

Eric and Aubrey Johnston are pictured in front of one of their gardens featuring a fountain depicting their love of water.

Eric, Aubrey, and Delana Johnston, 308 Magill Avenue, are July's Yard of the Month winners.

Their gardens reflect a combination of love of water, innovation, and nostalgia. The two fountains indicate their fondness of using the water for fishing. Innovation was driven by waiting for a friend to buy a stump grinder. Rather than leaving stumps

unattended, they incorporated the stumps into attractive areas as displayed in the photos. By reading the captions, you can see the examples of nostalgia.

Eric describes the yard as "family driven." Each member of the family plays a role in the up-keep of the yard.

Eric is the designer and creates the gardens. Delana keeps the plants wa-

tered – an especially demanding job during the dry spell when the pictures were taken. The two vegetable gardens are not pictured, but once they are harvested, Aubrey does the canning. Together they create a yard we can appreciate and enjoy.

Congratulations, Johnstons, on your well-deserved award!







Besides Aubrey's fox, the tree stand at the end of the garden holds the camouflage envelope box Aubrey and Eric had at their wedding.

### Ice Cream Social July 25

The Readlyn Historical Society is inviting everyone to their 19th annual Ice Cream Social at the Historical Museum on Sunday, July 25 from 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.

Sundaes will be 25¢ each. The ice cream will be made by Natalie Eick who makes Hi-Tail Ice Cream.

We also will be dedicating the bench that was given in memory of Wilbert Huebner by his family. Wilbert was an active member of the Historical Society for many years.

We want to thank his family for this nice addition to the front of the museum.



This stump garden features Aubrey's favorite animal, a fox.



Aubrey appropriately won this fountain in a husband-wife fishing contest





Most of the hostas in the corner garden (above and below) are from Eric's dad, a landscaper.





The owl is Delana's favorite animal.

## Read about Grump Days on Page 14!

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## Miss Readlyn Comments **Trending Now**

By Grace Imbrogno

Hello Readlyn! Holy guacamole, where do I even start? This is my final article as Miss Readlyn 2020, and I could not be more grateful for everything I have learned this year. The opportunities that I was given, the experiences that I've had, and knowledge that I have gained is immense, and I will value that forever. Thank you to everyone who has encouraged me and helped me this year. So many of you greatly impacted my life, just by commenting on my articles, speaking with me at The Center Inn, and saying "hi" to me when out and about. I hope everyone has enjoyed my articles and the TREND-ING NOW theme, I've had so much fun

writing them.

By the time this is published, Grump Days will be completed and you will have a new queen, and I wish her the best of luck! A bit of advice for Miss Readlyn 2021: be you, smile, and have fun. To the Community Club members, THANK YOU for your hard work throughout the year, and especially during Grump Days, your efforts are so appreciated by everyone in town. Thank you all so much for supporting me throughout the year, and letting me take up space in your Chronicle;)

With all my love,

Grace, Miss Readlyn 2020



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## Readlyn Community Happenings

### **Senior Citizens meet**

#### May Meeting

Sixteen members attended the 11:30 AM meal at the Center Inn for the Senior Citizen's lunch and meeting on May 19, 2021. Don Billhorn called the meeting to order after our delicious lunch.

We all sang "Happy Birthday" to Joyce Heineman as she will be celebrating a birthday this month.

No one had an anniversary this month.

We all welcomed James and Velda Hagenow to the Senior Citizens meet-

The secretary's minutes were read by Lois Thacher for the April 21, 2021 meeting. The treasurer's report was read by Mary Lou Billhorn and the balance in the account after zero expense was \$214.00. Everyone approved the secretary and treasurer reports. Motion carried.

#### **Old Business:**

No Old Business

#### **New Business:**

It was discussed how many golf carts would be needed for the grumps to ride in the Grump Day parade on June 19.

The next Senior Citizens Meeting will be June 16 at 11:30 AM at the Center Inn.

Marlys Deterding made a motion to adjourn and Roland Schmidt seconded it. Motion carried.

There was card playing and fellowship after the meeting.

Lois Thacher, Secretary

#### **June Meeting**

On June 16, 2021, 19 members attended the 11:30 AM meal at The Center Inn for the Senior Citizens lunch and meeting.

President Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer.

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was \$233.00. Sonja Bast made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Larry Ladage seconded it. Motion carried.

The secretary's minutes from the May 19, 2021 meeting were read. Wilda Albrecht made a motion to approve the secretary's report. Verdeen Pavelec seconded it. Motion carried.

Roger Deterding celebrated a birthday in June. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to Roger Deterding. Many more!

Anniversaries for the month of June were Roger and Marlys Deterding celebrating 16 years and Don and Mary Lou

Billhorn celebrating 57 years together. We all sang happy anniversary to both couples. Congratulations!

We all signed a card for Judy Leistikow as Ron Leistikow stated that Judy now needs surgery July 6 in Iowa City on her hip. We all wish her well and a speedy recovery.

#### **Old Business:**

The Grumps have gotten all the golf carts together that they need to ride in the Readlyn Grump day parade on June

#### **New Business:**

We discussed touring the Poor Farm next month on July 21, 2021after our next meeting and meal at the Center Inn. Janet Ladage made a motion and Don Billhorn seconded it to tour the Poor Farm. We will be carpooling there. Motion carried.

The annual ice cream social at the Readlyn Historical Society will be July 25 from 4 to 6 PM. Mark your calen-

The next meeting of the Senior Citizens will be July 21, 2021 at 11:30 AM at the Center Inn.

Motion was made by Marlys Deterding to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Wilda Albrecht. Motion carried.

The meeting was followed by card playing and fellowship.

Lois Thacher, Secretary

### Auxiliary meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 Readlyn met at the home of Verdeen Pavelec on June 8 with 5 members present at 7:30 PM. The meeting opened with prayer and the pledge of allegiance. The minutes were read and corrected. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Ellen Thies to accept the minutes. Carried. The treasurer's report was read and subject to audit. A bill was turned in and signed by trustees. General orders and chairman reports were read.

It was discussed that there was good attendance for the Memorial Day service at Zion Cemetery. We discussed ideas for the 100th anniversary of the V.F.W. National Auxiliary. V.F.W. Post and Auxiliary received the Community Service Award from the National Auxiliary. Auxiliary dues are due starting July 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Ellen Thies to adjourn. Carried. The meeting closed with prayer. The hostess was Verdeen Pavelec.





On May 19, Mrs. Lincoln brought her Readlyn Elementary 4th graders to the Historical Museum for a tour. They are pictured from left to right in the first row: Jayden McCabe, Delana Johnston, Reagan Szurley, Ava Kolaas, Arizona Franck, and Addison Franck. Second row: Mrs. Lincoln, Mira Schaefer, Marshall Tiedt, Addy Wilke, Weston Shores, Raiden Burgart, Daisy Jelsma, and Korvin Hesse.







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## DENVER/READLYN COMMUNITY **BLOOD DRIVE**

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#### **Book Memorials**

In Memory of Lois Ganske "I've got a Tail" by Julie Murphy from Dean and Lois Buhr

"Just Ask" by Sonia Sotomayor from Dean and Lois Buhr

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Thursday	10:00 - 7:00
Friday	10:00 - 5:00
Saturday	9:00 - 12:00

## **New at the Readlyn Library**

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This project is supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as administered by the State Library of lowa.

