

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of **857 Friendly People** and **One Old Grump**

Volume 12, No. 11, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, November 27, 2019



Kim Brown - Iowa Association's Restaurant Neighbor Philanthropy Award Recipient

Kim Brown receives philanthropy award

Winning the statewide Restaurant Neighbor Philanthropy Award recognizes Kim Brown's dedication to our community. Two highlights of her lengthy list of community involvement include the founding of the Valentine Ball which has raised over \$200,000 in 10 years to benefit over 20 nonprofit groups in the Wapsie area. She is also actively involved as a director for the Wapsie Valley Education Association which annually raises over \$20,000 for the Wapsie Valley Schools. Kim's humbleness shines as she is always quick to point out that "it takes a village." She consistently deflects attention from her accomplishments to give credit to the people she has inspired to help her accomplish her goals.

Although her volunteer record is unending, she was selected for this prestigious award for "providing a hospitality venue in her rural community." Anyone who has enjoyed lunch at Inspired Luncheonette can attest to this. Kim's exterior and interior seasonal decorations reflect her ambi-

tion to provide a comfortable atmosphere. Local volunteer workers rather than paid employees add to the warm ambiance of her luncheonette. Two meals are featured each day; recipes for the comfort food Kim serves come from family recipes as well as local church cookbooks, which are available for purchase at Inspired. Weekly menus are posted around town and sent to over 100 patrons via email.

Inspired has become a community center as well as a luncheonette. Kim generously makes her restaurant available for early morning card players before her regular business hours of 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Tuesday – Friday. Lunch is served from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM. Carryouts for local businesses are a large part of her service. In-town deliveries are another way Kim tries to accommodate patrons.

Don't be surprised if you look up the word "humble" or "generous" on your iPad if you see Kim's picture. She is indeed deserving of the Neighbor Philanthropy Award.



Congratulations to the Wapsie Valley volleyball team, Iowa's 2019 class 1A State Volleyball Runner Up Champions! With all of Iowa watching, you represented our awesome community with heart and determination. We are proud of you!



TO RECOGNIZE COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO TAKE TIME TO ADD A MORE FESTIVE AIR DURING THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY...

WE ANNOUNCE A...

CHRISTMAS LIGHTING CONTEST!

SPONSORED BY THE **READLYN COMMUNITY CLUB**

NO NEED TO APPLY...

ELVES WILL TRAVEL THE STREETS **DECEMBER 1-7, 2019** TO CHOOSE!

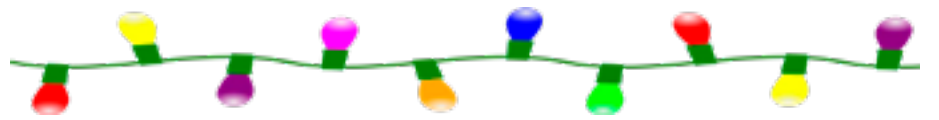
1ST PLACE - \$50

2ND PLACE - \$25

3RD PLACE - \$15

HONORABLE MENTION

PICTURES OF WINNING YARDS WILL APPEAR IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF THE READLYN CHRONICLE!



The Grump Who Stole Christmas

Open Houses all
throughout
Main Street

- * Trolley Rides from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- * Enjoy the magical lighted Christmas Parade at 8:30 p.m.
- * Great food & hot beverages at different locations

- ☆ Smores served by a Fireman
- ☆ Crafts for the kids
- ☆ Christmas Karoke
- ☆ And so much more!

Friday, Dec. 13th

6p.m. to 8p.m.

READLYN, IA

The Grump's heart grew three sizes that day!

Mayor's Desk

By Dan Wedemeier



Hi Everyone!

I would like to thank Barry Wittenburg and Barry Fortsch for their many years of service to the City of Readlyn!! They both decided not to seek re-election in this last election for City Council. Both of these council members were involved in several committees and brought a wealth of information to the Council.

I would also like to welcome to the City Council, Jason Frank and Rocko Imbrogno. Also, Nicole Barnes and Joseph Jones were re-elected to four-year terms. Just for your information, Keith Brunscheon is our other council member.

I was re-elected Mayor for my 4th term. Thanks to all who got out and voted! I am looking forward to working with this group and the citizens of Readlyn!

Remember, that Christmas on Main is coming up on Friday, December 13 starting at 5:30 PM. There are a lot of activities going on, on Main Street, including a lighted parade and the lighting of the Christmas tree to cap off the evening.

With winter and snowfalls during the winter season, please keep in mind that, if it snows and the city guys are out plowing the city streets, you need to have your vehicles off the street. You may be cited and these fines have gone up. Thanks for your help with this issue.

Also, we've seen several trailers parking on the city's streets. They can be parked for 48 hours in one spot, but then need to be moved. They definitely need to be moved before a snow. Sometimes, I think that it's possible that people may not see this reminder in the paper and they may not realize this city parking law, so if you see a neighbor with this type of situation, please talk to them about it or let us know at City Hall.

Denver Underground will be back in town to finish hooking up residents on Malone Street. If you have questions, please call City Hall or myself. Thanks.

The wetlands project is pretty much done. I've seen the contractors back in to add the dormant seed, our last native seed. So far, even as wet as it's been, the wetlands have been working very well.

This week, we will be attending a conference that Iowa State Revolving Fund is sponsoring in Ankeny to speak about water quality runoff.

Congratulations to the Wapsie Valley Warriors volleyball team!! We are very proud of you girls!! Thanks for a great season!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your families!
Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

Community Calendar

Mondays – Novel Knitters 6 PM at the library.

Tuesday, December 3: VFW Post #5661 7:30 PM Readlyn Telephone Co.

Wednesday, December 4: Merry Elders will meet (no meetings in Jan. or Feb.).

Thursday, December 5: Readlyn Community Club meeting at Inspired, 6 PM.

Friday, December 6: Christmas on Main.

Saturday, December 7: 9 – 11 AM READLYN LIBRARY COOKIE WALK.
Pepper tournament, 2 PM, Watering Hole.

Tuesday, December 10: Coloring at the library 1-3 PM; VFW 5:30 PM back of library.

