

June



Marvin is seated beside the house warming fountain he received 1 1/2 years ago when he moved to Readlyn from Tripoli.



Marvin has kept these roses alive for 30 years!!



The primitive tree was made by his sister and brother-in-law, Carolyn and Dean Conrad, Sumner, IA. Mandevillas on the left are an annual flower Marvin grows.



The rain lilies on the stairs are from his mother.

See more photos on page 8

Yards of the Month

Readlyn Community's pride in their yards is amazing!! With ten nominated yards from last year plus two and more to come for this year, judges are continuing to select new winners to add to the dozen winners from past years.

Past winners:

Yard of the Month 2021

June: Lisa and Barry Wittenburg- 312 Lobeck
July: Aubrey and Eric Johnston – 308 Magill Avenue
August: Wes and Christo Woodman – 326 East 4th Street
September: Connie and Scott Matthias – 223 West 4th Street

Yard of the Month 2020

June: Ruth and Mark Happel – 246 Briggs
July: Connie and Gary Sauerbrei – 407 Goodell
August: Mary Chapin – 209 Highland
September: Brenda and Jerry Meyer – 292 Clark

Yard of the Month 2019

June: Abby, Rhino, and Tiptyn Cox – 509 5th Street Place
July: Craig and Janette Hesse – 230 West Clark
August: Marlys Wittenburg – 406 6th Street
September: Ron and Louie Hartman – 248 Clark

Thank you, Weeds on Fire, for continuing to recognize Readlyn's outstanding yards.

The winners for June and July both recently moved to Readlyn and have done a terrific job cultivating beautiful flower beds to enhance their yards.

Marvin Baker, 409 Lobeck, is June's Yard of the Month winner. Although he has been gardening since he was a kid, Marvin feels he should share the credit of his award-winning yard with his family.

The yard had existing flower beds when he moved in, but his brother-in-law, Dean Conrad, roto-tilled them to give Marvin a fresh start. His sister, Carolyn Conrad, a master gardener from Sumner, generously helped him move some of his flowers and plants from his former residence in Tripoli. Marvin's rhubarb and some of his irises were gifted by his mom and transplanted from Nebraska. His 30-year-old roses add to the beauty of the front flower bed. The transformation in two summers is amazing.

Looking at the pictures, you can see that birds and farm animals are favorites of his. Marvin's favorites combined with many nostalgic items gifted from his family have created his aesthetically pleasing yard. Marvin feels grateful to be selected as the recipient of the Yard of the Month award.

July's winning yard at 408 West 4th belongs to Shari and Joe Anderson who feel it is awesome to be selected to receive the Yard of the Month award. Moving from a five-acre residence near Bremer, IA, they welcomed their new yard in Readlyn with big trees and NO gardens as a blank canvas. The vintage flower bed artists went to work!

Their flower beds are truly a family affair as is evident from the captions with the pictures. Many of the perennials and bushes were gifts from Shari's sister, Karen, who lives in Racine, WI. The red cedar tree has quite a history. Shari presented it to her brother, Randy, in 2007 as a house warming gift; it was about 6 inches tall. Luckily, he kept it in a pot on his patio. When he sold his house, he re-gifted it to them. The arbor Randy made for his mom is one of their favorite possessions since both are deceased. In addition to the help of siblings, Shari and Joe's kids and grandson have often helped with their gardening projects. It is evident that Shari's favorite thing to do on her day off, with Joe's help, is to "play in the dirt." Keep an eye on this property ... they have many more ideas for future improvements.

July



Joe and Shari Anderson feel it's awesome to be selected as July's Yard of the Month winner.



Seeds are in the pot, and Shari's brother, Randy, made the artistic bench.



The geese were purchased when "Friends" went off the air; hence they are named Ross and Rachel.



Trinkets and Togs, where Shari works, helps provide these treasures.

See more photos on page 8



Young voters turned out for the June 7 primary election at the Readlyn Precinct. 153 voters was a great showing for a midterm primary. Shown after casting their ballots are sisters Stacy (left) and Erin Armbrrecht. Thank you to all who participated. See you in November!



Grump's Grumblings

By Larry Sauerbrei
2021 Co-Grump

It has been a year as the 2021 co-Grump and soon the new Grump will be chosen and take over. The time has really gone by fast. It has been an honor to represent Readlyn this past year. It's been a pleasure to be a co-grump with Marlys (Deterding). We've had a lot of fun. It's interesting how many other towns/cities have heard of the "Readlyn Grump." I was in Cedar Falls recently and someone saw my license plate which says "Grump 21" and they came up behind me and said "So you're from Readlyn, huh, that's pretty neat you guys have a Grump."

I'm sorry I missed sending a write-up in the last two *Chronicles*...time just got away from me and I missed the cut-offs.

I wanted to say thanks to all of the people working behind the scenes in Readlyn. Thanks to the Readlyn Gardeners who keep the flower gardens looking beautiful. Thanks to all of the Community Club committees who do all of the planning and organizing for Grump Days and all of the other events throughout the year. Thanks to the people who manage the cans that help support our fireworks and expenses. Last but not least, special thanks to Barney and Austin for keeping this town looking great! They say it takes a village to keep things going, and we have a great village in Readlyn!

I'm signing out for the last time. But I look forward to representing the town in the future as a past Grump. I'm planning on continuing to wear my Grump hat to represent Readlyn. Lol.

Larry Sauerbrei



Miss Readlyn Comments

By Lydia Imbrogno

Hello! This will be my last mystery item reveal! I hope you enjoyed the pictures and clues that we have done this last year.

The final reveal is the Grump Days logo. The theme is "Oh the things we'll do in 2022."