### **Readlyn Reads - Book Talk**

### July's title: A Distant Shore

"Inspirational fiction superstar" (Publishers Weekly) and #1 New York Times bestselling author of

Pick up a copy at the library and join us for discussion on **July 29th.** 

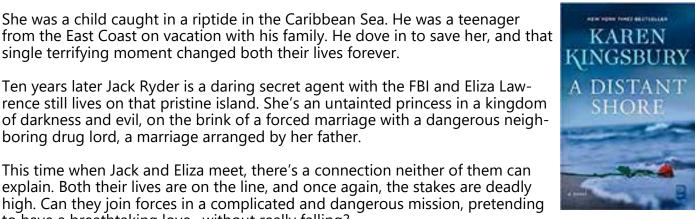
life-changing fiction returns with this high-stakes love story of danger, passion, and faith. She was a child caught in a riptide in the Caribbean Sea. He was a teenager

single terrifying moment changed both their lives forever. Ten years later Jack Ryder is a daring secret agent with the FBI and Eliza Lawrence still lives on that pristine island. She's an untainted princess in a kingdom of darkness and evil, on the brink of a forced marriage with a dangerous neigh-

This time when Jack and Eliza meet, there's a connection neither of them can explain. Both their lives are on the line, and once again, the stakes are deadly high. Can they join forces in a complicated and dangerous mission, pretending to have a breathtaking love...without really falling?

Sometimes miracles happen not once, but twice...along a distant shore.

boring drug lord, a marriage arranged by her father.





## Readlyn, Long Ago

**Compiled by Bob Thran** 

## Capsule History of Wittenburg Truck Line



Glenn Wittenburg bought his first truck in 1945, a modest beginning for the Wittenburg Truck Line. The first 25 years of Glenn's trucking would make a hilarious movie. Cast would include Glenn, his truck, and his faithful donkey, Arnold. Other cast members would be villains, such as highway patrolmen, weigh station attendants and Justices of the Peace. Plot would be Glenn's many clever methods of outwitting the authorities, if caught, his pleas to these authorities to avoid a ticket, and then his attempts to sway the decisions of unsympathetic judges.

I recall, before I left Readlyn in 1959, Glenn's family living on East Third Street in a home once owned by Moritiz Jaschen now occupied by Delbert Oltrogge. After acquiring the property, Glenn built a large square shop which included a small addition for his pet donkey, Arnold. In those early years, Glenn was trucking locally, hauling corn and hay and delivering ear corn into Missouri. He and his brother, Elmer, would shell corn into a trailer, then deliver the corn to various locations.

Now, as I drive through Readlyn on my way to the cemetery, I see a beautiful home, a large 80x100 shop with a 20x40 office addition sitting in a large lot. Trucks and trailers are neatly parked in the same area where we flew kites as children. Glenn started the company in 1945 with a single, used truck and now, 76 years later, the Wittenburg Truck Line consists of a fleet of 14 trucks and 26 trailers, employing 19. I am amazed! What transpired?

The location on East Third in town did not accommodate space needed for expansion. Glenn moved his business to a farmstead near the Wapsi. After a short period, Glenn moved operations back to Readlyn.

In 1971, Hancor purchased land near Oelwein to construct a factory manufacturing plastic pipe. Glenn was contracted to deliver the pipe Hancor produced. He had to rapidly expand the company to meet the conditions of the contract. Glenn, along with his sons, Denny, Rod and Barry, scrambled to provide trailers capable of hauling huge rolls of plastic pipe. Trailers, 13 in all, previously used for the delivery of automobiles were reconstructed to accommodate plastic pipe. Additional trucks were nurchased More drivers were hired. While the Hancor plant in Oelwein was under construction, plastic pipe was shipped by rail from another Hancor factory to Rockford, Iowa. The plastic pipe shipped to Rockford, as well as the pipe from the completed plant in Oelwein, was loaded onto Wittenburg trailers and delivered throughout an area within 500 miles of Oelwein. Deliveries extended into Ohio, Kansas, etc. as far as International Falls, Minnesota. After seven years of delivering Hancor's pipe, the contract was terminated. Hancor made a decision to deliver their own product.

The loss of the Hancor contract did not deter Glenn and company. Flat bottom trailers were purchased to haul grain to processing plants in Illinois. After the cargo was delivered, trucks were routed to other pick up points, many to Chicago to be loaded for delivery of steel to locations anywhere in the United States. After several years these steel trips were eliminated.

Grain wagons were manufactured at a factory in Shell Rock by Brent, now Underferth. The Wittenburg Truck Line, at one time, delivered these grain wagons over the entire country. This phase of the business lasted for several years. In reference to the hauling of steel out of Chicago and grain wagons out of Shell Rock, loads were delivered by the company to other destinations at the same time.

The key position of any trucking firm is the position of company dispatcher. Barry Wittenburg fills that stressful role. A dispatcher's job is to locate outgoing destinations for his drivers, then provide opportunities for convenient, well paying back-hauls. Truck drivers work on commission, dispatchers have that in mind.

Over the years there were many other interesting cargoes and destinations. Spoiled soybeans were delivered to California to be processed into tofu, those trucks routed to Oregon returning with lumber.

For the past few years the company has been operating more locally, hauling fertilizer out of Illinois into Northeast Iowa and Southwest Wisconsin. Corn and beans are transported to factories to be processed or taken to locations where they are shipped further, for example, corn to Clayton on the Mississippi. Corn is also transported to ethanol plants.

In 1973, a shop was built at the present location, which later became inadequate for the needs of the growing company. In 2004 the shop portion of the 1973 building was demolished and an 80x100 foot shop was added. A parcel of land purchased from Bob Kuker was added in 2003, a year before. Earlier, Glenn built a house on the property, the family living in the basement for seven years before the house was completed.

Through the years, Glenn's three sons became an integral part of the Wittenburg Truck Line operation. Denny's and Rod's Army experiences, both having been assigned to the a motor pool, Denny at Fort Carson, CO and Rod at Fort Dix, NJ, contributed to the company's success. With 6 months remaining in his two years service obligation, Denny was given two options, an "early out," or spending his final time in Korea. He looked at this as an opportunity to serve in Korea and also to visit his uncle and aunt, Bud and Nancy Porter, on Okinawa. While in Korea, Denny was assigned to an engineer unit repairing vehicles. He was stationed three miles from the DM and said he could hear missiles being launched.

Glenn continued to manage the company until he was 80 years old. Glenn died on August 21, 2010 at age 86. After his death the ownership of the Wittenburg Truck Line was transferred to his three sons. Helen followed Glenn, on June 12, 2014 at age 93..

How much longer will the Wittenburg Truck Line be owned and operated by members of the Wittenburg family? To date, not one of Glenn's ten grandchildren has expressed an interest. All ten grandchildren are successful in the occupations they have chosen, none in the trucking industry.

### Wittenburg Family

Glenn was one of five sons, Delbert, Leo, Arlin, Glenn and Elmer, born to Ted and Bertha Seegers Wittenburg. He married Helen Hills in the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Klinger. They had four children, Dianne, Dennis, Rodney and Barry, all graduates of Wapsie Valley High School. The three sons are co-owners of the Wittenburg Truck Line, all three living in Readlyn.