Thursday, December 12, Deadline for December 25 issue of the *Readlyn Chronicle*, 5 PM.

Readlyn Reads Book Discussion "What Alice Forgot" 7 PM.

Wednesday, December 18, Senior Citizens lunch and cards 11:30 AM at Inspired.

Grump's Grumblings

By Roland Schmidt



It sure is a busy time of year in Readlyn. I had a great time on the golf cart ride on the bike trail. I'm sure a good time was had by all.

I also got to be a judge for the Halloween costume contest at the Watering Hole. It's so nice to see all of the children dressed in their costumes and having fun. There sure were a lot of interesting costumes this year.

Congratulations to the Wapsie Valley football, cross country and volleyball teams on a great fall season, all teams did well. A special shoutout to the volleyball team on making it to the State Tournament! You all should be proud in showing the Warrior Way.

It's hard to believe it's almost Thanksgiving already. I hope the farmers had a record harvest. I think we just went from summer to winter with a very brief fall. That's enough to make anyone Grumpy.

Have fun in the snow and remember, it's over 200 days until summer.

Roland Schmidt

~ Obituary ~

Eleanor Ann (Manbeck) Rathe

Eleanor Ann (Manbeck) Rathe, 85, of Denver, formerly of Readlyn, died Saturday, November 2, 2019, at UnityPoint-Allen Memorial Hospital in Waterloo.



Eleanor Ann Rathe

Eleanor was born September 17, 1934, in Valley City, North Dakota, the daughter of Floyd and Lucille (Cowley) Manbeck. She was baptized April 23, 1939, in Courtenay, North Dakota and confirmed September 6, 1959, at Immanuel Lutheran, Klinger, Iowa. She graduated from Waterloo East High School in 1952. On August 15, 1959, she was united in marriage to Venice Rathe at 1st Wesleyan Methodist Church in Waterloo. The couple spent their life farming together on the family farm near Readlyn. Also during her life, she worked for Construction Machinery in Waterloo, Patricia Fabrics in Waverly, Julie's Hallmark in Waverly and the Waverly Horse Sale.

Eleanor was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Klinger where she served on the Ladies' Aide. She was an active 4-H leader for several years and enjoyed sewing and quilting. Her greatest joy was spending time with her family, especially the grandchildren.

Eleanor is survived by her four children, Ellen and Jack Burkland of Duluth, Minnesota, Carolyn and Dan Campbell of Harpers Ferry, Nancy and Jeff Folkmann of Denver and Nathan and Michelle Rathe of Bybee, Tennessee; 12 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren and one on the way, brother-in-law Robert Readnour, sister-in-law Donna Manbeck and sister-in-law and brother-in-law Romona and Roy Kramer. She is preceded in death by her parents, husband Venice Rathe, three brothers, Edwin "Lou" Manbeck, Phillip Manbeck and Glenn Manbeck, two sisters, Marjorie Wilson and Dorothy Readnour, and in-laws, Donald and Burdene Rathe and Verna and Lavern Hesse.

Funeral services were held at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger, with Pastor Phil Girardin officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery. Visitation was held from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, November 5, at the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn and for an hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church. Memorials may be directed to Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger. On-line condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com.

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



Students who chose to dress as Rednecks for homecoming week pose with one of the biggest tractors in the lineup.

Wapsie Valley Drive Your Tractor to School Day

By Kaylee Kleitsch, Chapter Reporter

Twice a year for about 35 years, Wapsie Valley FFA has held a Drive Your Tractor to School Day. As someone could probably guess from its name, this is the day that any Wapsie student (not just FFA members!) with a school permit or driver's license has the chance to drive his or her tractor to school. Once the tractors reach the high school, they get parked in freshman row of the student parking lot. This way, everybody who drives by during the day gets to take a close-up look at this unique tradition. This fall, Drive Your Tractor to School Day was held during homecoming week on the "Dress like a Redneck" themed day.

When asked why he partakes in this Wapsie Valley custom, Tyce Hagenow, a freshman, says, "Because it's a fun experience and a chance to show people how great agriculture can be." Many students love participating in this event every year, while the ones who don't have their own tractors to drive just have fun watching it all happen. Gavin Duffy, a junior, says that it's, "Just a part of what we do here. It reflects what our small farming community is all about and is something that is unique to Wapsie." Thanks to everybody who drove their tractors this fall!

~ Obituary ~

Dianne Faye Oltrogge

Dianne Faye Oltrogge, 74 of Readlyn, Iowa, passed away on Thursday, November 7, 2019 at UnityPoint Health-Allen Hospital in Waterloo.

Dianne was born on September 27, 1945, in Waterloo, Iowa, the daughter of Glenn and Helen (Hills) Wittenburg. Dianne was baptized at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger and confirmed at Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn. She graduated from Wapsie Valley High School in 1963 and graduated from State College of Iowa (UNI) in 1967. Following graduation, she taught at Wilson Junior High in Cedar Rapids and then St. John's Catholic School in Waterloo. Dianne was united in marriage to Jerry Oltrogge



Dianne Oltrogge

on February 13, 1970, in Galena, Illinois. Dianne took some time off from teaching to raise her children and after nine years returned to teaching at Wapsie Valley Junior High at Oran. She retired from teaching in 2001. Jerry passed away on December 12, 2017.

Dianne was a longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church in Readlyn. In her spare time, she enjoyed traveling with her family and keeping up with everyone on the Internet.

Dianne is survived by a son, Jason (Mindy) Oltrogge of Stanford, Montana; and a daughter, Carrie (Mason) Jones of Denver, Iowa; two grandchildren, Audrey and Orren Oltrogge; three brothers, Dennis (Janice) Wittenburg; Rodney (Bonnie) Wittenburg; and Barry (Lisa) Wittenburg, all of Readlyn. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband, Jerry Oltrogge.

Private family visitation will be held at Kaiser-Corson Funeral home in Readlyn with private family prayer service to follow. Burial will be held in Zion Lutheran Cemetery in Readlyn. Memorials may be directed to the donor's favorite library.

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Readlyn assisted the family.

