 Board-Steve Aiello; and City Attorney-Luke Guthrie. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to approve Resolution #2026-2, establishing the compensation of city attorney. The city council

shall compensate Luke Guthrie, City Attorney, at a rate of \$165.00 per hour, billed in tenths of the hour for services. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

After a brief discussion, new designs for the city electronic sign located along Reed Avenue will be presented at the next city council meeting. No formal action was taken.

After discussion on repairing or replacing the handheld meter reading device, no formal action was taken.

After discussion on upgrading the copy machine and city telephone system, no formal action was taken.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Brunscheon to move forward with purchasing the accounting/payroll/bank reconciliation/utility billing software offered by Frey Municipal Software in the amount of \$20,500.86. All ayes, motion carried.

There were no suggestions for future agenda items.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brun-

scheon to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 PM.

The Readlyn City Council met in an open budget work session at 6:45 PM on Monday, January 12, 2026. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Dan Wedemeier. The following council members were present: Nicole Barnes, Keith Brunscheon, Jason Franck, Rocco Imbrogno and Joseph Jones. Absent: None. Others in attendance throughout the session included: Steve Aiello, Barney Wiersma, Austin Matthias, Beth Kingdon, Randy Kleitsch, Scott Broten, Cassandra Hesse and Kris McGrane. The council members were provided budget information from departments including: police, parks, streets, water, sewer, storm water, electric, library, fire, first responders, historical society, city clerk, garbage and more. No formal action was taken. The next scheduled budget work session was set for Monday, January 26, 2026 at 6:00 PM. The work session adjourned at 8:00 PM.

**MEDICARE QUESTIONS? I CAN HELP!**

Call Me, Your LOCAL Medicare Expert  
**Amy Rechkemmer | 319-635-2526**  
**VanDaele Insurance**

119 E MAIN ST • FAIRBANK



**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9<sup>TH</sup>, 2026**

**WVHS MULTIPURPOSE ROOM**  
**1:00PM - 6:00PM**

**Winter Blood Drive**

**SCHEDULE YOUR APPT**

American Red Cross, FCCLA, WVHS



**Calling All Wapsie Valley FCCLA, FHA & HERO Alumni!**

Were you involved in **FCCLA** (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America), **FHA** (Future Homemakers of America), or **HERO** (Home Economics Related Occupations) at Wapsie Valley?

We would love to hear from you!

Share how your experience helped you:

- Build leadership and communication skills
- Prepare for your career
- Gain confidence for independent adult life

Your story can inspire our current members and will be shared on social media during FCCLA Week, held annually each February!

Interested in sharing your experience? Please reach out to the Wapsie Valley FCCLA Adviser, Jenni Gross through email or message our Facebook page, Wapsie Valley FCS & FCCLA.

jgross@wapsievalleyschools.org



**Parkview Assisted Living Center**

Fairbank, Iowa

**Parkview ASSISTED LIVING**

Caring For Our Family, One Loving Heart at a Time.  
**Stop in for a tour anytime.**  
 Check us out on Facebook, or our website  
**www.fairbankparkviewassistedliving.com**, or contact us at  
**319.635.2585**, email: parkviewassistedliving@gmail.com



**KEN'S ELECTRICAL HVAC SOLAR**



For all your Electrical, Geothermal, HVAC, Solar and Generator needs!

Licensed HVAC and Electrical technicians.  
 Certified Generac Service Dealer. **319-208-3382**

**CallKens.com**



## “Financial Fitness”

WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

### Happy New Year!

As with any holiday, there are many traditions that people around the world perform to align themselves with a positive, cleansing outlook for their year ahead.

Some eat grapes or lentils to promote cleansing. Some make noise by ringing temple bells or banging on pots to ward off bad spirits. Some wear specific colors like white for peace or red for love.

...Some (like me) simply go to bed early and forget to write 2026 on checks until about mid-February!

No matter how you celebrate the fresh start, I wish the best for you and your family in 2026!

There are interesting studies that suggest the natural human tendency is to lean into optimism, or having a positivity-bias, when looking into the future. When it comes to finances, however, humans have a more mixed view.

If you are someone who makes resolutions, as with any goal, I would encourage you to set financial goals that are easy to maintain and improve on.

So, where to begin?

If you're trying to pay off debts, start by over-paying on your loans by rounding the payment up to a number you can absorb. If you're trying to build savings, open a separate account where a percentage of each paycheck goes in “sight-unseen”, at a rate you can afford. If you're getting serious about long-term retirement savings, start with maxing out tax advantaged accounts and adding to a brokerage account with anything over and above those limits. Small daily habits can add up to exponential growth. As the saying goes, “Rome wasn't built in a day, but they were laying bricks every hour.”