Dianne Wittenburg married Jerry Oltrogge. Dianne died in 2019 at the age of 74. Dianne was a graduate of UNI. She retired from teaching, her last position was Junior High English at Wapsie Valley. Her children are Carrie Jones, Denver, and Jason, Stanford, Montana.

Denny, 73, married Janice Walther. They have two children, Jennifer Clayton, Denver and Ryan, Solon, Iowa.

Rodney, 69, and Bonnie Quigley have two sons, Josh and Nathan, both living in Cedar Falls, both employed by John Deere.

Barry, 65, married Lisa Happel. They have three daughters and one son. Alana Masalskis lives in Kansas City, Missouri, Alasa Becker in Jesup, Aarika Wittenburg in Des Moines. Austin is a student at the University of Iowa.

#### **Glenn The Person**

Glenn was renowned for many things he did, but the one thing he did not do was costly. He invented a sprayer and used it commercially for spraying corn. He did not patent the sprayer. Had he applied for and received a patent, Glenn Wittenburg and his entire family might all be living in mansions in Florida.

When the Chicago Great Western abandoned their tracks, a small tract of land was available between the Zion Lutheran Church cemetery and the bike trail. Glenn purchased the small block of land and donated it to the Zion Lutheran Church.

There were other aspects to the life of Glenn Wittenburg, having fun was also a big part. Cruising the Cedar River north of Waverly in his homemade pontoon boat buoyed by sealed 55 gallon barrels, playing Schafskopf, a German card game, with little intention of winning any money, but just having fun, locating an awkward, homemade unicycle, then challenging Rod to learn to ride the unicycle with the reward of a new unicycle when he succeeded. After many falls and bruises, success. Rod informed Glenn in the morning that he rode the unicycle. He found a new, easy to ride, unicycle waiting for him when he came home from school. Rod rode unicycles with his sons in many parades.

Glenn was, at one time, mayor of Readlyn. He also owned a tavern in Readlyn which he named The Office. The tavern was located on the present site of Readlyn Savings Bank.

In my 91 years of being associated with Readlyn, I would nominate my friend, Glenn Witteburg, as the most interesting person I knew who resided in my hometown of Readlyn. Gus Ganske is runner-up. The article this month is a tribute to Glenn Wittenburg. Glenn was indeed a unique individual. I ask you, wouldn't this be a boring world if everyone was alike?



Shown above on the rig of a newty designed aprayer he worked set, is Gleen Wittenburg (right.) The aprayer is designed to cover about an acre of corn in eight or ten minutes,

With him is his helper, Shorty Their. The Master Equipment Co. of Denver hulls the machine.

—Democrat Stati Photo

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



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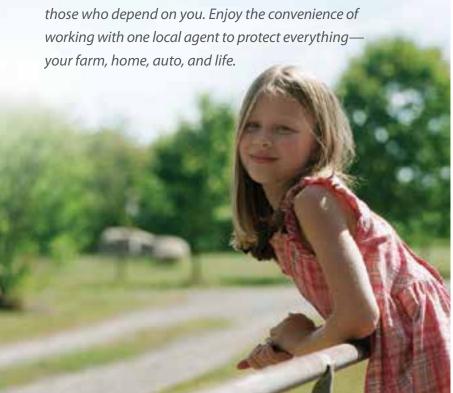


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## **Obituaries**



#### Lorraine Kohagen

Lorraine Kohagen, 89, of Waverly, Iowa passed away on Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at the Waverly Health Center in Waverly.

Lorraine Emelia Kohagen was born December 19, 1931, the daughter of Fred and Emma (Tiedt) Strempke in Jubilee, Iowa. She was baptized and confirmed at St. Mathew's Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Lorraine graduated from Readlyn High School. On October 29, 1950, she was united in marriage to George Rupert Kohagen at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Waverly. Lorraine was a devoted housewife and farmer all her life, retiring in 1993.

She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly. Lorraine enjoyed baking cookies, playing cards, traveling and Texas trips with friends. She especially enjoyed spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren and attending their activities.

Survivors are her daughter, Sharon (Mark) Traetow of Denver; son, Steve (Penny) Kohagen of Waverly; four grandchildren: Ashley Kohagen, Nathan Traetow, Matthew (Jen) Traetow and Michael (Jenny) Traetow; six great-grandchildren, Whitney, Luke, Jordan Traetow, Brayden, Carter and Emry Traetow; and three sisters, Jean Poock, Grace Branson and Mary Ann (Dave) Fauser. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, George, on September 29, 2018; brother, Don (Alma) Strempke and brother-in-law, Loren Geistfeld.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at 10:30 am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School in Waverly, Iowa with Pastor Arthur Bergren officiating. The funeral was live streamed on St. Paul's Lutheran Church you tube: https://youtu.be/WIN\_w8IYyZA.

Burial followed in St. John's Lutheran Cemetery – Crane Creek, rural Tripoli, Iowa. Visitation was held on Tuesday for 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly and an hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Kohagen family for a later designation and online condolences for Lorraine Kohagen may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home of Waverly, Iowa assisted the Kohagen family with arrangements.



#### Lois A. Ganske

Lois A. Ganske, 78, of Readlyn, Iowa passed away on Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at her home in Readlyn surrounded by her loving family.

Lois Arlene Ganske was born on February 9, 1943, the daughter of Theodore and Florence (Wehling) Kuker in Waverly, Iowa. She was baptized on March 7, 1943 and confirmed on April 14, 1957 both at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Lois graduated from Wapsie Valley High School in 1961. On December 10, 1961, she was united in marriage to Larry J. Ganske at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Readlyn. She was employed at Readlyn Savings Bank for 42 years, retiring in June of 2017.

She was a lifelong member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Lois enjoyed baking, playing cards, crocheting and flower gardening. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends. However, her greatest enjoyment was spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Survivors are her daughter, Julie (Joe) Regenold of Readlyn; son, Jake (Amy) Ganske of Swisher and Jennifer Schneiderman of Shell Rock; seven grandchildren, Levi (Kelsey) Balvanz, Lexi (Jacob) Balvanz, Landon (Katy) Balvanz, Derek (Rae) Regenold, Dustin (Heather) Regenold, Abby (Jarred) Edmonds and Zach Ganske; six great-grandchildren, Cadie Regenold, Harleigh Regenold, Hazel Regenold, Bella Balvanz, Aubree Jamieson and Kohen Edmonds; four sisters, Betty (Duane) Lines, Lavonne (Dave) Warner, Shirley (Ron) Schweer and Audrey (Steve) DeVries; sister-inlaw, Wanda Busch, and brother-in-law, Dale Thurm. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her husband, Larry, on March 29, 1998.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, June 5, 2021 at 1:30 pm at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Readlyn with Pastor Phil Girardin officiating. The funeral service was live streamed on St. Paul's Lutheran Church Facebook page. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Visitation was on Saturday from 9:00 am until 12 noon at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn and an hour prior to the service at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Memorials may be directed to the Ganske family for a later designation in her memory and online condolences for Lois can be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home of Readlyn assisted the Ganske family with arrangements.



