

Light Pole Decorating Contest comes to Readlyn

Sponsored by Readlyn Community Club

There is still time to use your creativity to help decorate Main Street for Christmas.

Sign up for the Light Pole Decorating Contest at Readlyn City Hall, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., or email cityhall-readlyn@rtc279.com.

Decorate poles from now until 12 noon, November 29, just in time for Santa's annual visit to the community; decorations must be removed by January 10.

Each Readlyn Community Club member can cast one vote for their favorite light pole decorations from November 30 - December 7.

Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top three winners on December 13. First place will be awarded \$75; \$50 for second place; and \$30 for the third place winner.

Enter this decorating contest today and dress up Readlyn's Main Street for Christmas!



Double Your Impact: Help Build the Future of Readlyn Emergency Services

The Readlyn Emergency Services Building project is gaining incredible momentum—and we're thrilled to announce a powerful opportunity to double your impact!

Thanks to the generosity of RTC Communications, every business donation made to the Readlyn Emergency Services Building will be matched dollar for dollar from now until January 1, 2026. That means your contribution goes twice as far in supporting this vital community initiative. As a registered 501(c)(3), all donations are tax-deductible and directly support the construction and sustainability of our new emergency services facility.

We're proud to share that we're approaching the half-million-dollar mark in total funds raised—a testament to the strength and generosity of our community. Every dollar brings us closer to a safer, more prepared Readlyn.

Gratitude to Our Donors

We extend heartfelt thanks to the many individuals, families, businesses, and organizations who have already contributed. Your support is making a lasting difference.

Recent donors include:

- In Memory of Lola Vest
- In Memory of Jim Schneider
- Cub Scouts Pack 101
- Readlyn Savings Bank
- Bart Brothers Construction
- Denver Drug
- Denver Insurance Agency
- Northeast Security Bank
- Don's Truck Sales
- Todd & Jessi Block
- In Memory of Don Heineman
- In Memory of Kenneth Piehl
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- Del's Auto Repair
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- Hesse's D-H Farm
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- Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes
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- Dennis & Lynn Kuker
- Benjamin Witte
- Barry & Karin McElhose
- Terry Kalenske
- Scott Schmidt
- Steve & Gail Rathe
- Jeff & Judy Schutte
- Rex & Barb Blaylock

Your contributions are building more than just a facility—you're building a legacy of safety, service, and community pride.

How You Can Help

Let's push past the half-million milestone together and make this vision a reality. To donate or learn more, please contact Scott Broten: 319-240-5704.

Together, we're building a stronger Readlyn—brick by brick, dollar by dollar.

Santa will be here Saturday!

Santa Claus is coming to town from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m. this Saturday, November 29.

Since Santa had such a good time last



Wren Kuhlmann enjoyed her visit with Santa Claus last year!

year, s/he requested that we once again include these events:

- Treat bags furnished by the present and former Grumps.
- Hot chocolate donated by John and Wendy Galyean and Ron and Judy Leistikow.
- S'mores professionally toasted and donated by Readlyn's firemen.
- Lighting of the Christmas tree in the City Park at 5:30 p.m. before the parade; music will be provided by the Wapsie Valley Choir.
- Parade at 6:00 p.m.; line-up along 4th Street starting at Readlyn Elementary by 5:45. Theme: Griswold Christmas
- Ham giveaway: Go to the TruServe location after the parade. Must be present and respond immediately to claim your ham or another name will be drawn.
- Fireworks will follow the ham drawing.
- Boxes will be available to collect nonperishable items, hats, and mittens for the Oran Food Bank.
- Free-will donations appreciated.

It will be an excellent way to culminate your Thanksgiving!

Sweet Treats Needed for Our Free Community Christmas Meal!

Wapsie Valley FCCLA is partnering with Immaculate Conception Church in Fairbank to host a free Christmas meal for our community on **Sunday, December 14th | 5:00-7:00 PM**

Through a generous donation from the Deb and Jeff Hansen Foundation, this event will help support hunger relief across our rural Iowa community—and we would love your help to make it extra special!

We are seeking dessert donations from community and church members. Homemade or store-bought desserts of all kinds are welcome!

Please drop off desserts by Sunday, December 14th, by 4:00 PM
Immaculate Conception Parish Hall, Fairbank



Donation to RESB

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

1) Mail to: RESB PO 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

Grump's Grumblings

By Mary Lou Ungs, 2025 Grump



October went by so fast! In September, we welcomed a baby girl, Anaya Jade Singh, to the family. She is the daughter of my niece, Leslie, and granddaughter to my brother, Bob.

Then, in October, we had a wedding and welcomed Joy, new wife of Aaron, my brother Jeff's new daughter-in-law.

The last new member also came in October, Ryan Julius, son of my niece, Kaitlin Christian Ungs, and grandson of my brother, Kelly. It was a wonderful month!

As Grump, I also got to help judge the

costume contest at Grumptoberfest. The food was great and the costumes were fantastic. Handing out Halloween treats was also lots of fun. I was surprised and happy to see all the decorations for Halloween -- maybe Thanksgiving will have some decorations too!! Let's not forget to be thankful for all that we have.

I look forward to seeing the awesome Christmas decorations. Please show up for all the town events, from decorating the park to the light parade and Santa and fireworks! Lots of exciting things happening. Don't forget to be a part!!



Miss Readlyn Comments

By Kylie Strottmann

Hello, Readlyn Community!

During October and into November, I've been keeping busy with work and nannying. While it definitely fills up my schedule, I always make time for what I love most, dancing! As I mentioned before, I hosted a dance camp to bring together youth members and share my passion for dance. I'm happy to share that a portion of the proceeds was donated to the Readlyn Community Club to help support Kids in the Park next year. Along with that, I was able to give a portion to the

Church, thanking them for letting me use their space. It was such a rewarding way to give back to our amazing community!

My favorite time of year is right around the corner, and I can't wait to spend the holidays with my family. I'm especially excited to represent the town of Readlyn during Christmas on Main! I'll be helping out with Santa and handing out hot chocolate, and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone come together to celebrate the season. Be sure to stop by, there will be lots of fun activities for all ages!

College News

Martins Elected to Membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

Lydia Martins of Fairbank, Iowa, was recently elected to membership into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society, at Oklahoma State University.

Martins is among approximately 20,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter.

Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also

qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 and now has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and its territories. Its mission is to "cultivate a community that celebrates and advances the love of learning."

Upper Iowa University announces Summer Dean's List

FAYETTE, IA (10/21/2025)-- Upper Iowa University has announced the Dean's List for the 2025 Summer Semester. To be honored, a student must have earned a minimum 3.50 grade point average and be enrolled as a full-time student.

Blayde Bellis of Fairbank was named to the list.

Tom Power honored for his service



Tom Power

On Saturday, November 15, the IEMS (Iowa Emergency Medical Services), at their convention in Des Moines, had a ceremony entitled "Honoring Our Own." This ceremony included any EMS or Fire Department member that has passed away in the last year.

Tom Power was among those who were honored. He passed away June 2, 2025.

Tom was an EMT-B serving on the Readlyn ambulance crew for many years. He was also an associate member for Tripoli, Sumner and Denver. Tom was also a CPR/First Aid instructor for the American Heart Association for many years. He loved helping people in need.

**Send news items and ads to the
Readlyn Chronicle at
readlynchronicle@gmail.com**

**Deadline for the December 31 Readlyn
Chronicle is Thurs., Dec. 18 at 5 p.m.**

Happy Holidays

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Farmers Co-op
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Readlyn Community Happenings

Readlyn Senior Citizens meet October 15 at Panther Lanes in Tripoli, Iowa

Readlyn Senior Citizens Meeting October 15, 2025

Eighteen members attended the 11:30 a.m. Senior Citizen's lunch and meeting at the Tripoli Panther Lanes in Tripoli, IA.

The birthday celebrated for the month of October was our one-and-only waitress, Sharon Funk. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to her and signed a card to give her. There was not an anniversary celebrated for the month of October.

We all signed and mailed a get-well card to Marylou Billhorn as she had knee surgery and is doing therapy.

Don Heineman is home now and having therapy at home. Update and our deepest sympathy to this family. Don passed away Tuesday, October 28, 2025.

Secretary Lois Thacher read the minutes from September 17, 2025. Marlys Deterding made a motion to approve the minutes as read and seconded by Judy Leistikow. Motion carried.

Treasurer Charlie Albrecht stated the balance in the account after expenses was \$207.00. Roger Deterding made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Wil-da Albrecht seconded it. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

October 16, 2025, will be the Annual October Fest at the Poor Farm. Tickets are still on sale today, Oct. 15, from Charlie Albrecht or Ron Leistikow. The tickets are \$20.00 per person for a fabulous German meal and the entertainment.