Readlyn Community Happenings



Ethel Otto

Ethel Otto notes 100th birthday

Osage Beach, Missouri - Ethel Otto will be celebrating her 100th birthday on Saturday, December 14, with an open house from 2-4 PM at Lakeside Meadows Living Center in Osage Beach, Missouri.

Ethel was born December 13, 1919 in Denver, Iowa. She was married to Elmer Otto on February 10, 1938. Ethel enjoyed many years of work on the farm and for the US Postal Service.

Ethel lived most of her life in Readlyn, Denver and Waverly, before moving to Lake of the Ozarks in 2018. She enjoys life at Lakeside Meadows, participating in many of the activities offered and socializing with the other residents over breakfast, lunch and dinner.

She enjoys the many visits by family and friends, and would love to hear from you. Please come say "hi" or drop her a card and celebrate her 100th birthday on December 14. We would welcome you to visit if you are able, or cards can be mailed to: Lakeside Meadows Living Center, c/o Ethel Otto, 872 College Blvd., Osage Beach, MO 65065.



Maxine Brocka

Happy 80th Birthday Maxine!

Maxine Brocka will be celebrating her 80th birthday on December 5, 2019.

Please join us in celebrating her with an Open House from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 30 at 2033 Reed Ave Tripoli, IA 50677. No gifts, please.



Ron Leistikow

Let's Celebrate!!

Making America great since 1939!

Ronald Leistikow will celebrate his 80th birthday on December 7 with a card shower. He was born in rural Readlyn, Iowa to Emil & Peggy Leistikow on December 7, 1939.

Ron married Judith Gruber on September 6, 1964. He is a retired farmer, but he still helps with the Wapsie Farm Partnership.

He has 6 children, 22 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. His children are Kim Corwin (Scott) of East Greenwich, Rhode Island, Kevin (Deanne) Leistikow of Readlyn, Kristi (Marty) Marticoff of Readlyn, Kurt (Jenifer) Leistikow of Ce-

dar Falls, Kerri (Jeff) Ast of Slinger, Wisconsin and Kassie (Jake) Adams of North Liberty, Iowa.

Those of you that know Ronnie know he enjoys socializing; playing cards, visiting shut-ins and doing a lot of philanthropy work. He also loves watching Sports on TV, especially the Hawkeyes!!! He attends a lot of grandchildren's events and activities. He always has a smile on his face and loves to visit.

Ron enjoyed a trip to Poland in September to celebrate his birthday.

Cards may be sent to 2218 Reed Avenue, Readlyn Iowa 50668



The Readlyn Novel Knitters completed 75 items (scarves, hats, headbands) for the Iowa Winter Special Olympics which will be held in Dubuque in January 2020.

VFW Auxiliary meets November 12

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met November 12, 2019 at the home of Luann Happel with 5 members present. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes and treasurer's reports were read and accepted. General orders and chairman reports were read by all. We welcomed guest Brandi Wilcox. Volunteer hours were turned in.

We set up for Veterans Day in the Readlyn Library display case pictures of veterans who are or were in the service. For Veterans Day, Readlyn Elementary School invited veterans, spouses and Auxiliary members for lunch, and a program given by students. We were also invited to a program at Wapsie Valley High School.

We ordered pictures and note cards. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to split the Silver March and send half to National Home and half to Hospital Fund. Carried. We got legislative letters on bills for veterans to mail.

In December, we will have Christmas pot-

luck with the V.F.W. Post at the library.

A motion was made by Ellen Thies and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to adjourn. Carried. The meeting closed with prayer. Hostess was Luann Happel.



Displayed and pictured above during the month of November in the Readlyn Library are military personnel and uniforms from World War I to the present.

Senior Citizens meet Oct. 16

On October 16, 16 members attended the 11:30 meal at Inspired for the Senior Citizens lunch and meeting.

Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer before the meal.

The meeting was called to order by Ron Leistikow, the president.

The meeting:

The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was \$146.00.

The secretary's minutes from the September 18, 2019 meeting were read.

Motion was made by Marlys Deterding and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to approve the treasurer's report and secretary's minutes. Motion carried.

There were no birthdays or anniversaries to celebrate for the month of October.

We did all sign and send get well cards to Larry Ladage and GaryLee Thurm who both are recovering at this time. Larry Ladage was involved in a car accident and GaryLee Thurm had a stroke.

Old Business:

Brandi and Alec Marticoff thanked the Senior Citizens for donating to the Dance Marathon for the University of Iowa's Steadfast Family Children's Hospital. Brandi and Alec got to run in the 26.2 Chicago Marathon and between the two they raised \$5,000 for the kids this year. 45,000 runners ran this year in the Marathon.

New Business:

October 23 at 7:00 was a meeting for the Community Club.

The Grumptoberfest was October 24 at the Readlyn Event Center sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank. A meal was provided and costume contest for all ages.

Kim Brown reported that Friday, November 15 was to be the Annual Wapsie Valley Education Foundations Fall dinner and auction at the Readlyn Event Center starting at 5:30 PM with a silent auction and 7 PM the live auction.

Marlys Deterding reported that November 16 was the day for decorating for Christmas on Main Street. The fall decorations come down and the Christmas decorations go up. If bad weather it was to be the same plan but at 9 AM on Saturday, November 23.

December 13, starting at 5 PM, will be Christmas on Main this year. There will be a lighted parade, horse-drawn rides, and tree-lighting at St. Paul's Church. Twenty-four hams will be given away and you will need to sign up from 5 to 7 PM at the Historical Society to be entered into the drawing. Santa will be in town that evening also at the Historical Society giving sacks away to all the children. At 7:30 PM the ham drawing will take place at Inspired and the winners' names will be posted as to who won the hams at Inspired. The hams will need to be picked up by 8:30 PM that night.

The next meeting was scheduled for November 20 at 11:30 AM at Inspired.