#### Sandra Lee (Otto) Jerke

Sandra Lee (Otto) Jerke of Tacoma, Washington, passed away on Saturday, May 29, 2021, at Good Samaritan Hospital after suffering a massive brain aneurysm. In typical Sandra spirit, she was an organ do nor, and by Monday three families were celebrating the gift of organ transplants and extensions of life.

As Sandra was moved from her hospital room to the operating room on Monday morning, the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah played in the background while the wonderful staff at Good Samaritan lined the hallways for their ceremonial Honor Walk for organ donors. It was a beautiful way to honor and celebrate her life and the lives she has and will continue to touch!

It was Sandra's passion and joy to be a part of her community! She absolutely loved her family, friends, Trinity Lutheran Church, Pacific Lutheran University, Rotary Club, Rotary International, Peace Community Center, and her many financial advisory clients who became her extended family and friends.

"Sandy" was born to Herbert and Frieda Otto in Waverly, Iowa, on August 26, 1941. An Iowa farm girl she was! The sixth of six daughters along with one younger brother, Sandy preferred to be in the fields with the men rather than work in the kitchen with the women. By age 10, she was the go-to tractor driver when her father and uncles baled hay -- because "she could drive straight and keep the throttle steady." Sandy was very active in her youth with sports, church, dances, and music in rural Northeast Iowa. But music and singing were Sandy's real passion! Church choirs, school choirs, musical performances, solos, duets, and trios with her sisters were her joy.

Her talent with music led her to Concordia College in St. Paul, Minnesota ('61). It was there, in Concordia's acclaimed choir, that she met her soulmate, Donald Jerke. Sandy then completed her Bachelor of Arts degree from Concordia Teachers College, River Forest, Illinois, in 1963. Sandy and Don were married in 1964, and she began her teaching career at a Lutheran school while Don attended Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, Missouri. They welcomed their first child, Kristine, just months before taking Don's first call to become the Lutheran campus pastor at the University of Oregon and Associate Pastor at Grace Lutheran Church. While in Eugene, Sandy and Don welcomed their second child, David. Sandy stayed very busy raising two children, being the music director at Grace Lutheran Church, and completing her Master of Science degree from the University of Oregon.

In 1975, Sandy and her family moved to Tacoma, Washington, where Don became the Head Campus Minister at Pacific Lutheran University (PLU) and soon thereafter Vice President of Stu dent Life. Sandy was the full-time supportive wife and mother during these years. Jonathan joined the family in 1978, and she continued her involvement in music and education. Of note, following Sandy and Don's trip to China in 1976, she gave presentations and classes on China and international studies.

In 1981, Sandy's life was dramatically altered with Don's sudden death at age 39. Sandy found herself a single mother of a 14, 13, and 3-year old at an age and time when single mothers were not the norm. Sandy's Iowa roots and German heritage that relied on hard work and determina-

tion kicked in, driving her to quickly earn her administrator's credentials from PLU in an effort to provide for her family. With no local educational employment opportunities available and her unwillingness to further uproot her young family, this farm girl turned into a female pioneer as she embarked upon a career in the male-dominated world of personal finance and financial services. Transforming her character and personality from "Sandy" to "Sandra" through the years, she spent the last 36 years of her life utilizing her spirit as an educator to help innumerable families by providing counsel and financial guidance to navigate the complicated and often confusing world of personal finance, retirement planning, and actual retirement.

Faith and family were top priorities for Sandra. Throughout her life, she leaned on the Lord for guidance and strength, walking daily in the knowledge of her salvation in Christ. Sandra's pride and joy were her children and grandchildren. She was a ferocious "Mother Bear," supporter and cheerleader of their many and varied activities including sports, music, scouts, and academics. Additionally, she loved and valued her close relationships with her sisters and extended family which she maintained by phone and travels

Sandra was so energetic that everyone expected her to live to 100. She stayed active and engaged in her community, the world, and with her family to the very end. At the time of her passing at age 79, she was still a purpose-filled member of the Church Council and various committees at Trinity Lutheran. She also thoroughly enjoyed participating in the South Tacoma Rotary Club, where she served a term as president, made multiple trips with Rotary International to Ethiopia in support of eradicating polio, and traveled to Mexico where she regularly visited and supported an orphanage outside of Mazatlan. Throughout the years, she supported many local mission oriented, non-profit organizations such as Northwest Furniture Bank, Family Renewal Shelter, and Nourish Pierce County. Sandra was recently accepted to be on the board of the Peace Community Center, an organization she supported for many years, where she was excited to participate in the further development of justice and opportunities for youth in downtown Tacoma. Her support for education was evident in her service on the board of Trinity Lutheran College in Everett, Washington, as well as her four-decade support

Sandra loved to travel and experience the world including attending the Olympic games in Canada and Australia, watching tennis at Wimbledon in London, venturing on a safari in Uganda, traveling all around Europe and the USA, and being inspired by a visit to Jerusalem and the Holy Land. Additionally, Sandra enjoyed capturing the beauty of God's creation through photography.

Friends and family shared of Sandra: "Sandy was an inspiration for so many people, living her life with great optimism and zest. She modeled how to age with purpose and enthusiasm." "She had a gritty, seasoned character of one who suffered and was willing to suffer again for a friend." "She was the fun one who helped everybody out." "She was a fiery person who had strong beliefs."

Sandy was preceded in death by her husband, Donald Jerke, her parents Herbert and Frieda Otto, and sisters Beverly Bellile and Jeannete Wolff. She is survived by her three children: Kristine Lofton (husband Del), David Jerke, and Jonathan Jerke (wife Debra); two grandchildren, Zachary and Jacob Lofton; sisters, Marlys Minneart, Lavonne Horman and Dorothy Rundle; brother Jim Otto (wife Janet), and numerous nieces, nephews, and other extended family.

A memorial service was conducted on Saturday, June 12, 2021, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Parkland, Washington. Funeral arrangements were provided by Curnow Funeral Home of Sumner, Washington.

Memorial gifts may be directed to:

Pacific Lutheran University (a scholarship will be established in her name), Tacoma, WA 98447 (www.plu.edu/advancement)

Peace Community Center, 2106 S Cushman Ave, Tacoma, WA 98405 (peacecommunitycenter.org/giving)

Family Renewal Shelter, 6832 Pacific Ave, Tacoma, WA 98408 (www.domesticviolencehelp.org/donateneeds)



## Memorial Day message

Zion Lutheran Cemetery at Readlyn, Memorial Day 2021 Pastor Jean Rabary

Today, Americans across the country remember the brave men and women who gave their lives for the sake of freedom. Whether we observe the holiday with a parade, a service, a backyard barbecue with family and friends, or a moment of silence, we are gathered here to honor the fallen, reflect on their patriotic sacrifice, and inspire the young generation to not only live for the ideals of freedom, but also willing to die for it.

Since I am making a speech on the sacred history of this great nation, it is proper that I quote from one of its greatest warriors of World War II. Here is a memorable quotation from the five-star General Douglas MacArthur, ""No man is entitled to the blessings of freedom unless he be vigilant in its preservation."

General MacArthur spoke about "blessings of freedom" because his Christian education at "The Episcopal School of Texas" laid a spiritual foundation to value freedom as a precious gift from the God of all nations. Freedom is priceless, worth living for and worth dying for.

General MacArthur will turn in his grave if he sees the lawlessness in our big cities and the lack of political will to enact and enforce immigration laws that makes a nation sovereign in its geographical territory.