Zion Lutheran Church's Fall Dinner is October 26 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. with

a free-will donation and a quilt raffle. Come enjoy the great food. Dine-in or Drive-thru.

NEW BUSINESS:

November 2, 2025 will be St. Matthew fall dinner serving from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Adults \$15.00, ages 5 To 10, \$10.00, ages 4 and under, free. Dine-in or carryout available. Come and enjoy the delicious food.

November 12 at 3:30 p.m. at the Readlyn Community Library, the Readlyn Historical Society is partnering with the Library on this event. Author Linda McCann will be speaking about the memories of the Cedar Valley Railroad. The Readlyn Historical Society buildings will be open following the event.

November 26, 2025, the Grumps will

be packing sacks for the Christmas in Readlyn event. More details to follow on the Christmas event.

It was voted to give \$100.00 to the Wapsie Valley Education Foundation.

The next Senior Citizens meeting will be November 19, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. at the Panther Lanes in Tripoli IA.

Larry Ladage made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Doris Hagenow seconded it. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

We played bingo after our meal and meeting. The winners of bingo are the following, not in any order: Doris Hagenow, Mary Chapin, Janet Ladage, Marlys Deterding, Judy Henn.

Lois Thacher, Secretary
Come join the fun!



Next Pepper Tourney is December 6

The pepper tournament was held at Grumpy's on Saturday, November 1. There were 10 players participating with prizes awarded to the following winners:

- 1st: Roger and Connie Buhr - 186
- 2nd: Ron and Judy Leistikow - 183
- 3rd: Grace Kuethe and Barb Meyer - 153
- 4th: Suzy Heineman and Shirley Kuker - 139

The next tournament will be held on Saturday, December 6 at 1:00 p.m. at the Readlyn library (use rear entrance). Bring a partner. Entry fee is \$3.00.



JOIN US FOR OUR

ENTER THE
RAFFLE FOR A
CHANCE TO
WIN A HAM

TEDDY
BEAR
RAFFLE FOR
THE KIDDOS
TO WIN

Christmas
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DECEMBER | 17 | 9:00AM-3:00PM

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DECEMBER 31- CLOSE AT NOON
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Readlyn Community Library

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Beth Kingdon, Director



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Marty & Kristi Marticoff

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an appointment

HOURS

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

It's almost here! The Readlyn Library's
annual

COOKIE WALK & BAKE SALE

SAT. DEC 13, 9 AM-12 PM

Free Will Donation!



We will also be offering a beautiful decorative quilt
Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Tickets go on sale
December 1 and we will draw a winner on Dec. 17. The
quilt can be seen at the library during open hours,
and will be displayed at the Cookie Walk. Proceeds
will be used for our Summer Reading Program.



DO YOU HAVE A
PROGRAM
OR DISPLAY IDEA
FOR THE LIBRARY?
LET US KNOW!

Do you want to help support the library this coming holiday
season? We can always use items like paper plates and cups,
disposable utensils, paper towels, disinfecting wipes,
disposable tablecloths for art projects, and Keurig coffee pods.

Prefer to make a monetary donation? All donations are tax-
deductible and go to library programming. If you wish to
sponsor a specific program or event, visit with us for more
information.

Readlyn Community Club finalizes Christmas event plans

RCC Meeting October 23, 2025, 7:00 p.m., @ library

Present: John Gaylean, Kristie Boise, Dustin Palmer, Ed Harrington, Michelle Harrington, Tiffany Matthias, Bonnie Wittenburg, Marge Quigley, and Louie Hartman.

The meeting was called to order by Michelle at 7:05 p.m.

Secretary Report: Motion to approve: Tiffany Matthias, second, Ed Harrington; carried.

Treasurer Report: Motion to approve: Ed Harrington, second, John Gaylean; carried.

Old Business

Cans are slowing down but process is going well. Gazebo basketball hoops are complete. Thank you, Ed, Ron and John. We question if the tennis net can be taken down if users want to use the full court.

Gazebo

Ron Hartman met with Jason Harris/ Crane Creek Construction at the gazebo. Jason will prepare an estimate for the needed work.

Craig Hesse is willing to cut out wood skaters if we can find a pattern.

Time has run out to get this project completed for this year. Preliminary budget is \$1000 which may include lights. It was agreed that we may need to use some of these funds for repairs to existing decorations and lights.

Picnic in the Park

It was agreed that September is a very busy month for everyone.

Those attending this year's picnic enjoyed it, but the crowd was small.

Other options will be considered for the 2026 annual dinner, including moving it back to the winter.

New Business

Past members who did not renew membership: Two renewed.

Decorate the park for Christmas: Monday, November 17, 5:30 p.m., meet at the shed to organize and repair decorations.

Thursday, November 20, 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., decorate the park with the help of elementary 5th and 6th graders.

Christmas light pole decorating contest:

Decorating instructions: Sign up at Readlyn City Hall, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., or email cityhallreadlyn@rtc279.com.

Decorate November 15 – Noon, November 29; remove decorations by January 10.

Each RCC member can cast one vote November 30 - December 7.

Monetary prizes - 1st, \$75; 2nd, \$50; 3rd, \$30 - will be awarded to the top three winners December 13.

Michelle will talk to Barney/Austin about turning on power.

Plug lights in while decorating, then unplug when done.

All power will go on before Nov. 29.

Santa Visit @ Fire Station Nov. 29, 2025, 3-6 p.m.

Decorate the fire hall: 10:00 a.m., Saturday, Nov 29.

Fireworks are booked. Louie will confirm with Flashing Thunder.

Ham Giveaway

Go to the TruServe location after the parade. Approximately 6:15 p.m. Must be present and respond immediately to claim yours or another name will be drawn.

Bonnie will check prices to determine how many hams can be purchased with a budget of \$300.

Fire Department is donating s'mores.

Santa's hours: 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

RCC makes cocoa. Louie will get cups and napkins. Kristie will check Kwik Trip's cost of cookies.

Non-perishable food, hats and mittens will be collected for the Oran Food Bank. John will clean the kindness cart and move it to the shed. Boxes will be decorated for the donations instead of moving the cart to the station.

Parade theme:

"Griswold Christmas"

Line up at the elementary school and down 4th Street.

Jess Anderson will light the tree in the

City Park at 5:30 p.m.

Parade starts between 5:45 and 6:00 p.m. depending on tree lighting.

Do we need to announce parade floats? Unless there is a list, it is hard to see who's coming, and hard for Jess to get a list.

RCC float for Santa

Ask Ron to dress like Cousin Eddie and drive.

Ed will get the float ready and then help with the sound system.

Ron will get the float in line, and we'll get Santa to the float.

Advertisement: Tiffany will work on this. Ads will need to say, "you must be there to pick up ham immediately."

Grumps will do gift bags: Meeting 10:00 a.m., Nov. 26 at the library.

Michelle will contact music teacher to see what the choir wants to do.

Next meeting: Monday, November 17, 5:30 p.m. at the shed.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. Motion: Ed; seconded, Bonnie; carried.

The Family of Don Heineman would like to thank everyone for the prayers, support, kind words, cards, and memorials during our time of sorrow.

Thank you to Pastor Rabary for his visits, prayers, support and beautiful service. Thank you to Readlyn and Denver EMS during our family's time of need and the comfort and care you gave our Dad/Husband.

A special thank you to Zion Ruth Circle for their help in the kitchen and the making of wonderful desserts and salads for the luncheon.

A sincere thank you to Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home and Hospice Care for their help and services as well.

Joyce Heineman

Janell & Charlie Levendusky and Family

Jeff Heineman and Family

Deann & Troy Ambrosy and Family

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May the best hand win (and it did)!

Written by Trent Pavelec

In this article I would like to expand on the overall value of card games and the sense of togetherness that sitting down with a small gathering of people can have on a person's physical and mental well-being.

It was a normal Monday morning this past summer and I woke early so I would be able to spend a few hours with my uncle, Mike Harms, and play the great game of Schafkopf at the Legion Hall in Sumner, IA. I have always enjoyed this classic card game and there was a distinction to the air where I knew it was going to be a great morning. I performed my morning duties somewhat earlier than usual with my typical morning stretching, and feeding and walking my family's extremely ambitious dogs, Louis and Pepper. They are quite the pair of pups and always eager to go for a stroll in our hometown of Frederika, IA. Once they returned home, it was off to pick up my uncle and make our cruise to Sumner.

Usually we would talk about the small things and catch up. This particular morning is fondly



remembered because there was a single stalk of corn growing by the stop sign in Mike and Mary's front yard. It was unclear how it had gotten there, but, hopefully, it was a sign of good things to come.