First, just start. Be consistent, and earn your confidence from there. With confidence, comes optimism. With optimism brings hope, creativity, and excitement. Once you have confidence in those areas, taking time to discuss what to invest in is the next best step you can take.

If at any point you feel stuck in the process, we are just a phone call away. We are passionate about helping people just like you achieve their next level of financial security.

A financially literate, successful, and confident community is something that benefits all of us for generations to come.

*Let's make 2026 great!*

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

Financial Advisor  
Prime Capital Financial  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
pciacedarrapids.com



Scan Here to Learn  
More About Me!



This information does not constitute legal advice. Prime Capital Financial and its associates do not provide legal advice. Individuals should consult with an attorney regarding the applicability of this information for their situations.

Advisory products and services offered by Investment Adviser Representatives through Prime Capital Investment Advisors, LLC (“PCIA”), a federally registered investment adviser. Tax planning and preparation services are offered through Prime Capital Tax Advisory. PCIA: 6201 College Blvd., Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66211. PCIA doing business as Prime Capital Financial | Wealth | Retirement | Wellness | Family Office | Tax Advisory.

# READLYN OUTDOORS

By Eric Johnston  
Ejohnston@mossyoakprostaff.com



## December Essay Contest

It's nearly February already! This month is a special edition of Readlyn Outdoors. Back in December, Larry Pavelec and I came up with a contest for youth to write an essay on what the outdoors means to them. Larry donated an air rifle for the grand prize.

This month, you'll get to read each contestant's entry. Thanks to Larry for the generous donation and all the participants!

All entries were great and your grand prize winners are Reid and Paul Kleitsch!! Congrats on your new rifle! The rest of the contestants received a Mossy Oak hat!



Kali Ackerman

By Kali Ackerman

For me, being outdoors is the best way to get away from people and clear my head. Life gets loud sometimes, and going into the woods is the one place where everything finally feels quiet. I really enjoy hunting deer and turkey because it gives me something to focus on that isn't school, stress, or anything else going on in my life.

One of my favorite things to do is teach people how to fish. It's something I've been doing for a while, and it always feels good when someone catches their first fish because of something I showed them. I like being able to help people learn, and it makes being outside even more fun.

Turkey hunting is another thing I really love. There's something exciting about chasing turkeys, listening for their calls, and trying to get close without them noticing. Deer hunting is different but just as good. I like sitting quietly and watching all the different deer that come through. Every one of them is unique, and you never know what you might see.

I enjoy deer hunting both by myself and with my family. When I'm alone, it's peaceful, but hunting with family makes it special in a different way because we get to share the experience. The same goes for turkey hunting.

What I enjoy most, though, is taking other people with me. Seeing someone else get a deer or a turkey, or even just watching them get excited, makes me genuinely happy. It feels good knowing I helped them have that experience. Being outdoors isn't just a hobby for me—it's something that keeps me grounded, gives me joy, and lets me share moments with the people I care about.



Hoyt Hutschenreuter

By Hoyt Hutschenreuter

### What the outdoors means to me.

I like to go camping in the summer with my family. I like riding in grandpa's pontoon and how the dogs like to smell each fish we catch. I like being outside except for the bugs. I don't like them. I like spending time with friends at the pool.

Some of my favorite things to do in the summer are baseball, swimming, riding my dirt bike, fishing, and playing football outside.



Hunter Hutschenreuter

By Hunter Hutschenreuter

### What the outdoors means to me.

It's the deer in the field. It's the rush of buck fever during the fall rut. It's the fish explosion on the top water frog getting pulled across the pads on the river. It's the big bass on the end of my line. It's family. It's friends. It's a way of life.

My favorite thing to do in the fall is bow hunt with my family. When mom and dad can't take me out, my grandpa fills in. I started bow hunting last year and fell in love with it. I kind of got started shooting archery at school and wanted to try bow hunting with dad. He learned from his dad and now I'm learning from him and taking pointers from grandpa. I haven't gotten anything yet, but I do like watching the squirrels from my stand. Dad keeps telling me to be patient. He says I have a lot of years to go and to enjoy it for as long as I can.



Paul Kleitsch

By Paul Kleitsch

I like outdoors because I get to shoot a gun and I get to see nature and the great animals like deer, rabbits, snakes and minks and just amazing things in the outdoors.