As always, Grump Days was a blast! Thanks to the Readlyn Community Club members and any other volunteers that helped make it happen! Congrats to the new Miss. Readlyn, Lil Grumpsters, and Grump!

-Lydia

Deadline for the July 27 Chronicle is Thurs., July 14 at 5 PM
Send news to **Readlyn Chronicle@gmail.com**




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Readlyn Community Happenings



Colby and Joyce Withers

Withers/65th wedding anniversary

Colby and Joyce Withers will be hosting a 65th Anniversary Open House and Dance on Sunday, July 24 at the Center Inn Event Center in Readlyn, Iowa from 1 pm to 5 pm. It will include free food and dancing featuring Barefoot Becky and the Ivanhoe Dutchmen.

Please come and enjoy the afternoon with us!



Fourth graders visit the local museum

By Judy and Ron Leistikow

Twenty fourth graders and teacher Mrs. Lincoln and teacher's aide Mrs. Schneider from Readlyn Elementary enjoyed a tour of the Readlyn Historical building on Wednesday, May 18.

Ron and Judy Leistikow and GaryLee Thurm were the tour guides.

The gas pumps in front of the building

was our first stop, noting the price of gas that day was \$4.64 and the price on the pump was 24 cents.

Readlyn is 118 years old and is the youngest town in Bremer County.

Many topics of history were talked about, including cutting ice on the Wapsie River — usually 18 inches thick and two feet squares that were stored in sawdust.

Readlyn Hospital and the train depot were important landmarks of Readlyn, but are no longer in existence.

The first water tower was erected in 1913-1914, after the fire in 1912 burned the west side of Main Street.

Lots of history is found in the museum including an old cap gun that still works, old typewriters, farm tools, and more.

If you would like a tour, give us a call at 319-240-5372.



A CREATIVE ROBIN. A surprise creation was discovered this morning at St. Matthew's Cemetery. A mother robin made her nest in the middle of my flower arrangement, and has two babies. I couldn't have created a better design myself. What a beautiful blessing. Judy Leistikow - photo by daughter Janice Hughes

Thank You

Thank you to all my family and friends, near and far, for remembering me with cards, calls, messages, and gifts. It was a birthday that was filled with many surprises and made my 90th a great celebration. God's Blessings to all of you!

Marlys Wittenburg

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

Can't Get to the Library?

Remember: Your library card enables you to access digital content through both the Hoopla and Libby (previously Overdrive) app. You can access e-books, audiobooks, movies, periodicals and even learning programs. Check out the apps for more information and don't hesitate to reach out to the Library staff if you have questions!



Library Assistant Needed!

The library is currently taking applications for a Library Assistant. Approximately 10 hours a week, but would also be needed to fill-in for library staff in the event of illness or vacation. Scheduled hours for this position would be 9am-1pm on Saturdays, and a few hours a week for special projects or programming. We're seeking someone who is comfortable assisting the public and who is interested in fostering a love of reading in our community. If this sounds like a good fit for you, please reach out by emailing a resume to readlynlib@gmail.com or simply stop by to fill out an application. We'd love to meet you!

Things to do at the library:

- ★ Discover a great new author
- ★ Research topics that interest you and find great books on those subjects
 - ★ Find a good movie to watch
 - ★ Put together a puzzle or play a board game with your friends
- ★ Have a game of chess or cribbage (Cribbage games scheduled every Thursday at 10:00 am)
 - ★ Have book discussions with our Book Club—a new book each month!
 - ★ Play games on the Nintendo Switch
- ★ Request books that our library does not have through our Interlibrary Loan Service
 - ★ Find like-minded individuals to form discussion groups
 - ★ Send your 3D projects to have printed on our 3D printer
 - ★ Use the internet
 - ★ **READ!**





Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Denver American Legion: 65 years of service and counting

By Peg Abbas, Staff Writer

Reprinted from a supplement to the *Waverly Democrat*, March 1, 2001

Note: We extend thanks to Acker-Matthias American Legion Post #653 for allowing us to peruse the very first minutes of the organization to explore their history.

Acker-Matthias American Legion Post #653 was dedicated on Jan. 16, 1936, in an event heralded as "one of the largest crowds recalled in the history of this thriving little city."

Formation of the Denver Post was the brainchild of a few World War I Denver veterans who envisioned a Post of their own rather than be a part of the Waverly Post. Historian George A. Sagert recorded thoughts and ideas of the veterans:

Sometime last fall, a few veterans attended a meeting in Waverly. On the way back, we got talking why we could not have a Legion Post in Denver. A few nights later, a bunch of boys gathered in George's Tavern, known as Spike's Cafe, and the subject was brought up again.

Sagert continued his narrative, recording that there were eight veterans that night present in the cafe. They determined that there were 15 veterans living within the Denver city limits, enough, in their opinion, to form a new post.

Comrade N. W. McGee wrote to the Department Adjutant Laird to learn whether it was permissible to start a post and how many members would be necessary to start.

With the blessing of the Department, and directions on how to proceed, the veterans set forth to establish their own American Legion Post. The preliminary meeting October 22, 1935, found 17 veterans who were interested. N. W. McGee was elected temporary chairman and it was decided to call another meeting for Nov. 1 at which time they would make application for a post charter and give other "buddies" a chance to join.

Denver Mayor Herman Bast attended that meeting, expressed his favor of the idea and extended his best wishes.

N. W. McGee made an overnight trip to Des Moines on Oct. 31, 1935, conferring with Department Adjutant Laird on matters regarding organization of a Post in Denver. Armed with that information at the Nov. 1 meeting, McGee guided the 17 veterans present toward signing a charter. The charter was left open for a time to allow more veterans to sign the original charter.