Early on, the day was going good with your usual wins and losses, but I was getting lucky at the right time when buck round was about to start. It came and the first hand was an original straight game but, since it was buck round, the payouts were doubled. The second hand came and that's when the magic happened. The six cards dealt to me were the king of spades, the king of clubs, 9 and king of diamonds, the jack of hearts, and the queen of diamonds. The bidding came and I was the third player. My opponents were Leon Nicklaus, who passed, Wayne Meyer who also passed, myself, bidding a nelly, and the fourth player was my uncle, Mike Harms, who also passed. (I should emphasize that when I say "passed," I mean the card game and not that they passed away.) With the nelly bid, I was going for zero tricks. The crazy part was, with the cards that were dealt, I would receive double the money for buck round, double again for having four trump, and double again with a queen, although, if I were to lose, I would have to pay that amount also, but I wasn't too worried about it.

The hand began and the lead

was a 9 of hearts so I threw my king of spades because I didn't have to follow suit. The next lead was the 9 of spades and I played my king of clubs because I didn't have to follow suit again. The third series was upon us and the lead was a 9 of clubs and Leon stuck it with a jack of spades allowing me to slide under with the jack of hearts. Leon was on the lead and he played a 10 of diamonds which was trump and Wayne followed with a big queen, because he was trump tight and had to go big, so I was able to play my queen which was just below Wayne's and the cards were sitting just right. The nice thing was that since I escaped those cards I had the two lowest trump cards and Leon had two higher so I won.

This was an improbable hand and it could've been disastrous for me but that's life and we don't know what will happen and all we can do is try. I am very blessed to be able to play this game and to enjoy the company of some truly great people. We all are in this world for a very short time and there are moments where we can all shine and those moments are easier to grasp and happen more often when we do the little things correctly. This is evidenced by just playing a fun game and conversing with great people, but you need to put in the effort. On that note, I am finishing this piece and hopefully you have enjoyed this article.

Bremer Co. Fair Tuff Truck results

Results are listed as name and time.

Cooper Eschen 326 - 19.87
Cael Rezicka 319- 20.09
Austin Trimble 304 - 20.12
Andy Barber 302 - 20.69 '97 Chevy
Justin Guillian 318 - 20.69
Dillon Hanlon 317 - 20.81
Hunter Ackerman 328 - 21.0
Corey Schroeder 327 - 21.69
Jaxen Mohlis 305 - 21.72
Carter Finke 308 - 21.72
Kaleb Rindels 322 - 22.22
Landyn Backstorm 303 - 22.41
Abigail Murphy 329 - 22.53
Dallas Wittenburg 311 - 23.1
David Jones 321 - 23.56
Andrew Busch 332 - 23.59

Colton Bergmann 314 - 23.91
Elliot Erhardt 315 - 24.59
Quinn Thorseon 307 - 24.65
Cole Ohm 323 - 24.78
Zane Weiss 301- 25.53 Chevy Silverado
Brandon Ackerman 320 - 28.03
Kinnick Gordon 325 - 30.19
Mike Peyton 331 - 31.06
Shawn Noling 334 - 17.63
Levi Schuld 312 - DQ
Wyatt Boulon 316 - DQ
Wyatt Ohm 324 - DQ
Tate Schneider 310 - NT
Garry Haley 306 - NT
Brady Barber 309 - NT
Bradic Woodman 313 - NT
Austin Schiever 330 - NT

Bremer Co. Fair Dairy Cattle

Results are listed as exhibitor name, club, department division, and class ribbons.

Eliza Baskett, B-Square, Dairy Cattle Summer Yearling 21304: Jersey Blue
Makenna Boevers, Sumner Goal Getters, Dairy Cattle Winter Yearling 21502: Guernsey Blue
Makenna Boevers, Sumner Goal Getters, Dairy Cattle Senior Yearling 21601: Brown Swiss Blue
Braxton Dietz, Polk Hustlers, Dairy Cattle Intermediate Calf 21103: Holstein Blue
Braxton Dietz, Polk Hustlers, Dairy Cattle Summer Yearling 21300: Ayrshire Blue
Braxton Dietz, Polk Hustlers, Dairy Cattle Junior Calf 21003: Holstein Blue
Braxton Dietz, Polk Hustlers, Dairy Cattle Senior Calf 21203: Holstein Blue
Isabel Drew, Sumner Goal Getters, Dairy Cattle Senior Calf 21203: Guernsey Blue
Isabel Drew, Sumner Goal Getters, Dairy Cattle Winter Yearling 21504: Jersey Blue
Cody Koepke, Jefferson Superiors, Dairy Cattle Junior Yearling 21404: Jersey Blue
Cody Koepke, Jefferson Superiors, Dairy Cattle Winter Yearling 21504: Jersey Blue
Cody Koepke, Jefferson Superiors, Dairy Cattle Intermediate Calf 21104: Jersey Blue
Cody Koepke, Jefferson Superiors, Dairy Cattle Summer Yearling 21304: Jersey Blue
Regan Pries, Townline, Dairy Cattle Junior Calf 21004: Jersey Blue
Brooklyn Schaedig, B-Square, Dairy Cattle Junior Calf 21003: Holstein Blue
Whitney Schaedig, B-Square, Dairy Cattle Intermediate Calf 21103: Holstein Blue
Nora Schares, Wapsie Valley FFA, Dairy Cattle Junior Calf 21003: Holstein Blue
Nora Schares, Wapsie Valley FFA, Dairy Cattle Junior Calf 21003: Holstein Blue
Andy Britt, Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA, Dairy Cattle Summer Yearling 21303: Holstein Blue
Andy Britt, Sumner-Fredericksburg FFA, Dairy Cattle Senior Calf 21203: Holstein Blue

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jaschenlaw@outlook.com
(319) 553-3400

Obituaries

Arlo John Pipho

Arlo John Pipho, age 85, of rural Tripoli, Iowa, died Monday, November 10, 2025, at Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo, Iowa

Arlo was born on March 7, 1940, in Maxfield Township, Bremer County, Iowa, the son of Herman and Viola (Peters) Pipho. He was raised in rural Tripoli and graduated from Readlyn High School in 1958. Arlo then served in the United States Marine Corps Reserves from 1959 until being honorably discharged in 1965.

On August 7, 1960, Arlo was united in marriage to Patricia Abbas at St. John Lutheran Church in Frederika, Iowa. Arlo farmed the family farm his entire life and also worked for John Deere in Waterloo for 30 years.

Arlo was a member of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Readlyn and Acker-Matthias American Legion in Denver, Iowa. He enjoyed his Dalmatian dogs and taking them on "walks" with his Polaris Ranger to check the Wapsie River level. He also enjoyed listening to polka music, attending tractor pulls, fishing, deer hunting, and

spending time with friends in his "man cave." He was a member of the PTO Antique Tractor Club and enjoyed working on and restoring his Ford tractors.

Arlo's memory is honored by his four children, Scott (Maria) Pipho of Duluth, GA; Stuart (Janna) Pipho of Little Rock, AR; Robyn (Donald) Ryan of Waverly, IA; and Ranae (Gabe) Sandholm of Minneapolis, MN. He is also survived by his ten grandchildren, Mark Pipho, Gleb Pipho, Keith Pipho, Alyssa (Justin) Selby, Kent (Heidi) Pipho, Brittney (Justin) Gaede, Katelin (Chris) Corson, Abby (Zach) Arthur, Quade (Maggie) Ryan, Josiah (Destiny) Ryan, and Sully Sandholm; and nine great-grandchildren, Austin, Arlowe, Penelope, Liam, Amara, Freya, Avery, Tristan, and Brileigh. Arlo was preceded in death by his parents and, most recently, by his wife, Patricia, on November 11, 2020.

Visitation was held on Thursday, November 20, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Readlyn from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. and one hour prior to the service on Friday. Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 21, at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Arlo will then be cremated.

Memorials may be directed to Arlo's family for later designation and online condolences may be left at www.kaiser-corson.com.

Donald Dale Heineman

Donald Dale Heineman, 84, of Readlyn, Iowa passed away peacefully on October 28, 2025, while in the comfort of his home, surrounded by his loving family.

Don was born on September 8, 1941, to Edwin and Erna (Thoms) Heineman on the family farm near Oran, Iowa in Bremer County.

Donald was confirmed at St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Oran by Pastor Eric Dornbush. He married the love of his life, Joyce Hartman on September 23, 1962, at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn by Pastor Elmer Jacobs.