When I think about the outdoors, I first think of the hunting I do. I get to sit in a blind with my dad and brothers and see a lot of cool things. Some of those things are rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, turkeys, sometimes deer, and almost always the mosquito. Hunting is not the only thing that I do outdoors or out in nature. Fishing is another thing I like to do, especially when we go camping. Sometimes we fish from the beach and sometimes we fish from kayaks.

In the springtime, we like to go explore the woods and find treasures. We like to go mushroom hunting. We don't always find a lot of mushrooms, but it seems like I fill my pockets with other things. I find a lot of shotgun shells, cool rocks, sticks, and animal bones. We also like to go shed antler hunting; this tells us what kind of bucks made it through the winter. I usually find plenty of cool things like when I mushroom hunt as well. Another thing we like to do is put out a trail camera. This is not only to see the deer but any kind of nature, and sometimes it's really funny. This year we got pictures of some raccoons hanging out, then pictures of the raccoons running away. The next picture we got was a skunk where the raccoons were. Then it looked like the skunk sprayed the raccoons, and they were rolling around with each other. The last picture was the 3 raccoons all behind a tree peaking around it at the skunk. Sometimes nature can be really funny.

I really enjoy being outdoors doing anything I can, it is a good way to spend time, even when I get to help friends from town that need to hang a deer at our house by saving the day with my rope!



Reid Kleitsch

By Reid Kleitsch

What I like most about the outdoors is how much wildlife there is and how much it has evolved. Hunting, in my opinion, is not just going out and shooting something in the first hour, but waiting for the perfect animal and the perfect time. If there is nothing for some time, you think you will get it next time but you never do.

My first deer I shot in the first 20 minutes of the hunt. All I thought about was not going home empty-handed. Only later did I realize it wasn't about shooting an animal, but the experience that comes with it. Last year, I went turkey hunting with my dad about every day of the season and shot nothing. We kept saying we would get it next time, but that never happened. We started to wonder how close you can get to success without having it.

Last year I went to a Ducks Unlimited banquet. From then on, ducks were my favorite animal, but I never got the time to hunt them, so that's one of my hunting goals.

## Jennifer Jaschen Attorney At Law

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

Legal Focus: Real Estate, Estate  
Planning, Wills, Trusts, Estates,  
& Business Administration.

**Deadline for the  
Feb. 25 Chronicle is  
Thurs., Feb. 12.  
Send news to:  
readlynchronicle@  
gmail.com**

# Bremer County 4-H Wraps Up 2025 With Awards Program

By Jameson Johnson,  
Youth County Council Reporter

4-H is the nation's largest positive youth development organization, reaching more than six million youth nationwide with a mission to develop confident, capable, and caring young people. The annual Bremer County 4-H Awards Program provides an opportunity to recognize youth, leaders, and volunteers who positively impact their clubs, county, and communities beyond.

The evening began with recognition of the Youth County Council (YCC), a diverse group that plans workshops, community service projects, promotional events, and assists with activities such as Communications Day, clothing events, the Omelet Brunch, and the Bremer County Fair. YCC members also serve as liaisons between their clubs and the community. Members recognized for their service during the 2024-2025 year included Jaden Deppe, Maddie Johnson, Aiden Dermody, Ashlynn McCubbin, Adeline Baskett, Josiah Baskett, Jameson Johnson, Rachel Sharkey, Blaise Hockenson, Andy Britt, Ashley Heine, Ayla Demuth, Elliot Reed, Addison Buseman, Sydney Hansel, Ashley Risvold, and Aubrey Moeller. New members joining YCC for the 2025-2026 year are James Elsamiller, Isaiah Sharkey, Isaac Moeller, Oliver Bond, Eliza Baskett, and Ashlyn Strottmann.

Bremer County Fair Board members, 4-H Club leaders, and the Youth Advisory Committee were also recognized for their dedication throughout the year. Following recognition of adult volunteers, members receiving state fair recognition for static and communications projects were announced. Those advancing to the Iowa State Fair included Blaise Hockenson, Evan Kleitsch, Corbin Liddle, Ashlyn McCubbin, Jameson Johnson, Aiden Demuth, Warner Huck, Kenley Thimmesch, Ella Juhl, Jake Tiedt, Isaac Mueller, Madalynn Johnson, Madelyn Hockenson, Addison Buseman, Griffen Miller, Marin Beenken, Riley Smith, Maverik Fettkether, Ava Dermody, Greysen Miller, Aleydis Kargel, Emma Jones, Ashley Risvold, Kamille Thompson, Logan Nus, Jackson Epley, James Elsamiller, Joe Elsamiller, Grace Lockie, Oliver Hietz, Nora Larson, and Rachel Sharkey.