Nov. 19, 1935, the group met, accepted a constitution that had been drawn up by McGee, accepted nine more members, and voted on a name for the post. It would become the Acker-Matthias Post in honor of August Acker and William Matthias, who had given their lives while in the service of the United States.

N. W. McGee was elected the first Commander of the post. Vice Commander would be Henry Segabarth, Chaplain Louis Hoppenworth, Historian George Sagert, and Sergeant at Arms Henry Acker.

Meeting night would be the second Monday of the month, the night still used by the post.

Five more veterans joined at the Dec. 9 meeting and it was decided to dedicate the post and formally install officers sometime in January, depending upon the time the state officers could be present.

January 13, 1936, the post was well on its way with membership now over 40, according to Sagert's history. At that meeting, color bearers Ernest Moiling and Arthur Moeller were

selected and color guards would be Henry Niemeier and Will Dins.

"So, here we are to serve God and our Country," said George A. Sagert's historian's notes.

Dedication was an event that drew not only crowds of local people from Denver and the area, but also a host of Department and District officers from all over the state of Iowa.

Post Commander N. W. McGee gave a brief talk thanking the community for its splendid cooperation in making the dreams of the veterans in Denver come true. The National Colors and post flag were seen for the first time at this ceremony. It was a beautiful spectacle to behold ... Old Glory with all of her natural beauty shimmering in silken fabric and golden trimmings beneath the lights on the stage. It was, indeed, an impressive occasion long to be remembered by all who were present.

The dance that followed that meeting was the first fundraiser for the post and was a great success as the post realized enough to pay for the colors, altar, gavel and all other expenses of organizing "with a sizable nest egg left for the treasury."

The post was not without its hardships and Sagert remembers:

Our post, though young, was soon faced with the problems of human suffering and its relief. A number of our comrades were stricken with illness. The first among those was Comrade Segabarth who was confined to the hospital in Readlyn necessitating a surgical operation. Members from our post visited Mr. Segabarth and tried in their feeble way to cheer him as much as possible.

Probably the next was N. W. McGee who was bedfast with septic sore throat. Almost daily, and sometimes more often, someone of the post called to wish him well and to aid in some way.

Comrade Hoppenworth, chairman of the

Acker-Matthias American Legion Post today

The Denver American Legion had been holding meetings and activities upstairs in Brettman Hall. On May 9, 1979 Ron Milius signed a building permit authorizing the post to construct a \$40,000 building. Dedication was held Sunday, August 27, 1979. Aker-Matthias Post #653 had a new home. Darwin Mauer was commander.

The Denver American Legion maintains a Facebook website on the Internet. Fish fries, waffle breakfasts and other activities are listed. These activities are fundraisers which support the post. The Legion building on Main Street is host to many civic groups. Boy Scouts, Lions and other groups use the building free of charge. Taxes, insurance, liability, utilities and upkeep on the building add up to a goodly sum. The Denver American Legion is able to sustain its existence through the support of the public attending their fish fries, breakfasts and other events. Rental of its facilities provides additional income.

The Denver Legion, with more than 150 members, has the problem all veterans posts are facing, the aging of its members. Those in attendance at the May 7 meeting I attended must have averaged nearly 80 years in age. It is amazing that the post can muster enough willing workers for all of their activities.

The meeting I attended was impressive.

sick committee, was especially helpful in conducting the duties that were given to him. Comrade Bruns was similarly affected. The sordid disease had infested his family leaving him without help. At the same time, the deep snow cut off traffic, so it was almost impossible for him to leave his place. Their chairman of the sick committee was unable to make his visit when he desired because of the deep snow. He was, however, able to send post greetings for recovery.

Comrade Sagert was suddenly stricken and was rushed to a hospital in Waverly, where he underwent a surgical operation. Members of the post frequently visited and brought messages of cheer and hope from other buddies in Denver.

Bereavement fell upon our post when our member and buddy, John Foust, was taken by the grim reaper. Our chaplain and other members did what could be done in arranging for a military funeral and for assisting the widow and children during this period of distress.

With the continuing growth of the Post, Legionnaires voted on Sept. 14, 1936, to invite wives, daughters and sisters of post members to form an auxiliary unit. The ladies were favorable to the idea and an auxiliary unit to the Denver American Legion was officially formed on Dec. 10, 1936.

From the small group of veterans 65 years ago, Acker-Matthias American Legion Post #653 and its Auxiliary Unit have flourished. The meetings and activities are now held in a modern two-level home on Denver's Main Street and membership for both organizations continues to grow.

The original charter signers of both the Legion and Auxiliary had a goal for the local post and unit. The work goes on and the organizations maintain a membership of veterans, wives, sisters, daughters, granddaughters continuing their efforts for the veteran and his family.



Butch and Dixie Milius place 220 flags on veterans' graves in nine cemeteries each Memorial Day.

Denver Legion serves Readlyn Veterans

Readlyn World War I veterans who were charter members of the Acker-Matthias Post were Herman J. Oltrogge, F. W. Pepmueller, John F. Sundermeyer, John Thies and Fred Stoffregen. Gustav Homeyer and Ernest Vogel joined later.

World War II members of the Denver Legion included Manfred Heinemann, Reiny Judas, Jim Klodt, Burton Stumme, Harold Schroeder, Arlen Platte, Russell Watts, Wilbert Huebner, Arnold Schweer and Gordon Miller.

R. J. Freitag, Fritz Buhrow and Arlin Richmann were Korean veterans. Other veterans, past or present, with Readlyn connections included Harlan Happel, Wayne Bast, Jim Collins, Burton Piehl, Eddie Steinbronn, Marvin Widdel, Verner

Jaschen, Erwin Koschmeder, Ron Leistikow, Martin Matthias, Larry Oltrogge, Colby Withers and Duke Schneider. There may have been more.