Motion was made by Verdeen Pavelec and seconded by Wilbert Huebner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Lois Thacher, Secretary

Email news to
ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com



Readlyn Community Library

We put the READ in Readlyn

Patrick Brodigan
Nancy Lockard
Tina Ristau

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

In Loving Memory

Cash Memorials

In Memory of Marilyn Sebilsky
Gary & Connie Sauerbrei

In Memory of Larry Kuhlmann
Kenny and Bonnie Piehl
Delbert & Lavonne Oltrogge
Marva & Dan Schuldt

In Memory of Eleanor Rathe
Nick and Lori Wiley

In Memory of Elna Kuecker
Roger and Connie Buhr

In Memory of Jeanette Hoth
Roger and Connie Buhr

In Memory of Dianne Oltrogge
Brent and Laura Bull
Mark and Ruth Happel Family
Luann Happel
Ron & Louie Hartman
Ken & Barb Sowers
Grace Kuethe
The Tom Sickles Family

*Thank you for
your generosity*

New DVDs

Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark
Stuber
The Lion King

Idea for an event? Let us know!

JOIN US!

December 7th from 9:00 - 11:00 for our annual cookie walk. Purchase locally baked cookies and bars to help support the Community Library.

Hours:

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

Halloween Pictures



The Readlyn Library staff had a great Halloween handing out candy and providing trick-or-treaters with a special memento. Using the digital media lab equipment our costumed guests had their photos taken and edited with a special spooky background.

Don't forget to visit us during Christmas on Main to get a family photo taken and edited with a seasonal background, perfect for your Christmas cards! Remember the digital media lab is available for patron use so you can create your own special works of art. Stop by or call if you have any questions.



November/December's title: What Alice Forgot by Liane Moriarty

Pick up a copy at the library and join us for discussion on

December 12th



Alice Love is twenty-nine, crazy about her husband, and pregnant with her first child. So imagine Alice's surprise when she comes to on the floor of a gym (a gym! She HATES the gym) and is whisked off to the hospital where she discovers the honeymoon is truly over—she's getting divorced, she has three kids, and she's actually 39 years old. Alice must reconstruct the events of a lost decade, and find out whether it's possible to reconstruct her life at the same time. She has to figure out why her sister hardly talks to her, and how is it that she's become one of those super skinny moms with really expensive clothes. Ultimately, Alice must discover whether forgetting is a blessing or a curse, and whether it's possible to start over...

The Readlyn Community Library is requesting donations of homemade cookies and bars for their annual cookie walk on December 7th. Donations can be dropped off during business hours on December 6th or on the day of between 8:00 and 9:00 am. Please do not individually wrap cookies, but have them protected (gallon Ziploc bags/tins/plastic containers) for the event. Thank you.



Our First - Baby's First Book!

The Readlyn Library was excited to present Amanda Eike with the inaugural book in our Baby's First Book program. We hope the entire Eike family enjoys spending time together reading and continues to visit us as their family grows.



Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Mother Of Five Killed In Train-Car Crash At Crossing Year-and-a-half-old under engine

Apparently unable to "dodge" a freight train which she saw too late as she was driving eastward on Bremer Avenue, Mrs. Walter Eickelberg of near Bremer was crushed to death beneath the wheels of a Great Western freight train at 12:55 PM (November 12, 1939) as she fell or was thrown from her car which was carried 250 feet on the pilot (cowcatcher) on the front of the steam locomotive before the 67-car train was brought to a halt.

Her five children, passengers in the car she was driving which she was driving home after attending church services, were all injured more or less seriously, although it would appear Tuesday that all would recover. Four of the children remained in the car as it was carried along on the cowcatcher on the front of the train, but the fifth, the baby of the family, had an almost miraculous escape from serious injury and possible death.

Irene, only a year-and-a-half-old, was found beneath the ash pan of the locomotive with her face battered and cut, and with a possible skull fracture, but still alive. As the car was carried along, the child, who was seated next to her mother in the front seat was jounced out of the left hand open door, probably sometime after her mother fell out of the car.

The child passed safely beneath the running board of the car and beneath the engine cowcatcher, which had a clearance of 8 to 9 inches above the ties. Irene was rolled about somewhat beneath the train which at that time was nearly stopped. Dr. Will Bessner removed the child from beneath the locomotive's ash pit, about 15 feet back from the cowcatcher.

The crash occurred as the 34-year-old farm woman drove eastward, presumably in some hurry to reach her home, and

pulled around a car stopped at the tracks. "It looked as if she did not see the train until she got right up to it," Wesley Briner, 14, who was less than 30 feet away, said at the inquest Monday morning. "She tried to turn out and dodge the train but just as she got on the tracks the train hit her."

The injuries to the five children as described Tuesday morning by the attending physician were as follows:

Donna Mae, 11 - Bruises, mostly about right hip. Donna sat at left side of rear seat; car was struck at right side.

Victor, 9 - Compound fracture of both bones, right leg. (In a compound fracture the bone is exposed). Victor sat at the right side in the front seat, at the point where the car was struck.

Ramona, 7 - Severe lacerations of face and forehead; possible skull fracture. Ramona was on the right side in rear seat.

Ruth, 4 - Cuts around head. Ruth sat in the middle in rear seat.

Irene, 1-1/2 - Bruises of face, possible skull fracture. Irene sat between her mother and Victor in front seat.

The Waverly paper gave a description of Adelia's several dismemberments, too brutal to include.

Mr. and Mrs. Eickelberg lived on a farm near Bremer. Mr. Eickelberg was busy combining when the accident occurred. He is the brother of Theo Eickelberg of the Artesian Church who had been the minister at the service which Mrs. Eickelberg had attended at St. John's Lutheran Church in Waverly.

Ironically, part of the materials for a flasher signal for the crossing was already in Waverly. It was believed that construction of the signal would be completed within 60 days. - From the *Waverly Democrat*



Left to right, Donna, Vic, Ramona, Ruth and Irene Eickelberg

Life of the Five Eickelberg Children

After the accident, the five children stayed for a short time at home with their father. It proved too much for him to care for the children, ages 11 to 1-1/2, and also to farm. He had a problem of what to do with his family. He decided to keep the two youngest, Ruth and Irene, at home, while the three oldest, Donna, Victor and Ramona went to the home of Rev. Theo. Eickelberg, Walter's brother.

The families did not mesh. After other endeavors, Walter asked Dora and Arnold Matthias, the children's aunt and uncle, if they would take the three children. Dora replied they would gladly take the children into their home. Arnold and Dora Matthias raised Donna, Victor, and Ramona as their own, along with Martin, William (Bill) and Allen (Al).