Don attended country school until 6th grade then attended Oran High School. He graduated in 1959 from Oran-Fairbank High School. He then attended a trade school to become an auto technician and worked for General Motors for 45 years. He continued to farm after retiring as a mechanic in 2007. He was also a local seed salesman and retired from farming in 2016. He was a long-time member of Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn, where he served as a trustee, deacon and president over the years.

Don played baseball and softball on Readlyn teams for many years. He was an avid Iowa Hawkeye and Chicago Cubs fan. He enjoyed attending grandchildren's and great-grandchildren's events, fishing, gardening, farming, and traveling with

Joyce to Europe, Hawaii and throughout the United States.

Don is survived by his wife, Joyce, of 63 years; two daughters and one son, Janell (Charlie) Levendusky of Oklahoma, Jeff Heineman of Cedar Rapids and Deann (Troy) Ambrosy of Waterloo; seven grandchildren, Joshua (Lauren), Brian (Taylor) and Troy (Mariah) Levendusky all of Oklahoma City, Kyle (Elizabeth) Heineman of Shellsburg, Iowa, Kory (Sara) Heineman of Center Point, Iowa and Lauren (Kirk) Moser of Garber, Iowa; and eight great-grandchildren, Jackson, Rosalie, Valerie, Izabella and Ariella Heineman, Tate and Tyce Moser and Olivia Levendusky.

Don was preceded in death by a grandson, Klay Heineman; his parents, Edwin and Erna Heineman; his in-laws, Harvey and Elviera Hartman; three brothers, Duane, Harlan, and Jim Heineman; one sister-in-law, Joan Heineman, and two brothers-in-law, Darrell Hartman and Gary Kerns.

Visitation was held from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, October 31, 2025, at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn and continued for one hour prior to the service on Saturday at the church. A funeral service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 1, 2025, at Zion Lutheran Church with Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary officiating. Burial was in Zion Lutheran Cemetery, Readlyn. Memorials may be directed to the Readlyn EMT/First Responders, Readlyn Library, or Zion Lutheran Church.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home, Readlyn, assisted the family.

4th grader collecting toys for local kids

This holiday season, Grace Begley wants to do something special! She's learning that the true magic of Christmas is giving, so she's hosting her very own Toy Drive for local kids' hospitals.

Grace is a 4th grade student at Wapsie Valley Elementary School, Grace says, "I hope to make the kids smile when they open a new toy, book, or puzzle that they can take home when they feel better."

Every toy donated will be given to children in area hospitals over the holidays and handed out to those spending the holiday season in hospitals.

How To Help:

- * Donate new toys, books, puzzles, stuffed animals, LEGOs, playdough, coloring books and crayons.
- * Drop off at local businesses starting November where you see the flyer attached below. We will be setting out boxes wrapped in area businesses so you can donate in that location.
- * Grace will be taking donations until Sunday, December 7. Every toy counts and we are so appreciative of every donation we receive this year. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Send news to: ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com

MEDICARE QUESTIONS?

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"Currently I represent 9 organizations which offer 52 products in your area. You can always contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Programs for help with plan choices."

Cedar Valley Road presentation enjoyed at the Readlyn Library



Author Linda McCann

On November 12, 2025, author Linda McCann presented a program at the Readlyn Community Library in partnership with the Readlyn Historical Society on the Cedar Valley Road.

The Cedar Valley Road was an electric line of the Waterloo, Cedar Falls, and Northern Railway that began as a street-car in Waterloo, and grew to cover Cedar Falls, then extended to Waverly and Cedar Rapids with a spur from Waverly to Sumner.

From its humble start in the late 1800s, it began primarily as a clean, quick method of passenger transport in an era where

roads were often in poor condition and travel largely limited to horses and buggy or foot traffic. The line enabled residents of rural communities to easily connect to larger towns for work, shopping, or to transfer to railroad access anywhere in the country.

As the service expanded and automobile travel became the primary mode of transport, the company began to include and later to focus more and more on freight. This enabled the Cedar Valley Road to survive until the late 1950s.

McCann had some interesting tidbits about the service that she shared during the event. During its early days, area landowners were usually happy to have the trolley build track across their land be-

cause it not only meant convenient transport for their families and goods, but also meant their properties would have electricity sooner; a real boon, especially to those with herds of milk cows!

The Cedar Valley Road was one of the few trolley services allowed to continue during WWI and WWII largely due to the need to ship war materials manufactured by John Deere. Students at Wartburg and other area colleges enjoyed the line to get to classes as it was cheaper than car or bus travel; even schoolkids would use the service, as the line would stop for anyone along the tracks, not only at the station. A class trip to Waterloo or Cedar Falls was also possible using the rail service—with far less cost and hassle than coordinating a bus!

After World War II, tastes changed, roads improved, and more Americans preferred driving cars to taking trains and interurban trolleys. The Cedar Valley Road closed in 1958. Much of the original line is now used for bike trails, and some of the original depots are still maintained along the trails. Gilbertville Depot is one such example.

Several people attending the program had memories of their own to share about riding the Cedar Valley Road, whether to go to college or just for a family outing to Black's Tea Room in Waterloo or to visit relatives in Waverly. If you'd like to learn more about the Cedar Valley Road, the Readlyn Library has copies of all of Linda McCann's books available.



An interurban car in Cedar Rapids

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WHY CANNED FRUITS, VEGETABLES, AND SOUPS ARE RATIONED

Every week we are sending shiploads of canned goods to feed our fighting men and our fighting allies in Africa, Britain, and the Pacific islands. We must see that they get all the food they need.

We at home will share all that is left. Point Rationing will be used to guarantee you and everyone a fair share of America's supply of canned and processed fruits and vegetables, soups and juices.

-HOW they are rationed

1. Every eligible man, woman, child, and baby in the United States is being given War Ration Book Two. (This book will not be used for sugar or coffee.)



2. The BLUE stamps are for any kind of
Canned or Bottled Fruits and Vegetables
Canned or Bottled Juices and Soups
Frozen Fruits and Vegetables
Dried Fruits

(The red stamps will be used later for most.)



3. The stamps in this book are POINT stamps. The NUMBER on each stamp shows you how many POINTS that stamp is worth.

4. The LETTERS show you WHEN to use the stamps. The year will be divided into rationing periods. You can use all BLUE stamps marked A, B, and C in the first rationing period. A, B, and C stamps cannot be used after the first rationing period ends.



5. You must use the BLUE stamps when you buy ANY KIND of the rationed processed foods. See the official list, showing every kind of rationed processed food, at your grocer. Different kinds of these foods will take different numbers of points. For example, a can of beans may take a different number of points from a can of peas.



5. Of course, the more of anything you buy the more points it will take. For example, a large can of peas takes more points than a small can.

7. The Government will set the points for each kind and size and send out an Official Table of Point Values which your grocer must put up where you can see it. The Government will keep careful watch of the supply of these processed foods and make changes in point values from time to time, probably not often more than once a month. The Government will announce these changes when it makes them and they will be put up in the stores.
- 



- 1. The number of points for each kind of processed food will be THE SAME, in ALL STORES and in all parts of the country.**

This instruction sheet was sent out to citizens in January 1943 by the U.S. Office of Price Administration, Washington, D.C. At that time, the United States had been involved in WWII for around two years and the fighting men and U.S. allies received first choice of canned foods. The remainder was rationed out to citizens at home.

What's Cooking?

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

Pumpkin with Pudding Dump Cake

Submitted by Robin Harms - This is a family favorite!

- 1 box (4-serving size) Jell-O™ vanilla instant pudding & pie filling mix
1 1/2 cup milk or 1 can (12 oz) evaporated milk
1 box Betty Crocker™ Super Moist™ yellow cake mix
1/2 cup pumpkin (not pumpkin pie mix), from 15-oz can
2 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice

1. Heat oven to 350°F. Spray bottom and sides of 13x9-inch pan with cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, beat pudding mix and milk with whisk about 2 minutes or until thickened. Stir in cake mix, pumpkin and pumpkin pie spice until well mixed. Spread batter evenly in pan (mixture will be thick).

3. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until a toothpick inserted in the center of the cake comes out almost clean. After your cake has cooled, top it with canned cream cheese frosting or use this delicious cream cheese frosting recipe.

Basic Cream Cheese Frosting

- 8 ounces cream cheese**
½ cup butter, softened
2 teaspoons vanilla extract
4 cups confectioners' sugar

Beat cream cheese, softened butter, and vanilla together in a large bowl with an electric mixer until light and creamy.

Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth.

Frost your cooled cake and enjoy! Happy Thanksgiving!