Graduating Clover members moving into fourth grade and beginning their 4-H experience were recognized next. Those graduates included Mabel Mae Baskett, Sylvia Gleason, Bentley Lewis, Carver Schaedig, Brinlee Wehling, Taylor Wehling, Teagan Wehling, Avery Demuth, Joscelyn Kacher, Weston Kaiser, Lorelei Krutsinger, Laurel Maas, Edy Marks, Charlotte Mashek, Aubrey Megan, Asher Milius, Elijah Mueller, Jenna Juhl, Deziray Lee, Benson Liebau, Shaniel Mathias, Hailey Mackey, Hattie Beenken, Marley Heyenga, Vivienne Renner, Ellis Thomas, Emmett Huck, Corbin Novak, Kasyl Fettkether, Hayden Liddle, Kyle Matt, JuliAnn Boevers, Kiley Willard, Faith Norton, Breck Morris, Jackson Poppe, Peyton Riley, and Taylor Tiedt.

First-year record book completion awards were presented to fourth-grade members who successfully completed their first project records. Judges evaluated record books based on new knowledge and skill development, leadership, citizenship involvement, and goal setting appropriate for first-year members. Recipients included Cahlei Schroeder, Jack Juhl, Libby Larson, and Wyatt Amfahr.

Record book completion awards were then presented to members who completed a record book during the 2024-2025 year. Those recognized included James Elsamiller, Jack Elsamiller, Rachel Sharkey, Ashley Risvold, Conor Pencil, Brock Kuhse, Logan Nus, Madalynn Johnson, Macy Tiedt, Jake Tiedt, Blaise Hockenson, Marin Beenken, Jameson Johnson, Nora Larson, Bennett Nus, Isaiah Sharkey, Joe Elsamiller, Cahlei Schroeder, Elanor Nus, Emersyn Powell, Cara Pencil, Anna Beenken, Libby Larson, Lena Scharnhorst, Ella Juhl, Jack Juhl, Grace Lockie, Oliver Heitz, Isaac Mueller, Kenley Thimmesch, Wyatt Amfahr, Anna Elsamiller, Coral Novak, Alina Hockenson, Madelyn Hockenson, Coral Novak, and Alina Hockenson.

Junior project award winners were recognized next. Emersyn Powell received awards in Child Development, Citizenship, Communication, Food and Nutrition, Horticulture, Leadership, Photography, and Visual Arts. Joe Elsamiller was recognized for Food and Nutrition and Veterinary Science. Anna Elsamiller received awards in Beef, Citizenship, Food and Nutrition, Photography, Sewing and Needle Arts, Sheep, Swine, and Visual Arts. Oliver Heitz earned awards in Citizenship, Communication, Home Improvement, Pets, and Sewing and Needle Arts. Isaac Mueller was recognized for Visual Arts. Grace Lockie received awards in Citizenship, Clothing and Fashion, Horse and Pony, Leadership, and Self-Determined. Anna Beenken earned awards in Clothing and Fashion, Food and Nutrition, Home Improvement, Photography, and Rabbit. Alina Hockenson was recognized for Horticulture and Self-Determined. Kenley Thimmesch earned awards in Communication, Clothing and Fashion, Sewing and Needle Arts, and Sheep. Isaiah Sharkey received awards in Citizenship, Communication, Leadership, Music, Outdoor Adventure, Photography, Self-Determined, and Woodworking. Eleanor Nus was recognized for Sewing and Needle Arts. The Junior Outstanding Record Keeping Award was presented to Ella Juhl.

The honorary award recognizing a supporter of the 4-H program was presented to the Greater Waverly Kiwanis Club for their extensive support during the Bremer County Fair and throughout the year.

Intermediate project award recipients included Nora Larson for Horse and Pony; Marin Beenken for Food and Nutrition, Horticulture, and Sewing and Needle Arts; Bennett Nus for Food and Nutrition; and Jameson Johnson for Animal Science, Citizenship, and Meat Goats. Jameson Johnson was also named Inter-

mediate Outstanding Record Keeper.

The 4-H Alumni Award was presented to Chuck Brittan for his continued dedication and service to the Bremer County 4-H program.