The Eickelberg Children

Donna married Robert Rasmussen, lived in Waverly, where they owned Tannenbaum Jewelry. Donna died in 2011.

Victor was in the Air Force, later working at the Kansas City Airport as an Air Traffic Controller, later took a job at the St. Louis Airport with much less stress, reporting weather conditions to pilots. His wife, Buehla Waldon, was from Arkansas. They lived near Kansas City and later in St. Charles, Missouri. He died in April of 2018.

Ramona married Norman Boeckman from Bremer and was employed at a bank in Waverly and several other banks in the area. She is the only one of the five Eickelberg children still living. Ramona lives in LaPorte City.

Ruth married Bob Detterding, worked

at the Readlyn Savings Bank, and lived on a farm one mile west of Readlyn. Ruth died in 1992.

Irene married Junior Mills and lived in Denver where they owned the locker. After selling the locker, they moved to Minnesota. Irene died in 2017.

The Matthias Children

Martin attended Wartburg; Bill, Buena Vista; and Al, Iowa State. Martin taught in Dunkerton and farmed south of Readlyn. Bill taught and coached at Lakeview-Auburn High School. After retirement, Bill moved back to the home farm in Denver. Al became a professor at Arizona University in Tucson. He died before retirement in 2013 at the age of 65.

Walter Eickelberg married Laura Huebner of Readlyn when the girls were small. They had two other children, Gary and Ann, both still living.

I cannot stress enough the shock this accident of Adelia and children had on Readlyn and the entire Bremer County. I was 10 years old at the time and remember the discussion in Readlyn. This terrible accident and the placement of the children were the main topics of discussion for weeks.

Arnold and Dora Matthias should be commended for taking three children into their home and successfully raising them as part of their family. Martin stated that his parents raised the children, not as cousins, but as brothers and sisters.

A big thank you to Martin Matthias for helping me develop this story, a tragic part of the history of Readlyn.

Funeral Set For Wednesday

Funeral services of Mrs. Walter Eickelberg of Artesian, killed Sunday afternoon in the car crash on Waverly's East Bremer Avenue, will be this Wednesday afternoon (November 15, 1939).

Brief services at the Eickelberg home at one o'clock will be followed by services at St. John's Lutheran Church in Waverly at 1:30 o'clock. Rev. Theo. Frese of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Readlyn will be in charge and burial will be beside her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Knief in St. Paul's Cemetery in Readlyn.

Casket bearers are to be Sidney Buehner, Theo. Diercks, Ewald Pipho, Lau-

rence Harms, Walter Meier and Bernard Moeller.

Mrs. Eickelberg was Adelia Knief before her marriage to Mr. Eickelberg at the parsonage home of Pastor Frese in Readlyn, Sept. 12, 1928. She had spent her entire life in Bremer County and at the time of her death was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Waverly.

She is survived by her husband: five children, Donna Mae, 11, Victor, 9, Ramona, 7, Ruth, 4, and Irene, 18 months; two sisters, Mrs. Carl Pook of Dunkerton and Clara Knief of Readlyn; and one brother, F. W. Knief of near Artesian.

Waverly, Readlyn receive CDBG grants

The Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA) announced awards in July for its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Housing Fund program, which provides home rehabilitation assistance to low- and moderate-income homeowners. The cities of Waverly and Readlyn received \$230,994 and \$235,927, respectively.

Both communities committed local matching funds, bringing the total budget in each city to \$245,994.

In each of the two communities, up to six homes in a designated target area will be rehabilitated to meet IEDA's Housing Quality Standards and reduce lead-based paint hazards. Common renovations include updating electrical

systems, replacing damaged siding and windows, furnace replacement, and roofing.

These rehabilitation programs will improve neighborhood appearance and potentially raise property values in older neighborhoods within Waverly and Readlyn. In Waverly, the program will help reinvestment in an older neighbor-

hood that was recently removed from the 1 percent annual chance (100-year) floodplain after substantial City investments in flood mitigation and drainage improvements. In Readlyn, the program will assist homes in one of the City's oldest platted areas, which encompasses the downtown.



News from Community Lutheran School



Congratulations to the Wapsie Valley Warrior volleyball team on their success at making it to the IHSGAA State tournament on November 13! Your community is so proud of your accomplishments and hard work! Warrior Power!

At left, congratulations to Lydia Imbrogno (WV sophomore) and Kalvyn Rosengarten (WV freshman) for making the 1A All Tournament Team at the Iowa State Volleyball Tournament!



Students enjoy their first snow of the year snowballs.



Students explore screen printing activity at the Reformation Celebration.



Quill writing — The students explored different methods used to print in the 1500s, the time when Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses in Germany.



Pastor demonstrates his printing press at our Reformation Celebration.



Thank you to those who keep our church beautiful; all to glorify God!



The students sang their praise to our Lord and Savior at Immanuel Klinger Nov. 10.



COMMUNITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL PRESENTS
A Christmas Alphabet

The Good News of the birth of Jesus shared by the students through a worship service using the letters of the alphabet, hymns, and scripture!

WEDNESDAY | DEC 18
6:30PM
IMMANUEL KLINGER GYM

Free will donation meal served by the CLS PTO
5-6:30pm



News from Community Lutheran School



TRUNK-OR-TREAT FUN at Community Lutheran School!



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happy holidays

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Happy Holidays

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Merry Christmas!



Merry Christmas

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Happy Holidays

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Randy Wheeler
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Happy Holidays

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or cell (641) 330-6717
smidtcrop@iowatelecom.net

RSB GRÜMPTOBERFEST 2019

Readlyn Savings Bank — Thanks All Who Came To Party



6-7-YR.-OLDS (L TO R): 1st Place—Ellie Mason; 3rd Place—Silvi Meyer; 2nd Place—Jackson Brunscheon

Thursday, October 24 was Readlyn Savings Bank's 14th Annual GRÜMPTOBERFEST! It was a fantastic evening once again. The bank's Community Appreciation Party at Readlyn Event Center and Watering Hole attracted over 400 revelers and a host of volunteers from the Readlyn community.