With only 10 members remaining in the Readlyn VFW, it is impossible to field a squad for military funerals. The members of the Readlyn Veterans of Wars Post and the people of Readlyn are grateful to the Denver American Legion and its members who volunteer to serve as riflemen at Readlyn military funerals.

Volunteers from the Denver Legion Post at the recent funeral for Burton Thies were Butch Milius, Jim Kurtt, Jim Jensen, Larry Oltrogge, and Jess Meyer. Al Harms, Harold Hyde and Robert Schmitz joined the squad for the funeral of Marvin Sommerfeldt.

Obituaries



Ilene Florine (Oltrogge) Blume

Ilene Florine (Oltrogge) Blume, 86, of Tripoli, Iowa, passed away on Saturday, June 11, 2022, at Tripoli Nursing and Rehabilitation.

Ilene was born on October 1, 1935, on a farm southeast of Readlyn, Iowa, the second oldest of nine children to Helen (Wehling) and Edward Oltrogge. She was baptized on October 20, 1935 and confirmed on April 10, 1949, both at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn. Ilene attended Franklin No. 3 Country School and then Readlyn High School. After graduating in 1954, she studied at Wartburg College. On May 21, 1960, Ilene was united in marriage to Christopher H. Blume, Jr. at St. John's Lutheran Church, Chicago, IL. The couple was blessed with three children, Julie, Tom, and Karen, and later divorced. Ilene enjoyed being a mother and homemaker and also worked as a Key punch Operator for Koehring Cranes and Excavators from 1977 until 1991. She then started in the Nutrition Department at Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community and worked until she retired in 2001.

Ilene was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church. She had a strong faith. Her children remember her reading the Bible every year when they were growing up. She was a very strong woman but

did not like to be the center of attention. She loved servicing others and doing what needed to be done. Family was very important to her, and she always put family first. Later in life, having grandsons was such a joy for her. She loved spending time with them and sharing her love of ice cream and black raspberries. She also enjoyed baking and cooking, and was known for sharing her apple coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, and cookies with family and neighbors. Traveling was another of her enjoyments. Her Aunt Tillie and Uncle Charlie would take her on trips across the "west," and into Mexico and Canada. After retirement, she went on many local bus trips. She also liked sewing, ceramics, knitting and many other crafts.

Ilene is survived by a son, Tom (Sherri) Blume of Tripoli; daughter, Karen (Boyd) Blume-Shaffer of Waverly; two grandchildren, Nathan (Whitnee) Blume of Tripoli and Jordan Blume of Tripoli; siblings, Delbert (Lavonne) Oltrogge, Susan (Gaylene) Rundle, Jane (John) Cocuzzi, and Philip (Sherry Gable) Oltrogge; brother-in-law, Eugene Hyman; several nieces and nephews; and several great-nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her daughter, Julie Ann Blume, at birth; and four sisters, Karen Oltrogge, Daphne Lundt, Iris Wilhelm and Doris Hyman.

Funeral services were held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, June 18, 2022, at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Waverly, with Pastor Corey Smith officiating. The service was livestreamed on the church Facebook page. Burial followed in Grove Hill Cemetery, Readlyn. Visitation was from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Friday, June 17, 2022, at Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly and one hour prior to the service at the church on Saturday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Cedar Valley Hospice, Tripoli Nursing and Rehabilitation or Redeemer Lutheran Church. Online condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly assisted the family.



Lois J. Rathe

Lois J. Rathe, 63, of Dunkerton, Iowa passed away on Monday, June 6, 2022, at her home in rural Dunkerton.

Lois Jeanne Rathe was born on June 20, 1958, the daughter of Bert and Ruby (Wilkin) Canfield in Waterloo. She grew up on a farm near Dunkerton. At the age of eleven, she was baptized at First Baptist Church in Dunkerton. She graduated from Dunkerton High School in 1976. She was employed at John Deere and at Allen Hospital. She graduated Hawkeye Institute of Technology in 1980. On July 22, 1978, she was united in marriage to Allan Lee Rathe at First Baptist Church in Dunkerton. They dairy farmed northwest of Dunkerton. Lois Jeanne mowed the yard, tended the calves, drove tractor and cooked meals for her family.

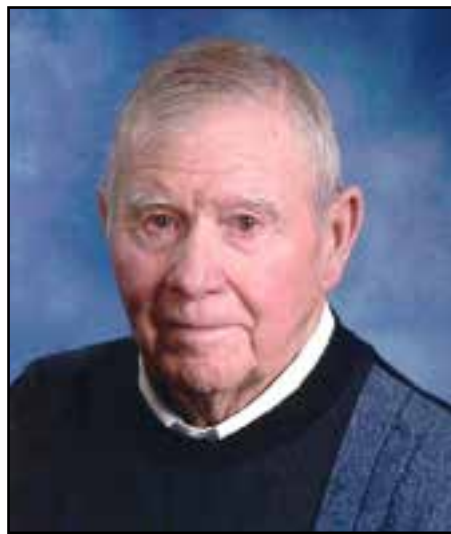
She enjoyed attending her children's activities at Community Lutheran School and volunteering there. She was a member

of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Klinger, where she was in Ladies Aid. She enjoyed spending time with her grandkids, music, reading, writing, going on rides with Allan and taking walks to look for wildflowers. Her favorite hobby was the prairie patch on their farm and nature photography.