Senior project awards were presented to Jack Elsamiller (Sheep); James Elsamiller (Leadership and Swine); Rachel Sharkey (Citizenship, Communication, Food and Nutrition, Leadership, and Music); Macy Tiedt (Food and Nutrition, Photography, and Sheep); Jake Tiedt (Photography and Sheep); Madelyn Hockenson (Food and Nutrition, Home Improvement, Rabbit, and Sewing and Needle Arts); and Madalynn Johnson (Meat Goats, Food and Nutrition, Home Improvement, and Photography). The Senior Outstanding Record Keeping Award was presented to Madalynn Johnson, who also received the Excellence Award.

Senior Overall Awards were presented to Jack Elsamiller for Science and Technology; Ashley Risvold for Citizenship, Leadership, and Achievement; and Madalynn Johnson for Achievement and Expressive Arts.

Spirit Awards were presented to Cahlei Schroeder, Cael Busch, Jack Juhl, Blaise Hockenson, and Mady Hockenson.

Youth in Action Award recipients included Jameson Johnson (Intermediate, Agriculture) and Madalynn Johnson (Senior, Citizenship).

Outstanding herdsman awards were presented

to Polk Hustlers (Beef), Townline (Dairy), Tri-River Trendsetters (Poultry and Swine), B-Square (Goats), Dayton Dodgers (Rabbits), and Jefferson Superiors (Sheep). Battle of the Clubs winners were Riverside Wranglers and Rainbow Clovers.

Citizenship and Leadership awards sponsored by the Huck Family were presented to Nora Larson (Intermediate Citizenship), Jameson Johnson (Intermediate Leadership), Ashley Risvold (Senior Citizenship), and Jack Elsamiller (Senior Leadership).

Randy Groth was announced as the 2025 Bremer County nominee for the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame.

Volunteer awards were presented to Oliver Heitz (Junior), Jameson Johnson (Intermediate), and Conor Pencil (Senior). The Tri-River Trendsetters 4-H Club received the Club Volunteer Award. The Family Volunteer Award was presented to Dan and Jenny Richards for their outstanding contributions to the Bremer County Fair and 4-H program.

The final award of the evening, the "I Dare You Award," was presented to Macy Tiedt.

Horse exhibitor awards were also presented following the banquet due to the virtual horse show held during the fair.

Congratulations to all award recipients. Bremer County 4-H looks forward to seeing the continued growth, leadership, and impact of its members in the year ahead.

## Readlyn Firefighter's Association:

### Annual Breakfast Fundraiser

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Serving 8:00AM to 12:00PM

**@BENT'S SMOKEHOUSE AND PUB,**

Main St. Readlyn, Iowa

**Carry-Outs Available!!!**

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

Free Will Donation At Door

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

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

Readlyn Volunteer Firefighter's Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established in 2012.

## SECURITY State Bank

PO Box B, 103 3rd St., Frederika, IA 50631

(319) 275-4301  
or 1-800-428-5808

**340 S. State St.**

**Denver, IA 50622**

**319-984-5691**

[denverdrugandphoto.com](http://denverdrugandphoto.com)

Care you can trust.

## DENVER FAMILY DENTAL

"OUR FAMILY CARING FOR YOURS"

**Robert R. Piphon, 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**

YOUR LEADING INDEPENDENT PROVIDER

ELEVATORS

Manufacturing, Installation Service  
Passenger, Freight, and Specialty Elevators

Denver, Iowa Since 1936

One Schumacher Way • 319-984-5676 • [www.schumacherelevator.com](http://www.schumacherelevator.com)

## Douglas Den

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.

# CHRONICLE Sponsorship DIRECTORY

## Ag 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-Fairview Ag

1508 190th St., Waverly  
Seth Walker (319) 352-1619  
Tyler Hemer (319) 269-7675

### Readlyn Vet. Association

2636 230th St. • (319) 279-3867

### Rock On Wheels

Roger Wheeler  
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

### 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

### 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

## 2025 FRIENDS OF THE CHRONICLE:

Corlyn Freitag  
DA Acres - Leistikow Family  
Bonnie Erickson  
Readlyn Senior Citizens  
Jennifer Jaschen

YOU, TOO, CAN BECOME A  
*Friend of the Chronicle!*  
Call Ron Leistikow for details!  
(319) 279-3548