GRÜMPTOBERFEST! is Readlyn Savings Bank's small token of gratitude for the trust that the customers in the community have in the bank. RSB is honored to serve and support the Readlyn community. The party is a good opportunity for friends, family, and neighbors to gather and, since the bank first instituted GRÜMPTOBERFEST! in 2005, the event has become a nice little harvest-time celebration. Plus, the kids get to fine-tune their costumes before the "main event" of Halloween!

Many people helped RSB make the party a success. Tami and Lyle Pries and staff of The Watering Hole once again prepared a great meal. Wapsie Valley students, whether on behalf of the National Honor Society, Silver Chord Program, FFA or Student Ambassadors, provided assistance throughout the evening, carrying trays, clearing tables and being the "extra hands" needed in many occasions. The firemen and first responders served seasonal beer and the tips collected were greatly appreciated by the two organizations. Thank-you to Lyle and Tami Pries for the use of a wonderful venue for this annual party!

RSB directors, officers, staff and spouses and families served the meal. The schools and churches helped again with spreading the word of the event. Lil' Dale Sweet and the Legends provided the live music and our Mayor Dan Wedemeier, along with 2019 Grump Roland Schmidt and 2019 Miss Readlyn Anna Richards, had the daunting yet entertaining task of costume contest judges.

RSB thanks everyone who came to GRÜMPTOBERFEST!, especially the partiers who came in costume: nearly 100 contestants of all age groups and many varieties of characters participated this year. It was so much fun to see everyone's creativity and excitement for the season!

The bank hopes everyone had fun and hopes to see you all again at GRÜMPTOBERFEST 2020!



2-3-YR.-OLDS (L TO R): 2nd Place—Barrett Meyer; 1st Place—Avery Adams; 3rd Place—Duke Hogan



8-9-YR.-OLDS (L TO R): 2nd Place—Cole Munk; 3rd Place—Weston Shores; 1st Place—Oliver Tiedt



4-5-YR.-OLDS (L TO R): 2nd Place—Macie Hogan; 1st Place—Ashtyn Shores; 3rd Place—Jaxson Wittenburg



0-1-YR.-OLDS (L TO R): 2ND Place—Dake Destival; 3rd Place—Asher Schmit; 1st Place—Gabriel & Sophia Happel



10-ADULTS (L TO R): 3rd Place—Dave & Tracey Szurley; 2nd Place—Michael Walker; 1st Place—Lexi Brunscheon



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**Kurt R. Leistikow -
 Attorney at Law**
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 kurt@lollc.net

**Stumme, Collins,
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 www.waverlydenverlaw.com

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Alec and Brandi at the Big Event in February



Alec and Brandi at the Chicago Marathon

Marticoffs raise money For The Kids

By Alec and Brandi Marticoff

My name is Alec Marticoff, and this is my third year in (the University of Iowa) Dance Marathon. I know some of you may have already heard about my involvement from prior years: staying up for 40+ hours at our end of the year event, running 26.2 miles in the Chicago Marathon, and managing (somehow) to raise over \$3,500 all For The Kids last year (I'm doing it all again this year too!).

These were things I personally never dreamed of doing or accomplishing, but the only reason I probably could was because of Dance Marathon and WHO we fight for in this organization. Dance Marathon is an organization that works year-round to provide emotional and financial support to families affected by Pediatric Cancer.

As a member of the Family Relations committee the past two years, I can most definitely say that DM has reached families in ways I never thought possible for a student organization. Not only do we hold an event each month to bring families together (Adventureland, Lost Island Waterpark, Bloomsbury Farms), we send college students to play with kids in the hospital while they're battling on the 11th floor, and we have donated over \$32.4 million to the 11th floor of the Steadfast Family Children's Hospital, state of the art medical equipment, educational books for

parents, toiletries, food, toys for kids, and countless other things to help these kids.

Dance Marathon has shown how incredible these kids are and how much fight these families truly have. I've talked with families who have lost a child, I've seen kids hooked up to a hundred tubes and wires in a hospital bed, and I've heard the most amazing stories of survivors and families who have fought through it all and overcome cancer. BUT the best thing about my job in Dance Marathon is just helping kids to feel like kids again when they or their sibling is going through treatment! That is why I can't speak enough for Dance Marathon and what they do for the people affected by this terrible, terrible disease. That's WHY I FIGHT for these families and kids, to eventually see the day when cancer is no more.

Brandi's Story

My name is Brandi Marticoff, and this will be my second year participating in this incredible organization that really goes above and beyond for all the families! Last year I had such an amazing experience at the Big Event—a 24-hour dance party that college students and families affected by cancer attend. Before attending the Big Event, I raised over \$800 through the support and donations of family and friends! During the event, I donated 10 inches of hair for patients going through

chemo, heard so many inspiring stories, and was able to show my support for the kiddos! There's no sitting and no drinking any caffeine for the entire 24 hours. We literally run on adrenaline and hearing the kids' stories.

This year, I will get the opportunity to further my involvement in Dance Marathon 26! I couldn't be more excited to be a Family Representative which means I get to talk with one of our amazing families through emails/snail mail, learn their story during the school year, and get to meet them at some of the various other family events that DM hosts throughout the year. It also means serving as a more personal connection to DM, so they can ask questions about anything our organization does. I'm also super excited to announce that Alec and I ran 26.2 miles for these kids and families in Chicago on October 13 for "Dance Marathon the Marathon!" Thank you to everyone who helped us each to raise \$900 to participate and for ALL the encouraging messages that helped us get through the 26.2 miles!

Please consider donating to this incredible cause. The great thing about

your donation is 100% of it will go to the kids. There are not any fees. This is a student-run organization and non-profit, so no money is taken out for salaries like other fundraisers. You can feel good that your donation will directly impact these children that have cancer and their families. Thank you for your past support. We really appreciate it. Your donation does make a significant difference.

If you prefer, checks can be made out to "UI Dance Marathon" and mailed to PO Box 136, Readlyn, IA 50668.