Survivors are her husband, Allan, of Dunkerton; four children, Anne (Dale) Otte of Altoona, Daniel (Jennifer) Rathe of Eldridge, Rachel (Colton) Rathe of Peoria, Illinois and Michael (Kylie) Rathe of Waterloo; seven grandchildren, Avery, Elyse and Luke Otte, Brylee, Mason and Clara Rathe, and Gideon Rathe; two sisters, Cheryl Moore of Cedar Rapids and Ilene (Don) Miller of Waterloo; brother, Earl (Jane) Canfield of Dunkerton; in-laws, Dean (Elsie) Rathe of Virgo, Wisconsin, Kent (Laurie) Rathe of Whitehall, Montana, David (Joanne) Rathe of Creston, Jonathan (Ronda) Rathe of Dunkerton and Joel (Shelly) Rathe of Waterloo, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents and her father-in-law and mother-in-law.

Funeral services were held on Monday, June 13, 2022 at 11:00 am at Immanuel Lutheran Church – Klinger, rural Readlyn with Pastor Phil Girardin officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Visitation was held on Sunday from 2:00 pm until 4:00 pm at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn. Memorials may be directed to either Immanuel Lutheran Church or Community Lutheran School, and online condolences for Lois can be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

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



Reinhart Junior Freitag

Reinhart Junior Freitag, age 89, of Waverly, Iowa, formerly of Readlyn, Iowa, died Thursday, June 2, 2022, at his home.

Reinhart was born on July 17, 1932, rural Readlyn, Iowa, the son of Reinhart John and Renetta (Degelau) Freitag. He graduated from Readlyn High School in 1950 and then attended Wartburg College for six weeks before being drafted into the United States Army. During the Korean War, Reinhart served in combat earning two Bronze Stars. He went on the Honor Flight to pay respect to his fallen comrades on June 18, 2013. On April 15, 1955, Reinhart was united in marriage to Corlyn Leonhart at Immanuel Lutheran

Church, Klinger, Iowa. The couple made their home in Readlyn and Reinhart worked at Carnation/Nestle for 25 years, retiring in 1991. They moved to Waverly in June of 2021.

Reinhart was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly and V.F.W. Post 3661 of Readlyn. He loved hunting, fishing, and spending time with his family, at their cabin on the Wapsipinicon River.

Reinhart's memory is honored by his wife, Corlyn Freitag of Waverly; two daughters, Jill (Gary) Everding of Denver, Iowa and Nanci (Joe) Meier of Montezuma, Iowa; four grandchildren, Ashleigh Everding, Brandon Everding, Bryce Meier, and Jordan (Ashley) Meier; and two great-grandchildren, Graceyn and Oberon. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Iris Harms; and brother-in-law, Cal Harms.

Visitation was held on Wednesday, June 8, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly. Funeral services followed at 11:00 a.m. at St. Paul's. Burial was in St. Paul's Lutheran Cemetery in Waverly. Readlyn VFW gave honors at the cemetery. The service was livestreamed.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Readlyn Garden Club, Readlyn Library or Readlyn First Responders. Online condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

**Deadline for the July 27 Chronicle is
Thurs., July 14 at 5 PM
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Readlyn Community Happenings

Readlyn Historical Society to meet July 11; ice cream social is July 17

On May 18, 20 fourth graders, along with their teacher, Mrs. Lincoln, and associate, Mrs. Schneider, came to tour our museum. We are happy to have any groups or individuals tour the museum. Please call Ron Leistikow (319-279-3548) or Judy Henn (319-279-3725) if you wish to do so.

The society met on Monday, May 23 for their meeting. We would like to welcome new members Ellen Thies and Wilda and Charlie Albrecht. We are happy to have them join us. We would like to invite anyone else interested in the history of Readlyn to come to our next meeting July 11 at 6:30 P.M. at the museum.

We will be holding our 2022 annual Ice Cream Social at the Historical Museum on Sunday, July 17, from 4:00-6:00 P.M. Sundaes will be 25¢. Everyone is welcome! We would especially like to invite the newcomers of Readlyn to come for the opportunity to enjoy a sundae, visit the museum, and meet others in the community.

Since Readlyn will be 120 years old in 2024, plans are being made by the society to have a calendar printed with some pic-

tures of the history of Readlyn. These will be available to the public for purchase.

We want to thank the following for their monetary donations that have been received since our last reporting:

David Kluge of Shrewsbury, Pennsylvania In Memory of member Betty Koschmeder: Doug and Sherri Koschmeder; Readlyn Historical Society

In Memory of member Dolores Ungs: Judy Henn, Grace Kuethe, Readlyn Historical Society

In Memory of Ronald Wolff: Ron and Judy Leistikow

In Memory of member Burton Thies: LaVerne and Judy Leistikow, Family and Friends of Burton, Readlyn Historical Society, Ellen Thies

We have received numerous Readlyn items from the past and antiques. We are always glad to receive these and want to thank these people also.

Remember, everyone is welcome to attend our next meeting July 11 at 6:30 PM at the museum. We hope to see you at the social July 17, 4:00- 6:00 P.M.

Senior Citizens' next meeting is July 20 at the Readlyn Library

On June 15, 2022, 17 members attended the 11:30 AM meal at the Readlyn Library for the Senior Citizens' lunch and meeting.

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

We sang "Happy Birthday" to Roger Deterding, as he had a birthday in June.

There were two couples celebrating anniversaries in the month of June, Roger and Marlys Deterding and also Marylou and Don Billhorn. We all sang "Happy Anniversary" to both couples.

The secretary's minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting were read. Secretary's report was approved by Judy Leistikow and seconded by Janet Ladage. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after the expenses was \$131.00. The treasurer's report was approved as read by Verdeen Pavelec and seconded by Don Billhorn. Motion Carried.

**No Old Business:
New Business:**

There was no Memorial Day parade or service this year in Readlyn, but VFW members and their families helped set up flags in the park. It was breathtaking to see all the flags and to remember all those before us that have served to keep our country safe.