Happy
Thanksgiving Day





FREE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14TH, 2025
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

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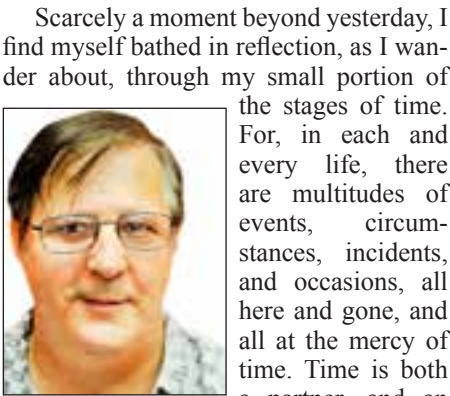
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SPECIAL MEAL TO OUR COMMUNITY. LET'S COME
TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE EVERY FAMILY CAN ENJOY A
WARM MEAL AND THE JOY OF THE SEASON!

Wasn't it Yesterday? *There Was A Time*



By J.D. Francis

Scarcely a moment beyond yesterday, I find myself bathed in reflection, as I wander about, through my small portion of the stages of time. For, in each and every life, there are multitudes of events, circumstances, incidents, and occasions, all here and gone, and all at the mercy of time. Time is both a partner, and an opponent, a close friend, or a worst enemy. It's an unconquered Master of sorts, a Captain of its own changing moods that can appear, or disappear, at the slightest of whim or calling notion. Not one person can deny using the saying, "there was a time," because in all honesty, there was a time.

There was a time in our lives, when we didn't have to say goodbye. There was a time when a school year summer break lasted for years. There was a time when Santa Claus was as real as the milk and cookies we left on the fireplace. There was a time when we really were "kids in a candy store." There was a time when a child didn't know the meaning of hatred. There was a time when a kid could ride

their bicycle across town without the fear of abduction. There was a time when love was as blind as the gatekeeper inside the vacant, highway toll booth. There was a time when a song could fill the empty spaces and you'd dance before the music even played.

Virtually everything changes during our borrowed time in this life. There was a time when you didn't have to make believe in make-believe. There was a time when all was taken at face value, with blind trust. There was a time when war was a game of cards. There was a time when time didn't remind us of all that we've lost in this life. There was a time when a memory didn't melt away into a bouquet of long-gone decades. There was a time when you never looked behind and only looked ahead. There was a time when there was everything to gain and nothing to lose. There was a time when it was possible to push away the sad and lonely. There was a time when you could walk on air from a simple wink or smile. There was a time when time didn't happen so fast.

Going back through all of those years, it hits me "hard and cold," there was a time when...there was time.

jdfrantpaint@msn.com

Send news to:
readlynchronicle@gmail.com



Happy Holidays

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Becky South
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Readlyn City Council Meetings - October 13 and November 10, 2025

October 13, 2025

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, October 13, 2025 at 6:45 PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00 PM for the regular meeting. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Wedemeier. The following council members were present: Nicole Barnes, Keith Brunscheon, Jason Franck (arrived at 7:07 PM), Rocco Imbrogno and Joey Jones. Absent: None. Others in attendance included: Steve Aiello, Barney Wiersma and Kris McGrane.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to approve minutes from the September 8, 2025 council meeting. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

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

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

Aiello provided the police report to the council. Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to approve the police report. All said yes. Motion carried.

Wiersma provided the water, sewer, streets and electric departments reports to the council. He then provided an update on the parks department. Frank arrived during the report at 7:07 PM. Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Imbrogno to approve the public works reports. All said yes, Motion carried.

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

Tammy Thurm was present and advised the council on the water leak that took place at 446 E 3rd Street and to request a possible refund/credit on wastewater charges. After discussion, no action by the council was taken.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Brunscheon to adopt Resolution 2025-13, updating the rules of procedure governing the conduct of business of the city council. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried. This resolution included changing the regularly scheduled city council meetings to be held on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 PM, at Readlyn City Hall, 307 Main Street, Readlyn, Iowa. If a holiday falls on the same date as a regularly scheduled meeting, the council meeting will take place the following evening at the same time.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to set a public hearing for Monday, November 10, at 6PM at Readlyn city hall, for amending the Building Code in the code of ordinances of the city of Readlyn, Iowa. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Barnes to approve the city clerk to attend the MuniLaw 101 Workshop. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Brunscheon to approve the city clerk to attend the Iowa League of Cities Budget Workshop. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Franck to approve the Wellmark renewal for employee health insurance. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Barnes to adopt Resolution 2015-17, approving an electric vendor agreement between the city of Readlyn, Iowa, and Northeast Iowa Community Action Corporation to administer the fiscal year 2026 Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

No action was taken to go into closed session.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Jones to adopt Resolution 2025-14, approving second amended and restated agreement to establish the Iowa Public Power Agency. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Jones to adopt Resolution 2025-15, approving the Joint Development Agreement and payment of initial payment required therein. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

No action was taken on Resolution 2025-16.

Correspondence – the mayor advised the public works employees will be assisting the garbage truck this week as one of their employees is taking time off.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Franck to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 PM.

November 10, 2025

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, November 10, 2025 at 5:45 PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 6:00 PM for the regular meeting. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Pro-tem Nicole Barnes. The following council members were present: Nicole Barnes, Jason Franck and Rocco Imbrogno. Absent: Dan Wedemeier, Joey Jones and Keith Brunscheon. Others in attendance included: Steve Aiello, Barney Wiersma and Kris McGrane.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Imbrogno to approve consent agenda items, which included the council meeting minutes from 10/13/2025, the claims list from 10/14/2025 to 11/10/2025, the October 2025 reports (Budget, Treasurer's & Financial), the Annual Urban Renewal Report and the FY2025 Annual Finance Report. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Barnes to approve the agenda as presented. All said yes. Motion carried.

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

Barnes 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 6:25 PM. There were no written or verbal comments. Barnes closed the public hearing at 6:27 PM.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Imbrogno to approve the first 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 #2025-16, FY2025 Annual Street Finance Report. Roll call, all said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Barnes and seconded by Franck to schedule a public hearing on Monday, December 8, 2025, at 6PM for the second reading of the adoption of Ordinance #365, an ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 156 entitled Building Code.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Imbrogno to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Deadline for the December 31 Chronicle is Thurs., Dec. 18 at 5 p.m.

Send news items and ads to the *Readlyn Chronicle* at readlynchronicle@gmail.com



happy holidays

RTC Communications
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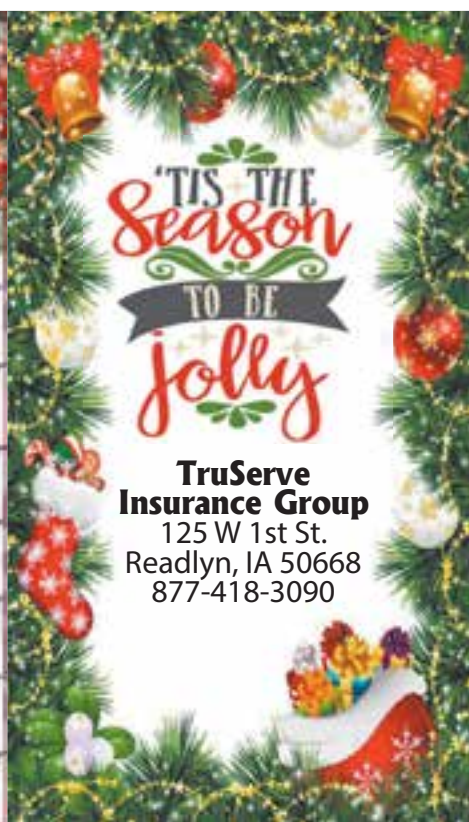
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Merry CHRISTMAS

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“Financial Fitness”

WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

One of the only times you hear someone receive a wad of cash and say “I wish I didn’t have to take this” is when they receive their RMD or Required Minimum Distribution. If you are in your early 70s and have a chunk of tax deferred investments, you probably know exactly what I am talking about.

For everyone else, let’s address what an RMD is, why it exists, and what your options are at (and before) RMD age.

What is an RMD?

A required minimum distribution or RMD is the minimum annual withdrawal you must take from certain tax-deferred retirement accounts, such as traditional IRAs and 401(k)s, once you reach a specific age. The purpose is to ensure the IRS collects taxes on the funds, which are taxed as ordinary income upon withdrawal.

Why are you forced to receive a distribution?

The reason you are “forced” to execute the withdrawals is because as you saved your earnings, the taxes were deducted in the year you invested and the taxes on the principal and growth were deferred to the future. Now the government wants to collect!

What can I do with the cash?