You can also go to <https://dancemarathon.uiowa.edu/>

- Click on the DONATE button
- Search the name ALEC MARTICOFF or BRANDI MARTICOFF

OR you can find either of our donation pages by finding our links on our personal Facebook page

With your donation, Dance Marathon can provide even more resources for families. Your donation helps pay for things including:

- \$11 for a "Cancer Fears Me" chemo cap
- \$40 for a food and beverage cart for a grieving family
- \$75 for playtime activities for 12 kids in the hospital
- \$100 for registering one person on the bone marrow transplant registry
- \$250 for a wig for one kiddo who has lost their hair
- \$1,000 for pharmacy medications for one year
- \$5,000 for funeral expenses for a kiddo now dancing in our hearts

Facts:

- The average cost of a stay in a hospital for a child with cancer is \$40,000.
- Only 4% of federal government cancer research funding goes to study pediatric cancer.
- 1 in 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer.
- Cancer is the number one cause of death by disease among children.
- The most common childhood cancer is acute lymphoblastic leukemia (ALL).
- 83.5% of families with a child with cancer will experience some level of financial hardship.
- 11.9% of families with a child with cancer will spend more than \$10,000 annually to care for their child
- Each year in the United States, approximately 15,780 children are diagnosed with cancer before the age of 19.



Alec with a kiddo at the Big Event in February



Brandi with hair she donated at the Big Event in February

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and we got one out of the flock. Ducks of all kinds started coming into our decoys, the cold fronts had many migrating ducks in the area. Our shooting was not as great, all three of us were shooting terribly that morning. No excuses, we just couldn't hit them. We ended the morning with one goose and five ducks. As always, though,

the laughs and the great time was what it was all about.

After that main season opener, I started to get into bow hunting for deer mode and I'll have that recap in a future article.

Enjoy time with family this Thanksgiving and make a memory or two! Until next time, GET OUTDOORS.



Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

As I sit down to write this month, I've been full throttle in the midst of hunting seasons! As my neighbors in our great community of Readlyn could probably tell you, I'm not home very much. It's been a very busy fall for me thus far and this month I'll recap how waterfowl hunting has gone to this point.

Hunting season started this year for me on September 1 with Iowa's dove season. I hooked up with my friend, Jason, his son, Nhycolas, nephew, Draven, and my dad, Doug. We've only been doing this a couple seasons, but it's starting to become a tradition of sorts for this crew to get together.

We started our hunt on a cut cornfield south of Waterloo. The morning started fast with two doves coming immediately to our decoys at shooting time and both dropping. We were excited about the fast start, but lost enthusiasm quickly as those were the only two doves we saw on our initial setup. We moved setups a couple times and even changed up totally and tried a couple spots near Readlyn with no luck. Although our dove hunting weekend was a bit of a bust, we still shared a lot of laughs and had fun.

Next up on the list was Iowa's early season duck. I was unable to partake in Iowa's earliest waterfowl season for teal early in September due to the Iowa Bass Nation High School tournament in Dubuque. So anticipation was high for the September 28 opener for all waterfowl.

This early duck opener is a long standing tradition in my house. This year marked the 25th season that my Dad, my friend, Eric Williams, and I had gotten together for this season. The previous year we had a very tough weekend and didn't shoot many ducks compared to our usual opening weekends in years past. This season I was determined to have a better hunt.

I started scouting areas in early spring to find new duck ponds along the Wapsi River bottom. I would study aerial photos online until I found something that looked good and then walk in to truly see how it looked. By the time Dad and Eric arrived at my garage Friday evening, I had scouted many areas throughout the spring and summer and had three rock solid plans that I was sure would have ducks and wouldn't have much competition from other hunters as everything I scouted was on the literally thousands of acres of public land we have within minutes of Readlyn. Excitement was very high as I told them about the areas I had found and showed them photos of the areas.

That opening morning, we arrived at my number one plan and setup. As shooting time arrived, this spot didn't disappoint! First thing a pair of geese flew right into our decoys and, with a couple shots, we were on the board! As quickly as that happened, wood ducks and teal started to pour into our decoy spread on the little pond. All of us were shooting well that morning and we quickly had half a dozen ducks down.

As the morning wore on, we realized the small pond we were hunting was on a goose flight path as pairs, singles, and even some small flocks flew along the same path. Soon, dad spotted a pair of geese barely above the trees coming from

the south. As they flew over us, I picked one and dad picked one, two shots and two geese down. As I retrieved both geese, I picked up Dad's and it was a banded bird!! We consider a banded bird a trophy, and it was high fives all around!

For those that don't know, waterfowl are banded federally to track migration patterns. As the morning hunt ended, we were all very happy with five geese and nine ducks between the three of us. And the real fun was the laughs shared and memories made as I know that morning will be talked about for a long time!

We hunted the same pond the next morning with nearly the same success as opening morning. As Dad and Eric left that Sunday, we already started talking about next year and it will continue to be my favorite hunt of the year. Before they left, I got online and turned in the band to see where the goose had been banded. The report came back that the goose was banded at Sweets Marsh in 2017. Not quite the dreams of a bird from Saskatchewan, but still very cool nonetheless!

Iowa has a split between early and the main season. The main season fell on October 12 and I had plans to hunt the same pond as earlier. We had two cold fronts push through our area the week before the season opened back up, and I knew there would be a lot of ducks around. Dad was unable to make it up that weekend, so I invited my friend, Jason, and his son, Nhycolas, to hunt with me.

Once again, the pond I had scouted didn't disappoint. Shortly after shooting hours started, a flock of geese flew over





Merry
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 Season*

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*merry
 CHRISTMAS*

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Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes acquired by current funeral directors

Waverly, Iowa – Steven Corson and Carter Corson announce they have sold the Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes to a group of their longtime Funeral Directors: Darren O'Donnell, Ryan Tucker, Jon Dumermuth and Denee Muller. Funeral Director Dean Boeckman will remain on the staff. The locations serving Waverly, Shell Rock,

Denver and Readlyn will all remain open and service will remain uninterrupted. The Corson family has owned the funeral homes since 1901.

The ownership group combines 50 years of service to Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home and 70 years in the profession.

"We couldn't be more proud and excited

to continue on the legacy of Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes," said Tucker on behalf of the ownership group. "The Corson family has had an enormous impact on the communities that we serve. They have set a great example; one we look to build on."

Steven Corson added, "After 40 years in funeral service this was a good time to

transition to retirement.