The Readlyn Historical Society will have their Ice Cream Sundae day on July 17 starting at 4:00 PM. Sundaes only cost 25 cents!

It was brought up by Ron Leistikow that if any group in Readlyn needed financial assistance for help on a project, to contact the Readlyn Community Club President (Eric Johnston) as some funds would be available.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Marilyn Lampe and seconded by Janet Ladage. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be July 20, 2022 at the Readlyn Community Library at 11:30 AM.

Readlyn's V.F.W. Auxiliary elects officers at June 14 meeting

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary met at the home of Luann Happel with five members present on June 14, 2022 at 7:30 PM. The meeting was called to order by President Verdeen Pavelec and opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes were read by Secretary Luann Happel. The motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Darlene Peters to accept the minutes. Motion was carried. The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Ellen Thies, which is subject to audit. General orders and chairman reports were read by members. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to pay the bills. Carried. Volunteer hours were turned in.

A motion was made by Ellen Thies and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to change our meeting time to 6:00 PM instead of 7:30 PM. Carried. Memorial Day cards were mailed to 18 veterans.

An angel was given to Carolyn Freitag after the death of her husband. Four V.F.W. Post and five V.F.W. Auxiliary

members attended Reiny Freitag's funeral and conducted Military service at St. Paul's Cemetery. An angel will be given to Ellen Thies after the death of her husband. A motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Darlene Peters to get another angel.

New officers this year: President: Verdeen Pavelec; Sr. Vice-President: Luann Happel; Jr. Vice-President: Darlene Peters; Secretary: Luann Happel; Treasurer: Ellen Thies; Conductress: Marjorie Macken; Guard: Betty Power; Chaplain: Wilda Albrecht; Trustees: Betty Power, Darlene Peters and Marjorie Macken.

National Convention will be held July 16-21, 2022 at Kansas City, MO.

Patrick Brodigan visited us before the meeting. Luann Happel and Ellen Thies attended the Memorial Day Service at the Waverly Area Veteran's Post. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Ellen Thies to adjourn. Carried. We closed with prayer by Wilda Albrecht. Hostess was Luann Happel.



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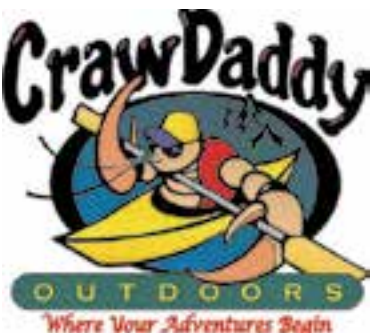
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June

Yards of the Month

July



Notice the windmill blades against the shed which came from the farm where Marvin Baker's mother grew up in Nebraska.



This flower bed features Shari Anderson's brother's arbor.



Birds are a favorite of Marvin's.



The Andersons like to keep the front of their house simple.



Marvin does his own composting.



Shari's brother's talents extended to this art form called hypertufa. "My older brother is artistic as well," said Shari. "I have some of his inside of our house. The yard art is all Randy's."



The Andersons like a rustic look. Curb alert: They hauled this desk from a neighbor's curb.



What a beautiful spot to "roost" and relax!



Anderson's garden includes tomatoes, pepper, basil, lettuce and radishes.



Future plans include incorporating the hostas into a complete flower bed. The hostas were a gift from Shari's cousin, Grant.

EMS: Did You Know...

The Readlyn 1st Responders meet monthly and discuss different things going on in EMS and what we can do to make our community safe and healthy. We would like to share some of the things we learn with all of you as a way to teach others and keep you informed. We hope you find value in the information we share in these articles. They are meant to educate, not treat, diagnose, or take place of regular follow ups with your provider.

- Call numbers for May = 5
- Average time from dispatch to scene = 6 minutes

Did you know: our crew in Readlyn is all 100% volunteer based?

We have a total of 10 EMTs and 2 drivers. We also have 2 associate members who receive our pages as well and assist us when they are in the area.

"It takes a village" is a saying that is sometimes used when talking about raising a child. This can easily be applied to EMS providers who give of themselves to help their community members in times of

need. When emergencies arise and people are running out or away, EMS providers are running in to offer assistance.

Last year, Readlyn EMS had the pleasure of recruiting Dave Dennler to our "village" as an associate member with 24 years of EMT experience. As exciting as it was to add someone to our crew who had so much knowledge, experience, and determination; due to unforeseen circumstances, Dave has made the decision to not renew his EMT certification. Today, we are celebrating Dave's 24-year journey as an EMT by sharing his story with all of you.

Picture it, Elkader, Iowa in 1992. A fairly new football coach witnesses some serious injuries on the field. What is he to do? Because it is Dave's nature to be helpful, he takes an EMT class to be able to assist with these types of injuries if they would occur in the future.

Fast forward to 1998 when Central Ambulance Service in Elkader was lucky to have Dave join them where he took

both night and weekend calls. As EMTs we assist at calls that can shake you to the core. Dave recalls responding to back-to-back vehicle accidents; the first resulted in someone becoming a quadriplegic and the other involved 4 minors. Upon completion of both reports he was asked by a "seasoned" fellow EMT if he was ready to quit. Dave responded with, "Not yet."

While working in Monona, Dave graced Monona's ambulance crew with his expertise as they needed help staffing the day shifts. If that wasn't enough, Dave became a part time EMT with West Union as well. Just to recap, Dave was working a full-time job and helping out 3 different EMT crews, all in separate towns. Elkader hospital staff once told him, "We don't care what shirt you're wearing;" they were always glad to see him.