There are many ways to execute this distribution. The government doesn’t care what you do with the assets, so long as they are distributed from the accounts

- Receive the assets directly (via a recurring payment like a paycheck or in lump sum distributions at the timing of your choosing)
- Journal the assets to a brokerage account to keep them invested
- Donate some or all of the distribution via a qualified charitable distribution to offset the amount of taxes owed.
 - Your local Fire Department
 - Your local Education Foundation
 - The Boys and Girls Club
 - Local food bank(s)
 - Anywhere you feel compelled



Is there anything you can do to help minimize tax implications?

Here are the current age brackets for the RMD as you turn “of age”:

- For those born in 1951–1959, the RMD age is 73
- For those born in 1960 or later, it’s 75.
- Previously, the RMD age was 70½ for those born before 1949 and 72 for those born between July 1, 1949, and December 31, 1950

Whether you are in current RMD years or still have a long time to worry about them, there is a lot you can do to help gain control of your distribution timing. Your RMD is calculated based on your age, your spouse’s age, and the value of your tax deferred account as of December 31 of the prior year.

Roth conversions are very popular - when you convert tax deferred assets to tax free assets, you pay the taxes now but then have complete tax-free ownership and control for the rest of your life. After 59 ½, you can begin journaling or transferring assets by distributing them from the IRA, if you can absorb the taxes, and keep the assets invested while lowering your RMD implications in the future. You might also just elect to begin a weekly or monthly distribution as an income so it lowers the overall amount of your tax-deferred assets before you turn RMD age. Lots of options are available.

If this information dump makes you feel paralyzed with indecision, you may want to run through a Financial Planning session with a trusted advisor to make sure you are making the best choices for you, your taxes, your income streams, and your legacy! As always, we can help!

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

Financial Advisor
Prime Capital Financial
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
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(319) 269-7143

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ISU Extension and Outreach to host 2025 Crops and Conservation Update Dec. 3

Bremer County farmers, landowners, and community members will have an opportunity to review the 2025 cropping season and hear the latest conservation and nutrient management findings during a public meeting on Wednesday, December 3, from 1–2 p.m. at the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach–Bremer County office in Tripoli (Hwy 93 West).

The event is free and open to the public, featuring several speakers who will share research updates from various fields and streams across northeast Iowa.

Nolen Lyness, Iowa Corn Representa-

tative for Northeast Iowa, will provide an overview of corn commodity issues and current market trends. ISU Extension Agronomist Terry Basol of Waverly will discuss the past season’s crop conditions and key factors that influenced yields throughout the region.

Sharing updates from the 260-acre Northeast Iowa Research Farm in Nashua will be Farm Manager Ken Pecinovski. Bremer County Extension’s Ron Lenth

will present the 2025 water quality findings, including stream monitoring data and bioreactor performance related to tile nitrate reductions. Lenth will also share residual soil nitrate test results gathered from 13 area farms and more than 50 sampled fields.

For additional information regarding the Crops and Conservation, contact the ISU Extension and Outreach–Bremer County office at 319-882-4275.

Upcoming Events

November

Now-11/29/25 Downtown Light Pole Decorating

11/29/25 Readlyn Christmas Celebration/Christmas Market/BBQ Food Truck; 3-5 p.m. Santa Claus @ Readlyn Fire Station, 109 Main St.; Treat bags, hot chocolate & smores; 4-6 p.m. Christmas Market @Rosebud Occasions, 314 Main St., Crafts, antiques, hot chocolate bar & photo booth w/Grinch; Christmas Vendor Fair on Main in Readlyn; 4-8 p.m. Old Town BBQ Food Truck @Downtown, Main Street; 6 p.m.; Readlyn Christmas Parade, "Main Street Goes Griswold" (inspired by *National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation*); Following Parade - Christmas Tree

Lighting/Wapsie Valley Choir Performs; Fireworks

December

12/8/25 @ 6 p.m. Readlyn City Council meeting @Readlyn City Hall, 307 Main St.

12/13/25 @ 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cookie Walk & Bake Sale @Readlyn Community Library, 309 Main Street, free-will donation

12/24/25-12/26/25 Readlyn City Hall will be closed

January

1/1/26 Readlyn City Hall will be closed

1/10/26 Downtown Light Pole decorations must be removed by this date

1/12/26 @ 6 p.m. Readlyn City Council meeting @Readlyn City Hall, 307 Main St.

Santa Claus is coming to town this Saturday, November 29!



DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!

RTC Communication has opted to match all contributions to the Readlyn Emergency Services Building from a business DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR from now until 1/1/2026. Take advantage of this opportunity to support our 501c3 and double your donation!

1


+

1

=


2

Your Dollar

 Dollar

Twice the Impact for RESB




Contact Scott Broten: (319) 240-5704 for information on how to contribute




Winter Blood Drive

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2026

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

 American Red Cross  

SCHEDULE YOUR APPT



COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS

What A Beautiful Name

Celebrate the birth of Jesus with an evening filled with joyful music and scripture presented by the preschool through eighth grade students!



Wednesday, Dec. 17, 2025
6:30 PM

COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL
KLINGER GYM
2681 QUAIL AVE
READLYN, IA

Wapsie Valley School Board - Oct. 20, 2025

**Wapsie Valley CSD
Regular School Board Mtg Minutes
October 20, 2025**

Pledge of Allegiance

1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:30PM.

A. Directors: Aiello, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Declared a quorum. Auel, Kaufman (excused)

B. Administration: Supt. Hoover, Secretary Arndt, & Principals Forsyth, Myers, & Murphy

C. Others Present: Virtual Participants

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

3. Public Comment-None

4. Consent Items-Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the consent items including the bills being reviewed by Aiello and open enrollments: William & Trisha Kress requests to open enroll their daughter to WV from East Buchanan with the Superintendents agreeing on approval due to filing after the deadline. 90 day ineligibility period is not waived. Brianna Freitag request to open enroll her TK son to Denver from WV, & Jade Gienau request to open enroll her Kindergarten daughter to Denver from WV effective the 25-26 school year. Motion carried 3-0.

5. Board-None

Superintendent-Report included Board Policies, & ISL information.

District/Principals-Report included Parent/Teacher Conferences, Homecoming Activities, Professional Development, Fire prevention, Parent Teacher Organization, District Career Academic Planning, Service Learning Day, Center for Advanced Professional Studies, & Activity Updates.

6. Resignations-Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the resignations of Wyatt Forsyth-JH Wrestling Coach, Casey O'Donnell-JH Boy's Basketball, & Valerie Westphal-Temporary Lead Cook as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Contracts-Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the following contracts, & Volunteer: Valerie Westphal-\$14.43 Lead Cook-Caitlin McElhose, \$1,640.00-Wrestling Cheerleading Coach-Base 1/Year 2, McKowen, Marty, \$5,172.00-Head Boy's Basketball-Base 5/Year 42, Schutte,

John, \$3,387.00-Asst Boys Basketball-Base 4/Year 15, Casey O'Donnell, \$2,952.00-JV Boys Basketball-Base 1/Year 1, Blayde Bellis, \$2,952.00-JV Boys Basketball-Base 1/Year 1, Tim Kelly, \$4,592.00-Head Girls Basketball-Base 1/Year 1, Michael Gruetzmacher, \$2,952.00-JV/Asst. Girls Basketball-Base 1/Year 0, Nicole Barnes, \$2,952.00, Assistant Girls Basketball-Base 1/Year 1, Logan Flack, \$2,132.00-JH Boys Basketball-Base 1/Year 1, Reagan Barnes-\$2,132.00-JH Girls Basketball-Base 1/Year 0, Steph Davie, \$2,132.00-JH Girls Basketball-Base 1/Year 2, Brian Krall, \$4,592.00-Head Wrestling Base 1/Year 3, Easton Krall, \$2,952.00-Asst Wrestling-Base 1/Year 0, Beau Sorenson, \$3,097.00-Asst Wrestling-Base 2/Year 5, John Kleistch, \$2,132.00, JH Boys Wrestling-Base 1/Year 0, Gunner Rodgers, \$2,132.00-JH Girls Wrestling-Base 1/Year 1 & Sara Strottmann-FFA Volunteer as presented. Motion carried 3-0

7. New Business-Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the following board policies- 103, 103R1, 505.08, 505.08R1, 506.01, 506.01E1, 506.01E2, 506.01E3, 506.01E4, 506.01E5, 506.01E6, 506.01E7, 506.01E8, 506.01R1, 506.02, 506.02E1, 506.02R1, 506.04 and the entire 400 series as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve FY 25-Certified Annual Report, Special Education Supplement, & Transportation Report presented by Arndt. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the Limited English Proficient allowable growth cost of \$17,265.49 as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the 25-26 early retirement packages for Certified and Classified staff accepting up to 5 applicants from each group as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the sharing of HS Girls Wrestling with Sumner Fredericksburg (\$500) for the 25-26 season as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the sharing of Boys Swimming with Waterloo West CSD for the 25-26 season as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the increase wage of \$8.50 per hour to \$9.00 per hour for Rural German instructors as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to set two public hearing dates, the first date of November 19, 2025 to consider the resolution for the Instructional Support Levy, and the second date of December 15, 2025 to adopt The resolution to participate in the Instructional Support Levy Resolutions as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve sharing Dance with Oelwein CSD for the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 3-0