Dear American patriots, now is the

time to come together and be vigilant to preserve the "blessings of freedom." Our vigilance must be connected to a sense of common history and destiny that motivated the fallen and must inspire the young generation to walk in their footsteps.

We come here to remember the fallen that sacrificed for our freedom. We are doing so as a sacred and moral duty to know our history, the totality of our history, the whole history: the good, the bad, and the ugly. Historian Margaret MacMillan warns, "We can learn from history, but we can also deceive ourselves when we selectively take evidence from the past to justify what we have already made up our minds to do."

The fallen did not sacrifice their lives for black Americans, or White Americans, or Brown Americans, or Red Americans. No. The fallen sacrificed their lives for the United States of America made up of various ethnicities and their God-given beautiful skin colors.

The United States is at its best when its citizens come together and commit to treasure the ideals of freedom, be vigilant it its preservation, and willing to sacrifice on the journey to forge a better future. In closing, it is also our moral duty and a God-pleasing endeavor to actively support the families of the fallen they left behind among us, in our state, in our country. May the God of all nations bless the memory of the fallen and their families. May God bless the United States of America!

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### Wittenburg earns Innovation Scholarship from Alliant Energy

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (June 17, 2021) – A total of 25 students in Iowa and Wisconsin recently received \$1,000 Innovation Scholarships from Alliant Energy to recognize their outstanding community leadership and innovative problem solving. Recipients of the annual scholarships were selected using the following criteria:

- Essay that identified a problem in their community and presented an innovative solution using science, technology, engineering and/or math.
- Participation in a leadership role in community service activities and volunteer work.
  - Grade-point average.
- Standardized test scores.

Dallas Wittenburg of Readlyn, a Wapsie Valley High School graduate, was one of the students receiving the scholarship.

"We are proud to recognize these students for their outstanding community leadership and academic success," said Julie Bauer, manager of community affairs at Alliant Energy. "We wish all the students the best of luck with their future plans and goals."

Recipients must be age 24 or under and enrolling for the first time at an undergraduate school. They also must reside within Alliant Energy's service territory at the time of application and be a dependent child of a current Alliant Energy customer or a customer themselves.

More information on the Innovation Scholarships and a full list of scholarships offered by Alliant Energy can be found at alliantenergy.com/scholarships.



## Warrior Way & More



The Wapsie Valley CSD 2020-21 school year has drawn to a close with many highlights to this year. I would like to congratulate the forty-one seniors who graduated as the WV Class of 2021! Another beautiful Iowa day gave us a great backdrop for an outdoor ceremony that showcased this group of young adults. They have been a wonderful group to get to know the past two years and I am certain this group will be very successful in their areas of interest. Good luck, seniors!

The spring season included postseason competitions for our golf and track teams. Brody Blalock from the WV boy's golf team made an appearance in district-level play this year. The Warrior boys' and girls' track teams qualified for the state competition in numerous team and individual events at Drake Stadium this past month. Wapsie Valley returned with three state championships and several personal records, while running in some horrendous weather conditions. Congratulations to all who competed and a special shout-out to state champions Gunner Meyer (high jump), Trevor Sauerbrei (400 M), and the 800 meter sprint medley team of Dawson Schmit, Ethan Oltrogge, Holten Robinson, and Trevor Sauerbrei.

Thirty-one music/band students and chaperones took a seven-day guided trip to Nashville, Memphis, New Orleans, Graceland, the WWII Memorial, and other historic areas. This group performed in numerous locations during the course of this trip. Thank you to Miss Jones, Miss Redden, and chaperones who supported this trip for our students.

I would like to also give recognition to four staff retirees for this year. Coach and classroom teacher, Tony Foster, served our district for 40 years. Kristy Rigdon retired after 38 years of high school classroom instruction. Cheryl Kleitsch served our district with 33 years of elementary classroom instruction. Jodi Edwards retired from elementary-level service with 20 years. Good luck to all and thank you for your service to WVCSD.

We also have a group of staff leaving the school district that I would like to thank. Danielle Miller, Jen Waschek, Colleen Flaig, and Dana Harskamp are all venturing on to

new challenges. A special thank you to Mrs. Harskamp for her three years of administrative leadership that has strengthened our two elementaries and four rural buildings.

Planning for the 2021-22 school year (starting on August 23, 2021), has already begun with our Building Leadership Team. Summer school sessions have started in four of the district buildings. A Summer Food School Program allows us to distribute meals in the months of June and August to district families. Our plan is to return next school year in a full face-to-face situation with no virtual options provided by the school district. Let's hope that a "normal" school year is in front of us with the majority of the pandemic restrictions behind us.

Stay Warrior Strong and Safe, Dave Larson, Supt. - Wapsie Valley CSD

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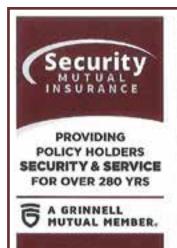
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## Readlyn City Council Minutes May 10 & 24, June 14

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, May 10, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. for Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00 p.m. for the Public Hearing on the FY20/21 Budget followed by the regular meeting. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Keith Brunscheon, Nicole Bames, Joey Jones, Rocco Imbrogno. Absent: Jason Franck. Others in attendance: Barney Wiersma

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to approve minutes from the April 12, 2021 council meeting. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to approve

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

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

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Imbrogno to

approve agenda as printed. All said yes. Motion carried.

Mayor Wedemeier opened the Public Hearing on the proposed FY20/21 Budget Amendment. Notice had been published in the *Waverly Newspapers* on April29, 2021. No written or oral objections were received. After all desiring to be heard, motion by Barnes and seconded by Imbrogno to close the public hearing. Roll call vote AYES: Barnes, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Imbrogno to

introduce Resolution No. 853 entitled "RESOLUTION AMENDING THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2021". Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 853 duly adopted.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to introduce Resolution No. 854 entitled "A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF READLYN IOWA AGREEING TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 INRCOG SAFETY PROGRAM". Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 854 duly

Council received an update on the recent Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation board meeting from council mem-

No report was available from the recent EBRRA board meeting.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve city insurance renewal with EMC Insurance Co. with a premium of \$44,856.00. Insurance policy is in effect from 4/1121 to 4/1/22. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Motion

New street banners on Main Street to be studied

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

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

ATTEST: Lois J Buhr, City Clerk

#### May 24, 2021

The Readlyn City Council met in special session on Monday, May 24, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Joey Jones, Nicole Barnes, Keith Brunscheon, Rocco Imbrogno, Jason Franck. Others in attendance: Dave Panos, Barrett Hubbard, Barney Wiersma, Austin

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

Shive-Hattery representatives, Dave Panos and Barrett Hubbard, discussed with the council the Main Street Project. Background and schedule for the project was

Motion by Jones and seconded by Barnes to approve purchase of new street banners from Print Transformations. Cost of the banners will be \$1,062.00 for 15 banners with an additional charge for the extra banners ordered. Roll call vote. AYES: Barnes, Franck, Brun-

scheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried. Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Dan Wedemeier Mayor