Tri-State Ambulance eventually bought out the West Union service. With this transition, full-time EMT positions became available and Dave jumped at the

opportunity and loved working 24 hours on and 48 hours off. Dave spent 4 years with them before life events brought him to Wapsie Valley where Readlyn EMS welcomed him with open arms as an associate crew member.

For the last 7 months, Dave has been dealing with a cancer diagnosis and complications with chemotherapy. His medical journey still includes additional surgeries and he is ready to live out his response to a question he was once asked. "Do you look at life any differently being an EMT?" His response is, "Live everyday like it's your last. You never know what tomorrow may bring." For Dave, that includes taking more time to travel and visit his kids and grandkids.

Dave, we thank you for being part of our "village" as well as providing services to the surrounding areas. With or without your EMT certification, WE ARE FAMILY. We wish you all the best as you continue on your personal journey to health and happiness.



Miss Readlyn contestants (l to r) Kalvyn Rosengarten, Emma Jones, Sophia Kohl, and Sydney Matthias try to relax with committee members Louie Hartman and Bonnie Wittenburg.

Miss Readlyn Interviews and Luncheon



Tables were adorned with these unique centerpieces.

On Thursday, June 16, four 2022 Miss Readlyn Contestants – Emma Jones, Sophia Kohl, Sydney Matthias, and Kalvyn Rosengarten – committee members – Bonnie Wittenburg, Louie Hartman, and Pat Wehr, and three out-of-town judges began the in-

terview process at 10:30 am. The judges were genuinely impressed meeting the four contestants, each with her own unique personality. They felt any one of the contestants would make Readlyn proud as its queen.

Following the interviews, the interview participants were joined by candidates' guests and treated to an amazing buffet hosted by Sunrise Catering. As per Jim and Bev Collins' typical generosity, the cost of the complimentary meals was absorbed, and the money paid by guests was donated back to the Readlyn Community Club. The community generosity continued when the candidates were presented with gift bags from Inspired and the Readlyn Community Club. Everyone seemed pleased with the event.



L'il Grumpsters Corbin Novak and Addison Broten were crowned by Readlyn Community Club President Eric Johnston during the Grump Days festivities.

The family tradition continues as Larry Pavelec was named the 2022 Grump. He is shown at right with his mother, Verdeen Pavelec, who was the 2010 Readlyn Grump!



See more photos from Grump Days in the next Chronicle!



Thank you, FFA members, for escorting the queen candidates. Back row, left to right: Tyce Hagenow, Gabe Matthias, Braden Strotmann, and Andrew Matthias; front row, Emma Jones, Kalvyn Rosengarten, Sydney Matthias, and Sophia Kohl.



Miss Readlyn 2022 is Sydney Matthias.



Runner-up for Miss Readlyn 2022 is Emma Jones.

ICE Cream Social

Readlyn Historical Museum
Sunday, July 17
4:00-6:00 PM
Ice Cream Sundaes
25¢

Everyone Welcome!

Three Wapsie Valley classes hold reunion at Readlyn Park

On Saturday, June 11, the classes of 1961, 1962 and 1963 from Wapsie Valley High School had a reunion in the Readlyn Park with 47 in attendance. A delicious lunch was served by Jim and Bev Collins.

It was fun to see people walking toward the gazebo and wondering who it was, as its been 5 or more years that we had seen each other. What's that joke? "I went to my class reunion and everybody had changed

so much, they didn't recognize me."

It was enjoyable to listen to the stories that each would remember from those years at Wapsie Valley. It was amazing, after 60 years, we had a teacher come, Mr. Joe Sloter and his wife, Marlene. He taught English and coached basketball. It was fun to listen to him and the guys who played under him, telling of plays that worked and some that didn't.

We were all thinking how things have changed. Back then, we had a dress code: girls didn't wear jeans or slacks and skirt hems had to be below the knees. The guys had to have shirts tucked in and wear a belt.

We wanted to have a service project and, with the help of Thrivent and other donations, we were able to purchase two trees. With all the winds and bad storms,

Readlyn parks and Fairbank Island Park lost trees. We got permission from both towns to plant a tree from our classes.

Instead of waiting another five years to meet, it was suggested to have another reunion next year. Hope to see you all back again and the ones that didn't come or didn't hear about it, we'll need to get the word out better. Maybe the same weekend as this one.



Class of 1961 — Front row, left to right: Kathy (Staaack) Heinemann, Mary (Roehme) Heinemann, Marlys (Petersen) Deterding; back row, Eldo Moeller, teacher Mr. Sloter, Kurt Lehmkuhl, Larry Oltrogge, Ron Strottmann, Paul Ford.



Class of 1962 — Front row, left to right: Judy (Gruber) Leistikow, Linda (Lehmkuhl) Kastner, Joan (Snyder) Kauten; back row: Loren Piehl, Andrea (Klodt) Strottmann, John Reith, Veronica (Sauerbrei) Buhr, Sharon (Elliott) Fritz, Darrol Kohagen.



Class of 1963 — Front row, left to right: Nancy (Milks) Sauerbrei, Lois (Lehmkuhl) Grif-fiths, Sharon (Leonardt) Myers; second row: Dale Thurm, Mel Neil, Walt (Butch) Sauerbrei, Rob Maricle.