8. Board Talking Points-Things are going well at both Fairbank & Readlyn elementaries. Conducting an interview for the before and after school program

9. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to adjourn at 6:52PM. Motion carried 3-0

AGVANTAGE FS \$4,967.51 AHLERS & COONEY, P.C. \$110.00 ALLIANT ENERGY \$195.84 Amazon \$3,141.15 APLINGTON-PARKERSBURG \$800.00 Apple Inc \$299.99 ARNOLD MOTOR \$315.88 AUDIBLE \$16.00 BEACHY, RACHEL \$96.01 BISHOP, TIMOTHY \$1,300.00 BLACK HAWK SPRINKLERS \$375.00 BLACK HILLS ENERGY \$89.46 BUTLER COUNTY REC \$5,084.30 CB INNOVATIONS \$2,131.12 CENTRAL IA DIST. \$545.00 Central Rivers AEA \$253.29 CHEMSEARCH \$235.36 CITY LAUNDRY \$1,782.67 CITY OF FAIRBANK \$7,036.52 CITY OF READLYN \$2,564.32 COLUMN SOFTWARE \$188.37 COMMUNITY PLAYTHINGS \$210.00 CY & CHARLEY'S \$385.70 DELTAMATH SOLUTIONS \$350.00 DPT OF INSPCTS, APLS & LCNSNG \$80.00 DON'S TRUCK \$155.00 EAST-CENTRAL IA REC \$791.67 Employee Benefit Systems \$77,622.51 FCCLA \$45.00 Farmers Cooperative Company \$66.95 Hawkeye Alarm & Signal Company \$142.50 HELPING HANDS RPR \$187.88 HER-SHBERGER, MARY BETH \$65.88 HILLYARD/DES MOINES \$1,948.06 INDEED \$929.97 IA Council for Teachers of Mathematics \$480.00 IA Dept of Natural Resources \$115.00 IA REGIONAL UTILITIES \$375.69 JOHNSTONE SUPPLY \$642.76 KAY L. CHAPMAN, CPA PC \$5,333.37 Keystone AEA \$1,682.51 KLUESNER SANITATION \$640.00 LAKESHORE \$73.95 LARRY'S SRVC & RPR \$160.00 LIBRARY STORE, THE \$98.25 LITTLE WAPSIE COMMUNICATIONS \$175.08 Lowes \$835.55 MCGRAW-HILL \$2,141.76 Menards \$408.20 MERCYONE \$220.00 MILLER, CATHERINE \$21.25 MODERN BUILDING \$940.90 NASCO \$105.72 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$161.00 ORKIN PEST CONTROL \$178.76 PRIMARY SYSTEMS \$571.06 RABER, EDNA \$65.88 RAINBOW RESOURCE \$12.45 RAISA A HALLELUJAH, LLC \$1,400.00 READLYN TELEPHONE \$225.69 SAI \$225.00 SAM'S CLUB \$245.46 SCHOOL BUS SALES \$921.32 SCHOOL DATE BOOKS \$804.95 SCHOOL SPECIALTY \$2,517.61 SHERATON \$452.48 SULLIVAN, HEATHER \$78.40 SUPERIOR WELDING \$488.12 TAG \$1,200.00 TAYLOR PHYSICAL THERAPY \$5,180.00 Thrift Books \$1.49 TIMBERLINE \$475.00 UBIQUITI STORE \$6.00 Walmart \$515.19 WEBSTRAUNT

STORE \$385.87 WEEDS ON FIRE \$12,577.50 YOUNG PLUMBING & HEATING \$6,175.00 General Total \$168,962.15 Employee Benefit Systems \$7,021.24 Management Total \$7,021.24 Hawkeye Alarm \$45,252.00 MARTIN GARDNER \$3,363.70 PRIMARY SYSTEMS \$52,045.00 STEEGE CONSTRUCTION \$27,265.30 SAVE Total \$127,926.00 ACCESS SYSTEMS \$1,569.00 Amazon \$616.16 Central Rivers AEA \$7,650.19 EPIC FURNITURE & INSTALL \$4,559.84 GIGFIRE \$70.00 KENWORTHY, STOREY \$471.85 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE \$100.00 STICKFORT ELECTRIC \$1,785.00 WILSON RESTAURANT \$3,237.93 YOUNG PLUMBING & HEATING \$952.33 PPEL Total \$21,012.30 Walmart \$37.70 Coffee Cart Total \$37.70 Amazon \$1,171.58 DEMCO \$1,555.21 WVEF Total \$2,726.79 Amazon \$88.32 J.W. PEPPER \$288.59 Gallup Trust Total \$376.91 Amazon \$580.90 ATLANTIC COCA-COLA \$221.58 BERGMANN, KELBY \$95.00 BISHOP, TIMOTHY \$1,300.00 BRADY, BO \$150.00 BRODBECK, DENNIS \$150.00 CASEY'S \$75.06 CENTRAL CSD \$75.00 Central Rivers AEA \$243.00 CHIDESTER, STEVE \$185.00 College of Engineering, U of I \$275.00 COLO-NESCO CSD \$70.00 CONCORD THEATRICALS \$2,969.77 DENVER CSD \$180.00 DERLEIN SCALE \$285.00 DEUTMEYER, DEAN \$95.00 DIKE-NEW HARTFORD CSD \$130.00 ELITE SPORTS \$140.00 FCCLA \$151.00 FONTENOT, JOE \$150.00 Frake, Tim \$150.00 FRANZEN, TONI \$165.00 GLEN SNYDER \$275.00 GRUNDY CENTER CSD \$120.00 HALVERSON, JASON \$150.00 HESSE, KENNETT \$770.00 HI-POD STORE \$525.73 HOWIES ATHLETIC TAPE \$960.48 Hutschenreuter, Hunter \$60.00 IHSMITA \$105.00 INDEPENDENCE CSD \$60.00 IABASKETBALL COACHES ASSN. \$146.90 IAFCCCLA \$375.00 IA FFA ASSOCIATION \$1,343.00 IGHSAU \$185.00 IA SPORTS SUPPLY \$804.00 ISU \$100.00 Jacobs, Justin \$90.00 JACOBSON, MIKE \$150.00 JESUP CSD \$116.00 JOHNSON, DOUG \$165.00 KUKER, BRENT \$165.00 KURTZ, CHRISTA \$135.00 LAKE, BRAD \$150.00 LECHTENBERG, DAN \$150.00 Manion, Austin \$165.00 Menards \$162.64 MICHAEL, DESTINY \$35.00 MILLER, TIM \$240.00 NATIONAL FFA ORG \$1,691.00 Olson, Frank \$165.00 Pitsco Education \$800.30 PRIES PROMO \$650.00 PRO ATHLETE ADVNTG \$497.00 PROUTY, JIM \$90.00 Ratchford, Rob \$95.00 RIX-STINE \$42.45 ROBERTS, JAMES \$90.00 SAM'S CLUB \$179.10 SCHMIDT, MICHAEL \$95.00 Schofield, Dan \$95.00 SCHOOL SPECIALTY \$277.28 SICKLES, DAN \$185.00 Signs and More \$150.00 STARMONT HS \$110.00 STONE, SAMANTHA \$135.00 THOMAS, DANIEL \$150.00 USA WRESTLING \$125.00 VAGTS, MATT \$300.00 VENENGA, LOGAN \$150.00 VOLKER, KURT \$270.00 Walmart \$221.74 Waskow, Dave \$180.00 WEDEMEIER, WILL \$80.00 WESTERN DUBUQUE CSD \$125.00 Activity Total \$21,788.93 ATLANTIC COCA-COLA \$760.39 EMS DETERGENT \$377.90 KWIK TRIP \$14.16 MARTIN BROS. \$24,632.93 MYERS, HOLLY \$34.16 PRAIRIE FARMS \$3,403.27 Lunch Total \$29,222.81

NEWS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

A Season of Gratitude, Growth, and Great Achievements at Wapsie Valley

As the holiday spirit settles in across the community, we hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Thanksgiving and is eagerly looking forward to the Christmas season. Here in the Wapsie Valley School District, we have much to celebrate—from athletic accomplishments to academic milestones and exciting plans for our facilities.