### Jennifer Jaschen - Attorney at Law

4817 University Ave. STE. D  
Cedar Falls, IA 50613  
jaschenlaw@outlook.com  
(319) 553-3400

### 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

## 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.

101 39th St. NE, Waverly  
319.352.3917

### Gingerich Roofing Solutions

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

### Ken's Electric Inc.

Electric • HVAC • Solar  
319.283.4221 • kenselectric.com

### 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.tatroelectric.com

### Wiley Construction

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

## 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

## 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

### 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

### Prime Capital Investment Advisors

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones, Financial Advisor  
Cedar Rapids, pciacedarrapids.com  
(319) 269-7143

### 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

### Smiley Family Dentistry

123 2nd St. SW, Waverly  
319-352-2270  
SmileyFamilyDentistry.com

### Tripoli Nursing Home

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

## Food and Restaurants

### Douglas Den

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

## Hair and Beauty

### Mane Event Family Hair Salon

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

## Insurance Services

### 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

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 Businesses

### 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

### Tenenbaum's Jewelry

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

	<p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b>          2683 Quail Avenue          Readlyn, IA 50668          (319) 279-3977          Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano          Divine Service 10 a.m.</p>
	<p><b>St. Matthew's Lutheran Church</b>          Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor          2649 230th Street          Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758          Sunday School 9:00 AM          Sunday services 10:00 AM          Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month          Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM</p>
	<p><b>St. Paul's Lutheran Church</b>          120 West 4th Street, Readlyn          (319) 279-3961          Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano          Divine Service 8:30 a.m.          Mary-Martha Circle          1st Wednesday 7 p.m.</p>
	<p><b>Zion Lutheran Church</b>          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 1:00 p.m.</p>



**#3 Ag Lender in Iowa\***  
**Top 50 Ag Lender in the Nation\***  
\*Source: Top 100 Farm Lenders Ranked by Dollar Volume, FDIC, Data as of 3Q 2023.

**FIDELITY BANK & TRUST**  
 www.bankofidellity.bank 1-800-403-8333

**Adam Schaufenbuel**  
 Vice President, Waverly

**Megan Baumgartner**  
 Loan Officer, Oelwein



**Smiley FAMILY DENTISTRY**  
 Restoring Health. Celebrating Smiles.

**Jonathan Smiley, D.M.D**

**NEW LOCATION:**  
 123 2nd St. SW  
 Waverly, IA 50677  
 319-352-2270  
 SmileyFamilyDentistry.com

**New patients welcome!**  
 Proud to continue Dr. Rettig's tradition of excellent dental care.



**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

**Deadline for the Feb. 25 Chronicle is Thurs., Feb. 12 at 5 p.m.**

	<p><b>Your Local Realtor Since 1989</b>          Helping You Achieve All Your Real Estate Needs, Buying or Selling.  <b>Spring Market is Quickly Approaching!</b>          Call Anytime on Any House  <b>319-238-1700</b></p>		
<p>1209 16TH ST. SW, CEDAR RAPIDS          Move in Gorgeous!! 2 Bedrm, 1 Bath, All New Exterior, Interior &amp; Appliances. Fenced Yard For Kids &amp; Pets.  <b>\$165,000</b></p>			<p>221 PRESTIEN DR, DENVER          4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Car Gar, Gorgeous Kitchen, New Bath, NEW ROOF, SIDING, WINDOWS. Close to Schools!  <b>\$295,000</b></p>
			
<p>203 &amp; 205 GROVE ST, FAIRBANK          HUGE FAMILY SPACE - 4 Bedrms, 1.5 Baths + LL 1/2 bath, main flr Laundry, Huge Kitchen, Living Room, Large Yard!  <b>\$200,000</b></p>	<p>919 - 1ST AVE SE, OELWEIN          2 Bedrms, 1 3/4 baths, Main flr Laundry, 1 car gar, Fenced Yard, Lots of Newer Amenities, Move-In Ready!  <b>\$150,000</b></p>	<p>717 - 3RD AVE NE, OELWEIN          3 Bedrms, 1.5 baths, 1,320 sq ft, Huge Yard - All Lots Included (250' X 125')          Call Erin Perry for Details          319-238-1963  <b>\$189,900</b></p>	<p>410 N FREDERICK AVE, OELWEIN          3-4 Bedrms, 2 baths, upper level laundry, handicap accessible, 2 car att gar, appliances, lots of character wood, trim, pocket doors, etc. Needs some TLC  <b>\$100,000</b></p>



**I Need Listings!!  
 Call Me!  
 319-238-1700**

**ADVANCED, REALTORS® , LLC**  
 814 S. Frederick, Oelwein 283-2242  
**Lori Beierschmitt, Broker/Owner**  
 Cell: 319-238-1700


REALTOR.COM
REALTOR.COM
REALTOR.COM