ATTEST: Lois J. Buhr, City Clerk

June 14, 2021
The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, June 14, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. for Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00 p.m. for the regular meeting. Mayor Wedemeier in the chair and the following named council members present: Keith Brunscheon, Nicole Barnes, Joey Jones, Rocco Imbrogno, Jason Aiello, Austin Matthias, Dave Panos, Jessica Anderson,

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve minutes from the May 10 and May 24, 2021

council meetings. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to approve Treasurer/clerk reports. All said yes. Motion car-

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

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

Dave Panos, representing Shive-Hattery reviewed with the council the proposed service agreement for the Main Street Project 2022. Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve Service Agreement with Shive-Hattery. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes. NAYS: None. Motion

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to approve cigarette/tobacco permit for the Kwik Trip, Inc, dba Kwik Star. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to in-

troduce Resolution No. 855 entitled
"RESOLUTION SETTING SALARIES FOR APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY
OF READLYN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022". Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Bames, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No 855 duly adopted.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Franck to introduce Resolution No. 856 entitled "RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS BUDGET YEAR 2020/2021". Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Barnes, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 856 duly adopted.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to set July 12, 2021 at 7:00PM for the Public Hearing on the Status of Funded Activities for the City of Readlyn CDBG Owner-Occupied Housing Rehabilitation Program. Roll call vote. AYES: Bames, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Franck to approve proposal from Northway Well & Pump Co. for well rehabilitation for the two city wells. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Bames. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Discussion on water treatment facility issues.

City will be shortening the splash pad hours from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM until further notice.

Discussion on possible ATV/UTV Ordinance. Council will have a work session on June 29 at 6:00 PM.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned

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

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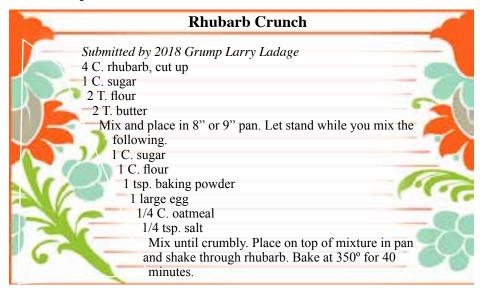
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Ambitious Readlyn Gardeners plant sylvia and million bells to replace the tulips and daffodils in the Welcome Garden. Shown are Sam Platte, Marlys Deterding, Connie Sauerbrei, Deb Sauerbrei, Ruth Wittenburg, Bonnie Erickson, Roger Deterding, and Doris Hagenow Members missing: Ruth Happel, Gene Thurm, Daniel Platte, Velda Hagenow Janet Ladage, Linda Baumgarten, and photographer Pat Wehr.

### Wapsie Valley Has Success At State FFA Convention

By Kali Lampe,, Chapter Reporter

April 18 through April 20, the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter took 27 members, 3 chaperones, and 1 FFA advisor to the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines for the 93rd FFA State Leadership Conference. These members competed in 15 various events and activities. We also had several members excel in their part down at state.

"One of the things I most enjoyed was getting to know and talk one-on-one with a national officer. I enjoyed the experiences so much that I want to go back next year," said Lily Schwickerath, one of our outstanding freshmen.

During our trip, we had an opportunity to meet with one of the national officers, Anna Mathis. She talked to people from our chapter about the opportunity she has gotten by being an officer. She also told us about how different our culture is in Iowa and how it is different from Arkansas. She also told us how she became a national officer. She asked a lot of questions about our FFA chapter. To thank her for agreeing to meet our chapter we took her out for a super at Jethro's, and gave her one of our chapter t-shirts. Meeting Anna was a great opportunity, and we are very grateful that she took time out of her busy schedule to come and meet our chapter.

The members that participated this year. were:

- Maggie Burgett, Emilee Blasberg, Deven DeGroote, and Kylee Bartze competed in the Biotechnology CDE and received a Silver
- Brody Stark, Ethan Oltrogge, Brok Grober, and Cannon Joerger competed in the Ag Team Sales CDE and received 9th Place Overall with a Gold
- Brody Stark was the Top Overall Individual Salesman for Ag Sales
- Kaylee Kleitsch, Dori Waschkat, Reese Peine, and Lily Schwickerath competed in the Poultry Judging CDE and received 3rd Place Overall with a Gold
- Kaylee Kleitsch was the 6th Place Overall Individual for poultry judging
- Austin Hesse, Elle Voy, and Caitlyn Rechkemmer competed in the Farm Business Management CDE and received a Bronze
- Kaylee Kleitsch competed in the Job Interview LDE and received a silver
- All members packaged meals with Meals From The Heartland where the Iowa FFA will send over 200,000 pounds of packaged meals to the less-fortunate
- All Wapsie Valley FFA members that attended State got to meet with the National FFA Secretary, Anna Mathis from



Left to right- Mr. Forsyth, Hunter Fuller, Brock Kleitsch, Joseph Ebaugh, Austin Hesse, Brody Kleitsch, Cannon Joerger, Brok Grober, and Nick Grober.

Arkansas, and hear her speak about gratitude

- Brock Kleitsch and Brody Kleitsch both received Silver in the Greenhand Quiz

- Kaliya Lampe, Matilda Miller, Reese Peine, Nick Grober, and Madyson Richards in Chapter Display Exhibit and received a Gold
  - Anna Richards was recognized for the

Teach Ag Signing Day

- Cole Neil, Courtney Schmitz, and Anna Richards were recognized for their top placing proficiency awards
- Our chapter was recognized for the WHO/Public Relations Award
- Wapsie Valley FFA was recognized for the National Chapter Award
- Kaylee Kleitsch accomplished making ballot and being a state officer candidate
- Iowa Degree Recipients: Hunter Fuller, Ellie Neil, Mary Bodensteiner, Sam Banger, Joseph Ebaugh, Maggie Burgett, Bridget Seemann
- Nick Grober participated in the Auditing Committee where he got to vote on the constitution and bylaws
- Mary Bodensteiner participated in the Program of Activities where the group discussed FFA events coming up in the near future.
- Mr. Forsyth was recognized on stage for being a Golden Owl Finalist Agricultural Teacher/FFA Advisor



Left to right- Anna Mathis, Kaylee Kleitsch, Nick Grober, Courtney Schmitz, Ethan Oltrogge, Mary Bodensteiner, Austin Hesse.



Deven DeGroote, Maggie Burgett, Kylee Bartze, and Emilee Blasberg.



Kaylee Kleitsch, Courtney Schmitz, and Mary Bodensteiner



### Minnow Races were a hit at Readlyn Grump Days!

Minnow Races were a great success Saturday at Readlyn Grump Days!!

val! The top finishers took home rod Live Bait and Tackle!

The Readlyn Outdoors second annual and reel combos along with tackle packs.

Each participant left with a tackle pack The overall winner was Lola Desti- thanks to Readlyn Outdoors and Hank's





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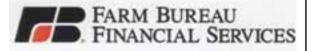
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## Grump Days returns full of events

After a 2 year hiatus, Grump Days was back! The theme this year was "Expect the Unexpected" and it sure was eventful!

Preparing for Grump Days requires a lot of planning and many volunteers. Setup took place on Thursday afternoon by the Wapsie Mat-Pac. The poker run was supposed to take place on Thursday night, but, in honor of our theme, a batch of weather warnings hit our area and forced us to cancel. We will be hosting this at another time this summer! We were able to host a movie night in the Readlyn Elementary; "Raya and the Last Dragon" was enjoyed by many.