Warrior Pride on Full Display: Fall Sports Shine

This fall brought exceptional success for Wapsie Valley athletics. Congratulations are in order for our Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball teams, each of which capped off strong seasons with appearances at the state level. Their hard work, dedication, and sportsmanship continue to demonstrate what it means to be a Warrior.

As we transition into winter activities, we extend our best wishes to all athletes, coaches, and supporters. The community looks forward to cheering you on throughout another competitive and rewarding season.

Enrollment Growth Signals Positive Momentum

This time of year also marks a critical administrative milestone throughout Iowa—the October certified enrollment process. Administered by the Iowa Department of Education, the annual count on October 1 determines the number of resident students enrolled in each district and accredited non-public school. After verification through the Student Reporting in Iowa (SRI) system, these numbers play a pivotal role in Iowa's school finance formula, shaping funding allocations for the following fiscal year.

We are happy to share that Wapsie Valley School District's enrollment has increased by 12 students this year. This positive growth not only strengthens our school community, but also provides important

financial support as we plan for the future.

Welcoming New Leadership to the School Board

The district is also pleased to recognize recent results from the Wapsie Valley School Board elections. Congratulations to our newly elected board members, Scott Broten and Amy Becker, who will be stepping into the roles previously held by Brent Sauerbrei and Jeannie Wolfe.

We extend our sincere appreciation to Brent and Jeannie for their dedicated service and commitment to the district. Their contributions have helped shape Wapsie Valley in meaningful ways.

Additionally, congratulations to Angela Auel on her successful re-election to the board. We look forward to her continued leadership and advocacy for our students, staff, and community.

Track & Football Field Project Moving Forward

Looking ahead, the district plans to release bid documents in December for the upcoming track and football field project, with bids expected back in January. If the bidding climate is favorable, we hope to proceed with construction using SAVE (Secure an Advanced Vision for Education) funds.

Most importantly, community members can rest assured: this project will NOT increase property taxes. Utilizing SAVE revenues allows the district to invest in major facility upgrades while maintaining fiscal responsibility.

A Strong Finish to 2024

From athletic triumphs to enrollment gains, new leadership, and future-focused planning, the Wapsie Valley School District has much to be proud of this year. As we head into the Christmas season, we extend warm wishes to all students, families, and community members.

Go Warriors!
Superintendent Chris Hoover

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TREE
that
MATTERS
IT'S WHO'S
Gathered
AROUND IT

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& MERRY
Christmas

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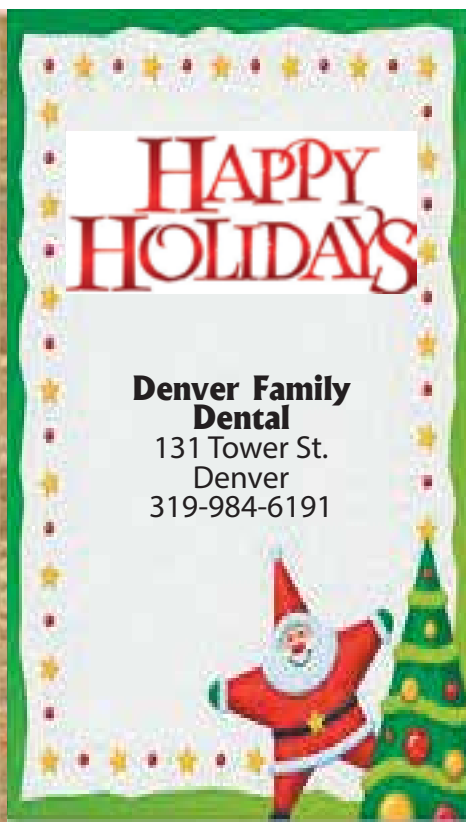
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AND A
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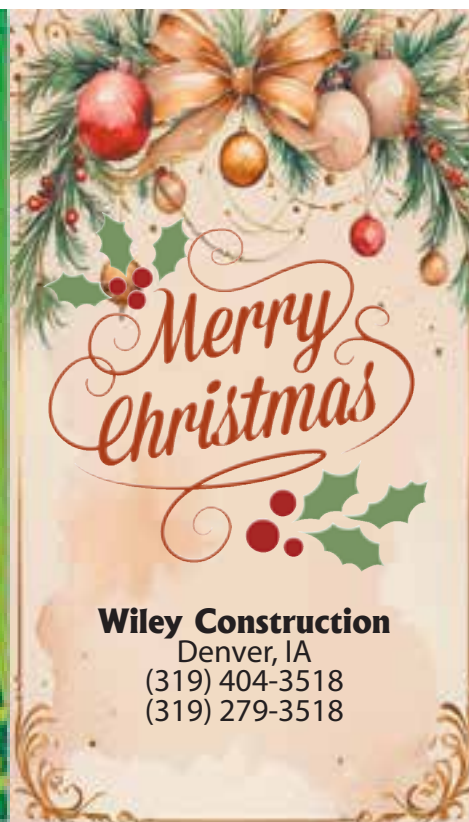
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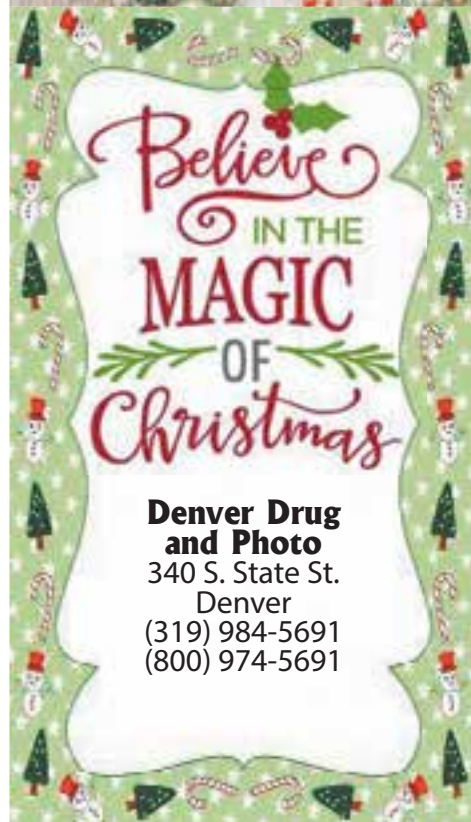
MERRY Christmas

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Connie Rochford, Broker
Office 563-578-8899

	Immanuel Lutheran Church 2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Pastor Miguel Gonzalez-Feliciano Divine Service 10 a.m.
	St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Sunday Services 8:00 a.m. Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month
	St. Paul's Lutheran Church 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.
	Zion Lutheran Church 240 Elmer Ave. Readlyn, IA 50668 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor (319) 279-3643 Sunday services, 10 a.m. Ruth Circle, 1st Thursday 1:00 p.m.

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Top 50 Ag Lender in the Nation*

* Source: Top 100 Farm Lenders Ranked by Dollar Volume, FDIC, Data as of 3Q 2023.





Adam Schaufenbuel
Vice President, Waverly



Megan Baumgartner
Loan Officer, Oelwein

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Deadline for the December 31 Chronicle is Thurs., Dec. 18 at 5 p.m.

<div>NEW LISTING</div> <div></div> <div>203 & 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! \$200,000</div>	<div></div> <div>207 - 1ST ST N, HAZLETON 3-4 Bedrms, 2 baths, Full Basement, 2 car garage, Nice Yard. \$100,000</div>	<div></div> <div>221 PRESTIEN DR, DENVER 4 Bed, 2 Bath, 2 Car Gar, Gorgeous Kitchen, New Bath, NEW ROOF, SIDING, WINDOWS. Close to Schools! \$130,000</div>	<div>NEW PRICE</div> <div></div> <div>715 MAIN ST., JESUP 3 lg bedrooms, corner lot \$159,900</div>
<div></div> <div>973 S. FREDERICK AVE, OELWEIN Zoned Residential -- Shouse Potential, Storage, Hobby Bldg, Lots of Potential. \$50,000</div>	<div></div> <div>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! \$150,000</div>	<div>PENDING</div> <div></div> <div>125 EASTLINE ST N, WESTGATE \$130,000</div>	<div></div> <div>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 \$100,000</div>
<div></div> <div>717 - 3RD AVE NE, OELWEIN 3 Bedrms, 1.5 baths, 1,320 sq ft, Huge Yard - All Lots Included (250' X 125') \$189,900</div>	<div></div>		
<div></div> <div>SOLD! 33 5TH AVE SE, OELWEIN 2 STORY, 3 Bedrms, 1.5 baths, 2 Lots PRICED TO SELL!</div>			



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