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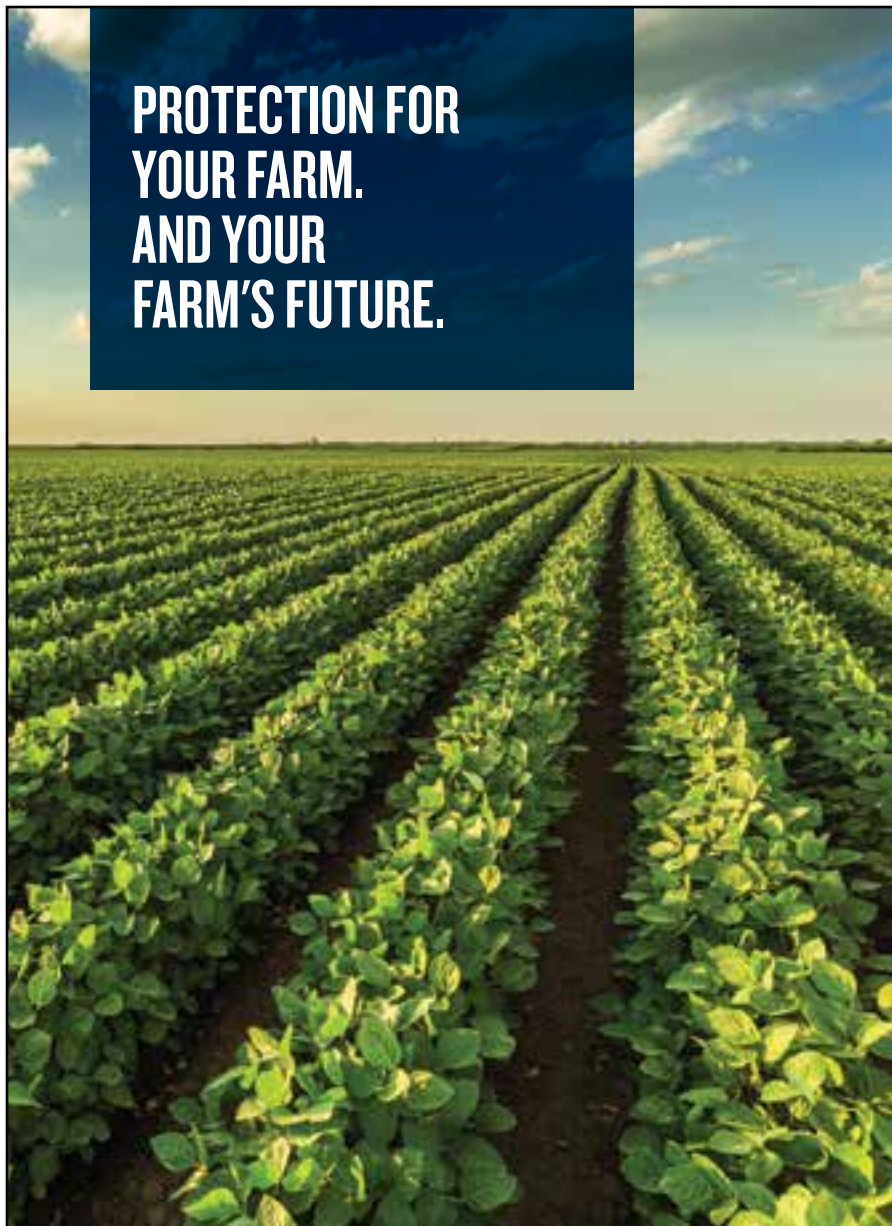
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What's Cooking?

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

Larry's Favorite Meatloaf

From: Larry Sauerbrei, 2021 Co-Grump

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. hamburger
- 1 large egg
- 2 tablespoons of milk
- 1/4 cup ketchup
- 1 cup crushed frosted flakes (approx.)
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3/4 cup mozzarella cheese (approx.)
- 3/4 cup cheddar cheese (approx.)

Mix all ingredients together except the cheeses. Roll out the meat mixture on waxed paper to about 3/4" thick in a rectangle shape. Spread the cheese on top so that it covers the meat good. Then, using the waxed paper, roll the meat up with the cheese to the inside.

You can spread some additional ketchup on top. Put this in a greased loaf pan. Bake uncovered at 350 degrees in the oven for 45 - 50 minutes, or until the inside is done. You can easily double this receipt with 2 lbs. of hamburger.



The Farmers Grow America Grant has been awarded to Jim Wehling in the amount of \$5,000. Thank you to Jim and Doris Wehling for selecting Community Lutheran School as the lucky recipient! We are thankful for your dedicated and continuous support to our school! This money will be used towards a STEM area of need. God is good!

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News from **Community Lutheran School**

The first through sixth graders hosted a Tea Party where many mothers from our school and church congregations enjoyed refreshing treats and Reader's Theater in May.



Minnow Race Success

Grump Days 2022 Minnow Races were a success! With over 40 kids in participation each contestant took home a K&E Tackle - Stopper Lures jig, and the top two finishers took home a rod and reel combo courtesy of Hank's Live Bait and Tackle!

Thanks to my fantastic helpers, Mya Barnes, Bella Buck and Sadie Hogan for all your help, and Kelly Shores for setting the brackets! Thanks to Hank's also for the minnows and Jack Horning with Stopper Lures for the jigs!

The kids and parents had a blast! The top two finishers were Isaac and Sylvia.

The casting contest went well also with each participant getting three chances to cast a bobber into a circle. We had a few make it in and they received a fish-

ing lure! Each child that participated received a bobber.

The parade was also a lot of fun as usual. I cast candy to the parade spectators and had great helpers ride with me that threw candy. My helpers were Makayla Gothard, Delana Johnston, Will Kuker, and Bentley Buss. My truck was driven by Ben Anderson and our support vehicle was driven by Aubrey Johnston and Michelle Drew. It was a success all around!!



We learned about Iowa history on a Wildcat Wednesday in May (above)! At right, God's blessings to our May Baptismal birthdays!

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Business Spotlight

Fidelity Bank & Trust is Your Hometown Bank

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	<p>St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Sunday Services 9:00 a.m. Communion 1st and 3rd Sunday Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM</p>
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