"The funeral homes are in very good hands," he added. "We have always been very proud of our professional staff. We will be their biggest cheerleaders; they are exceptional at what they do, and we're glad our communities will continue to be served at a very high level."



Darren O'Donnell



Jon Dumermuth



Denee Muller



Ryan Tucker



Carter Corson



Steven Corson

Pepper Tournament held

The pepper tournament was held at the Watering Hole on Saturday, November 2. The winning scores were:

- 1st Place - Paula and Darwin Lies - 223
 - 2nd Place - Deb Brunscheon and Joan Matthias - 173
 - 3rd Place - Connie and Roger Buhr - 162
 - 4th Place - Karan Boevers and Shirley Kuker - 115
- Thanks for playing! The next pepper

tournament will be on Saturday, December 7 at 2:00 p.m. at the Watering Hole. Entry fee is \$3.00. Bring a partner.

Merry Mixers

The Merry Elders will not have a meeting in November. The next meeting will be on December 4.

There will be no meetings in January or February.

GaryLee's stroke report

By GaryLee Thurm

[Editor's Note: The photo at right is from the *Readlyn Chronicle* archives from the summer of 2013, when GaryLee was honored to be named Readlyn's Grump.]

The stroke happened on September 18. The day before, I was at the farm and that night I went to a music performance. The next morning, I woke up with slurred speech.

We went to Allen ER and I walked in and had good movement. The ER doctor said I would probably go home that day. Yeah, right. The next morning the right side was dead.

They moved me to 3rd floor for a week and then to 4th floor for therapy. It was hard work. The main therapist was the general and first she didn't really care for me. Over time, and my hard work and my B.S. humor, she ended up being super.

Jane Meyer's grandson was also one of the therapists. They worked with me until I went to "On With Life" in Ankeny, Iowa.

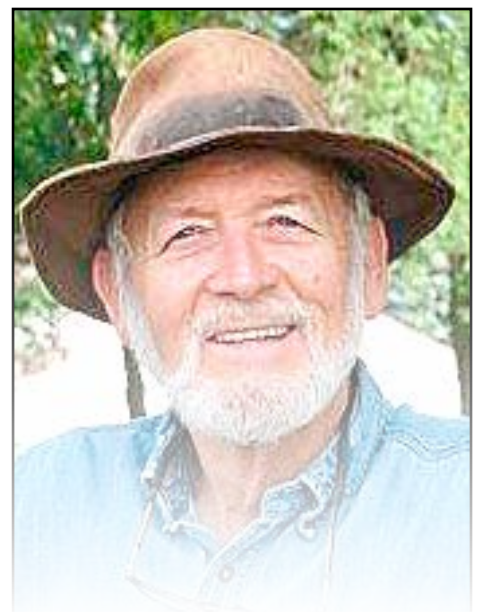
When you get there the first thing they do is feed you. One of the main reasons is to see how you handle eating. A stroke affects your tongue. There is a speech therapist that is with you. The one I had was Abi Fortch, who is Barry's daughter-in-law. What a super person. She told me that I was the first to have been released without needing extra therapy.

I got there on October 7. They are a one-of-a-kind place. They deal with a lot of brain injury. I felt blessed as I suffered very little loss. I still had good memory and good humor and lots of stories to keep the therapist humored. Damn, there are lot of good-looking women there. The more the merrier.

Most of the first week involved a lot of testing to see what your limits are. The second week serious therapy started. I was surprised that they got me on a recumbent bike. It was a blast... all kinds of paths. They told me I needed to get some of my fly-tying things down there. One of the directors was a fly-fisher. Their goal is to get you doing things you were doing before.

I actually tied a couple flies. Not pretty, but they will get mounted in a shadow box. They take care of you. They also took 10 patients with helpers to I-Hop for breakfast one Saturday morning. I also got some pool therapy. There is one corner of the pool that feels like you're walking on a treadmill. They also do group swim where you do exercises to music. They also do music therapy out of the pool.

One day we went to Menard's to buy materials for making card holders to play cards one-handed. We got the pieces cut



to size with the sliding miter saw, but couldn't get the slots cut on the table saw as their insurance won't allow them to remove the blade guard and splitter.

I also have a friend in Ankeny that deals with a group called Healing Waters that makes tools to be able to tie flies with one hand. They are free to veterans or handicapped. I plan on giving a donation. They also make it possible to fish one-handed. The tying isn't fast but it can be done. I was shown how, and then tied one and the student's was better than the instructor's, if I do say so myself. On October 30 we made a trip to Readlyn for a home evaluation and it went well. We ate at Inspired and got a warm welcome.

One thing the stroke did for me is made me into a real softie. I used to be a pretty hard rock but now I'm just a grain of sand.

On my birthday there was a party and, afterwards, they had a lip sync and I did a Johnny Cash impression. On November 5, we had a graduation and, on Nov. 6, we left for home.

I want to give a big thank-you for all the cards and visits while at Allen and On With Life. If you have more questions, just ask. I still have the gift of gab.

Deadline for the December 25 Chronicle:
Thurs., Dec. 12
5 PM

His Hands Food Pantry
5002 Main Street
Oran
Hours: Tuesdays, 5-8 PM
Fridays 9 AM-12 Noon
Brief application required
Currently serving Readlyn, Sumner, Fairbank and Oran area residents
319-638-4357

Helping Hands Clothing Closet
2029 Viking Ave.
Hwy. V56 - Sumner
Hours: Tuesdays, 9-11 AM
Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 PM
First Saturday of the month 9-11 AM
Brief application required;
providing FREE clothing to those in need



Immanuel Lutheran Church
2683 Quail Avenue
Readlyn, IA 50668
(319) 279-3977
Pastor Philip Giradin
Sunday School 9 am
Divine Service 10 a.m.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church
Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor
2649 230th Street
Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758
Divine Parish Worship at St. Matthews, 9:00 a.m.
Mid-week Service at Zion, Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month
Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM



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



Zion Lutheran Church
240 Elmer Avenue
Readlyn, IA 50668
(319) 279-3643
Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor
Sunday Divine Worship Service 8:00 a.m.
Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays
Mid-week Service Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.
Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m.
Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.