**Pat Wehr** was honored as 2021 Readlyn Volunteer of the Year and rode in the Grump Days Parade with candy throwers Annie and Emma Wehr.

Friday the annual "Grumpsters" golf tournament took place at Maple Hills in Tripoli with a full day of fun for all. The beer tent opened at 4 pm and the Readlyn Bank served malts until 7 pm. All of the children enjoyed the pedal full in the park that began at 5 pm. Thank you, Wapsie Valley FFA!

At 6 pm, it was time to crown the Little Grumpsters. Gentry Ott, daughter of Chad and Lynn Ott, was crowned Little Miss Grumpster and Ryker Burgart, son of Rick and Merri Burgart, was crown Little Mr. Grumpster. There were two beautiful young ladies as candidates for Miss Readlyn. After a day full of interviews, Lydia Imbrogno was crowned 2021 Miss Readlyn and Jada Aiello was crowned runner-up. Congratulations to you all!

The "Old Grump" was selected a bit differently this year. The committee determined with the way the voting came in that it only made sense to crown both a grump! Marlys Deterding and Larry Sauerbrei were both announced as 2021 Grump! The shock and excitement for each other winning was enough to warm the heart! They both look forward to serving this year together!

The last event from the stage that was awarded was 2021 & 2020 volunteer of the year. Hailey Broten was crowned 2020 volunteer and Pat Wehr as 2021. Hailey has been president of the Community Club for the past two years and has been involved in many events. She was the brains behind many of the "COVID" events last year and made our community fun while in a pandemic. Pat has been sec-

retary for the Community Club for many years, member of the Garden Club and very active in Zion Lutheran Church. Pat is someone who does so many behind-thescenes things for the community and she always happy and ready to work! Thank you for all your contributions to Readlyn!

The pepper tournament took place in the gazebo Friday night which always brings out the card sharks in town! The Chocolate Crackers took the stage and continued to keep people dancing and singing until early morning. Fireworks took place at 10 pm and were an amazing sight to see.

Saturday morning arrived and it was time for a .1k. Yes, you read that right, .1k. Approximately 40 people took place in this intense event. Registration took place at the city park, where active participants received a cup and had to complete the brutal 324 foot venture to get to

## **Grump Days Pepper Tournament**

The Grump Days Pepper Tournament was held Friday night, June 18. There were 16 players. The winners and their scores are as follows:

1st Place - Charlie and Wilda Albrecht - 162

2nd Place - Grace Kuethe and Judy Henn - 149

3rd Place - Roger and Connie Buhr -146 4th Place - Joe Gordon and Mike Kolserud -123

It was a fun night. Thanks for playing. See you next year!

the Center Inn! Once at the Center Inn a glorious bloody Mary bar was awaiting them. Next came our signature parade, which contained many unexpected and awesome floats! The parade lasted nearly 45 minutes. The mayor of Denver and his wife, Rod and Theresa Diercks, were our judges this year. First Place: Readlyn Gardeners Club, Second Place: Wapsie Valley Schools, Third Place: Rainbow Clovers. Congratulations to all and thank you to those that participated. After the parade, the food stands opened, along with the beer tent, Kids in the Park and face painting began. Afternoon entertainment included Schafskopt Tournament, party in the park yard games, and bingo. Eric Johnston hosted a fun minnow race in the park, so much fun and love seeing the kids have fun! At 5:30 pm, Mitchell Boevers took to the stage to treat us to some music and ended his show with his father, Steve, with Piano Man.

The evening entertainment was the band GTP. Everyone enjoyed the music and played until nearly 1:30 am!

Sunday morning, Pastor Jean Rabary of St. Matthew and Zion conducted a worship service at 9 am with the sound of relaxing and sigh of relief rainfall!!

So 2021 Grump Days are in the past. We survived a pandemic and were able to put on a wonderful community celebration. We cannot begin to list all of the people that put in their hard work but want to thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Thank you for celebrating with us! Until next time ... but remember, "Expect the Unexpected!"

# Surprise! Two Grumps this year!

Friday night, June 18, a surprise announcement was made to crown Larry Sauerbrei AND Marlys Deterding 2021 Grump.

Larry was presented with a white fedora, only fitting for his style, and Marlys the signature white Grump hat.

Both have been lifelong residents of Readlyn and look forward to fulfilling a year of Grumpiness together!

Congratulations to you both and thank you for embracing this year's theme of "Expect the Unexpected!"



2021 Grumps—Marlys Deterding and Larry Sauerbrei



2021 Miss Readlyn Lydia Imbrogno and Runner-Up Jada Aiello.

### Lydia Imbrogno is new Miss Readlyn!

Lydia Imbrogno was gifted the crown from her sister and reigning Miss Readlyn, Grace, on Friday night, June 18. Lydia is the daughter of Rocco and Teresa Imbrogno, and will be a senior at Wapsie Valley this fall.

Lydia is active in volleyball, basketball,

golf and softball. She is a volunteer at St. Matthew's church and a youth basketball coach for Wapsie Valley. Lydia plans on attending Upper Iowa where she will play volleyball and complete her four year degree. Congratulations, Lydia, have a great year as Miss Readlyn!

### Community Foundations grant \$145,337 to local groups

The Bremer County Community Foundation and the Readlyn Community Fund announced \$145,337 in grant funding to 43 projects of organizations serving Bremer County communities as part of their 2021 grant cycles.

Grant checks will be mailed directly to the nonprofit organizations.

Grant recipient organization, project the grant will fund, and grant amount are listed below by funding areas. Those marked by an asterisk were funded by both the Bremer County Community Foundation and the Readlyn Community Fund. The Northeast Iowa Food Bank was funded by only the Readlyn Community Fund and the remaining projects were funded by only the Bremer County Community Foundation.

#### **Arts & Culture**

\*Bremer County Historical Society, Bremer County Cruise Through History, \$1,700

Wartburg Community Symphony Association, Wartburg Community Symphony Association (WCSA), \$1,000

Waverly Chamber Music Series, 2021-2022 Chamber Music Series, \$4,662

#### **Community Betterment**

City of Denver, Jefferson City Bike Trail Angle Broom Equipment, \$3,500 City of Denver, Library - Public Computers,

\$4,775

City of Janesville Generator for City Hal

City of Janesville, Generator for City Hall Building, \$5,000

City of Plainfield, City Hall - Expanded Accessibility, \$1,600

City of Plainfield, Library - Safety and Security System, \$2,000

\*City of Readlyn, Library - Rural Access to Additive Manufacturing (3D Printing), \$2,000

City of Sumner, Library - Outdoor Programming and Enhancement, \$5,000

City of Sumner, Park & Recreation - Community Greenspace to Enhance Downtown Revitalization, \$6,400

City of Tripoli, Fire Department - Fire Sta-

tion Concrete Project, \$6,000

City of Waverly, Park Division - Rolling Meadows Park Enhancement Project, \$2,200

City of Waverly, Public Works - Cedar River Park Youth Ball Diamonds & Inclusive Playground, \$9,000

Denver Volunteer Fire Association, Denver Fire Department Radio Funding, \$2,500

\*Readlyn Volunteer Firefighters Association, SCBA Air Pack Upgrade, \$12,000

Waverly Public Library Foundation, Waverly Public Library Bookmobile, \$5,000

#### **Education & Youth Development**

Boy Scouts of America - Winnebago Council, New Windows for Ingawanis Adventure Base Training Room, \$1,000

\*Community Lutheran School, Serving Students Through Social-Emotional Learning, \$5,000

Denver Soccer Club, Equipment for New Soccer Complex, \$2,500

Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois, Girl Scout Leadership Experience in Bremer County, \$1,000

St. Paul's Lutheran School, Future Ready Classrooms, \$4,000

Sumner-Fredericksburg Community Schools, Durant Elementary - Improve Playground for a Better Community, \$6,000

#### **Environment & Animal Welfare**

Bremer County, Conservation Board -North Woods Park Outdoor Nature Playscape, \$5,000

Bremer County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), Bremer County Stream Signage Project, \$1,615

#### Health

Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, Hospice Suite at Bartels, \$2,000

City of Denver, Ambulance Service - Getac V110 EMS Laptops, \$2,500

City of Frederika, Parks & Recreation - 125th Celebration Public Health, \$2,000

Denver Sunset Home, Dining Room and

Office Blinds, \$2,500

Friends of CMH Foundation, Community Memorial Hospital - Skytron Warming Cabinet, \$2,000

SEMS Ambulance, Refurbished ZOLL Defibrillators/Monitors, \$3,000

Senior Citizens Group of Waverly, Waverly Senior Center, \$2,154

Tripoli Nursing & Rehab, Replacement of Dining Room Windows, \$2,500

#### **Human Service**

Friends of the Family, Safe Shelter & Housing Stability, \$1,000

Iowa Legal Aid, Bremer County Family Stabilization Project, \$2,000

\*Lutheran Services in Iowa, Families Together of Bremer County, \$2,000

North Star Community Services, Providing Community Access, \$2,500

Northeast Iowa Community Action, Bremer County Family Services Food Pantry and Crisis Assistance Program, \$5,000

Northeast Iowa Food Bank, Feeding Families, \$2,621

Peace United Church of Christ, Peace Community Meal Program, \$2,000

Riverview Center, Crisis Response Program, \$5,000

The Larrabee Center, Technology Support for Employment Support Services/Admin,

\$2,610

\*Waverly-Shell Rock Area United Way, Warm Wishes, \$1,500

Decisions on grant awards are determined by local committees which consists of volunteers from Bremer County communities. Bremer County Community Foundation committee members include: Madeleine Ambrose (chair), Lois Buhr, Kristi Demuth, Deb Hanson, Joanne Jones, Jane Juchums, Steve Main, Brian Pins, Tab Ray, Stacie Schroeder, Judi Tripolino and Robert Whitney. Readlyn Community Fund committee members include: Sharon Davis, Jaci Hogan, Jill Krall, Amy Sheppard (chair) and Kyle Shores.

Grants are awarded through a competitive grant process to projects in the program areas of: arts and culture, community betterment, education and youth development, environment and animal welfare, health, and human service. Grant applicants must be a 501(c)(3) designated organization or government entity serving Bremer County in order to be considered for funding. The 2021 grant cycle opens January 1, 2022, with an application deadline of March 31, 2022. The grant guidelines and application will be posted prior to the cycle opening at www.bremerccf.org or www.readlyncf.org.



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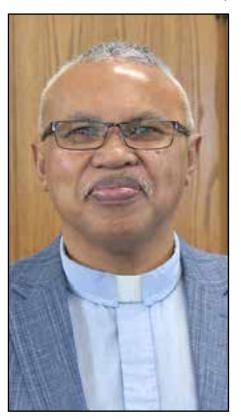


## Pastor Rabary's journey: Part 2

Part 1 illustrated the beginning of Pastor Jean Rabary's winding journey to become a minister.

It began with his first epiphany of three sequential dreams; a Christian lady who interpreted dreams pronounced that he would someday become a minister. It concluded with God's mysterious intervention regarding the birth of his son, Jonathan.

Jonathan's cardiologist said he needed a long-term treatment. Since Jonathan was a US born citizen, they could petition the Immigration and Naturalization in Lincoln, NE so the whole family



Pastor Jean Rabary

could legally stay in the US. The Lutheran World Federation who sponsored Pastor's scholarship for his MA Degree in Telecommunications understood and suggested Pastor consider Theological study. That theological training would benefit the Lutheran Communication Center, that Pastor was originally meant to manage. God really works in mysterious ways!

#### 1992-1995

Due to Jonathan's need for continued medical care in Iowa City, Pastor decided to attend the Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, where he earned his Masters of Divinity Degree in Theology in December of 1995.

#### June 2, 1996 Beardstown, IL:

Ordination into the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at First Lutheran Church. August 1996-2001 Pastor was the solo pastor at Immanuel Lutheran in Earlville, IA and Trinity of Dyersville, IA.

The family moved to Manchester in 2001. He was the associate pastor at First Lutheran in Manchester from 2001-2014.

During that time, 2002-2006, the church sponsored Pastor's Doctor of Ministry degree at the University of Dubuque, which he successfully completed in 2006.

#### 2004 to 2008

The family started the process of becoming citizens and Bishop Ullestad of the NEIS was instrumental at the early stage. The church in Manchester was a tremendous help in paying the immigration processing fees and the lawyers' legal fees for Pastor, Angeline, and Lalaina to become US citizens. What the Lord did through his people in Manchester was beyond Pastor's imagination. The Lord is good indeed!

#### 2014

Pastor felt that he had reached a plateau at the church in Manchester. He and his family moved to Rantoul, IL near Champaign, IL and he was the Associate Pastor there for 11 months. It was a lesson learned as a conflict of personality developed with the Senior Pastor in the church there. The Holy Spirit directed Pastor to walk away.

#### 2015-2017

He was Pastor of New Life Church of Allison, lived in Cedar Rapids and commuted. At this small church, the Lord taught him to value each individual member and to experience God's love through His little flock.

#### August 2017

Pastor received a call from Zion and St. Matthew in Readlyn. He was elated that Jesus opened the door for him to serve the congregations. The bottom line is God's People Worshiping Christ and having a daily faith walk with Him through life.

#### **Present:**

Pastor, as so many other pastors, has led the churches through a toxic 2020 season. By God's grace in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit empowered Pastor and church leaders to thrive through a pan-

demic by leading worship, conducting funerals, baptizing, and teaching the Word while safely navigating through a politically-charged environment. Pastor thinks that he is still a "Pastor-in-themaking," journeying with God's people in Readlyn.

Your brothers and sisters in Christ at Zion and St. Matthew thank you for your willingness to give of yourself and be used where God has placed you.

Best wishes on your 25th Ordination Anniversary.

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July 28
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Thursday,
July 15
at 5 PM



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#### St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Divine Parish Worship at St. Matthews 10:00 a.m. Sunday School starting Oct. 11 9:15-9:45 a.m. Martha Circle. 1st Wednesday of month



#### St. Paul Lutheran Church

Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM

120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Pastor Philip Giradin Worship 8:30 AM



#### **Zion Lutheran Church**

240 Elmer Ave., Readlyn, IA 50668 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor (319) 279-3643 Sunday Worship Service 8 a.m. Sunday School 9 a.m. Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m. Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.

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