

Hartmans have the Yard of the Month

“We are honored to have received the Yard of the Month,” said Louie Hartman, “and we appreciate Dan and Connie Wedemeier’s effort to showcase the yards in Readlyn.”

The Wedemeier’s business, Weeds on Fire, has been sponsoring the Yard of the Month this past summer in Readlyn. The Ron and Louie Hartman home is the final honoree for 2019 of this recognition.

So now the public knows what is behind “the fence.”

“To share a little history about that—after our children went off to college and no longer wanted to go camping, we purchased Bill and Sandy Becker’s pool and deck, numbered it all and moved it to our

yard to make our own campground,” Louie said. “It worked out very well to walk 10 feet out our door instead of driving around after Ron’s week of truck driving.”

The pool lasted 20 fun years. The Hartmans have left the sand base in case the next owners want a pool.

The ladder with the bird houses on it was purchased from elementary Principal Claude Whitehill’s sale. Ron thought it was a good reminder of the structure Mr. Whitehill tried to instill in Ron and his friends. If you knew Claude, you know what we’re saying.

The Hartmans enjoy their yard very much. Ron has the design ideas while Louie plants to satisfy her love of flowers.



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Grümptoberfest 2019

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October 24, 2019— 4:30-8:30 pm

@ The Readlyn Event Center

- FREE Brats & Dogs Dinner 4:30-7:00 pm
- Live Music, Raffle & Prizes, Oktoberfest Beer
- MAIN EVENT: Costume Contest 6:30 pm sharp!

All Ages Welcome to Participate!



Go to www.readlynsavingsbank.com for details!

Mayor's Desk

By Dan Wedemeier



Hi Everyone!

It's been awhile since I've had a chance to write a Mayor's Corner. It's been a busy summer. I appreciate your understanding and I apologize for that. I get comments all the time that you miss these articles.

I wonder where time goes, but it felt like summer was just starting and now school is going and sports already have a couple weeks in the book. Good luck to all those teams! Please use caution around the schools!! The City of Readlyn has added a couple of crosswalks near the south side of school so please pay close attention to these. Wapsie Valley Elementary School in Readlyn has added to their parking lot which has really helped with street parking around the school. Those areas were always close and heavily traveled with safety concerns. Thanks Wapsie Valley!

The City of Readlyn is in the middle of the Malone Street Project. This is a drainpipe installed on the west side of Malone. It will be used to drain sump pumps into and a drainage site for the 8th Street stub. The City will provide drainage for those who want it on the east side of Malone by boring under the street. Denver Underground is the contractor doing the project and is making great progress. Any questions call City Hall.

Black Hills Energy has been in town replacing some natural gas services to some homes. They tell me this is to upgrade services that are hard to locate. This is a Black Hills Energy project and any questions or concerns please call them. Thanks.

Once again, the Garden Club has been doing a wonderful job keeping flower gardens and landscapes looking great!! Thanks to them. They are also busy building a corn crib gazebo on the bike trail. Can't wait to see that!

The wetlands project is almost completed. A few punch list things and a fall seeding are all that's left to do. An open house, along with the sewer plant, was held Saturday, September 21. A tour of both facilities was available with some refreshments too. Any questions call me or City Hall.

That same day, Saturday, September 21 at 1:30 pm the annual golf cart ride on the bike trail took place. There's always something to do in Readlyn!

The City of Readlyn did apply for and receive a Community Development Block Grant Housing Fund grant from the Iowa Economic Development Authority to rehabilitate 6 single-family, owner-occupied homes in the city limits. This program will be administered by Iowa Northland Regional Council of Governments. The total grant was \$235,927 of which Readlyn participated \$10,067. This program had a lot of prep work to get in and a special thanks to Lois for her work!! Readlyn has done this program in the past and was very successful, so we are looking forward to seeing work again. Any questions call City Hall.

With Kent Kuhlman moving out of town this left a Council seat open. I appointed Joseph Jones to finish this year's term. Welcome, Joey!

Elections are coming up this November. We have several Council terms open for election as well as the Mayor position. With all that's going on in government around us, please keep local governments in mind! You can make a difference!

Thanks,

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

Send news of your club, organization or church to the *Readlyn Chronicle* at: **ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com**



Leaf burning allowed Oct. 1-Nov. 15

The City of Readlyn will permit burning of leaves, but not the burning of building materials or other household wastes.

Burning can take place Oct. 1 to Nov. 15, 2019.

Reminder: No burning will be allowed on paved streets or sidewalks. Please be considerate of your neighbors when burning and do not burn wet leaves.

Trick or Treat In Readlyn Sunday, Oct. 27



4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

SPECIALS:

Mondays

\$2 Hot Ham & Cheese

Tuesdays

\$1.50 Hamburgers

Wednesdays

\$1.50 Tacos

Thursdays

\$2.50 Tenderloins

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Sat. 11am-10pm;

Sun. 4 pm-9pm

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Miss Readlyn Comments

By Anna Richards



I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and that you are all getting back into the school routine. I had an amazing time representing Readlyn at the Bremer County Fair Queen Contest. I learned a lot and met a lot of amazing girls. I can't wait to run again next year.

I am only a couple weeks into my senior year and I am already very excited for what this year has to offer. I have been very busy so far with cheerleading for football as well as FFA. I plan to stay busy by being involved in FFA throughout the year, basketball this winter, and golf this spring.

Football, cross country, and volleyball have all had a few games/meets and they are doing amazing. I have had a lot of fun watching the football games already and am excited to go and watch a few volleyball games and cross country meets. Best of luck to all the teams as they continue on through their seasons!

Homecoming was held September 15 - September 20. I had a lot of fun participating in the dress-up days, cheering at the football game, going to the drive-in movie, and going to the dance. Congratulations to all of the candidates that were elected to the homecoming court, and a big congratulations to the King and Queen that were crowned. You will have an amazing year!

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Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Community Calendar

Mondays - Novel Knitters 6:00 pm at the library

Tuesday, October 1-V.F.W. Post #5661 7:30 pm Readlyn Telephone Co.

Tuesday, October 8 - VFW 7:30 pm at the library; Coloring at the library 1-3pm

Thursday October 10 - Flu Shot Clinic at the library 3-5 pm

Wednesday, October 16 - Senior Citizens lunch and cards 11:30 am at Inspired

Thursday, October 17 - Deadline for the Oct. 30 *Chronicle*, 5 pm

Thursday, October 24 - Grumptoberfest, Readlyn Savings Bank, 4:30-8:30 pm

Sunday, October 27 - Trick or Treat in Readlyn, 4-6 pm

Wednesday, October 30 - Merry Elders 11:30 am at Inspired

Thursday, November 7 - Readlyn Reads Book Discussion, *This Blessed Earth* by Ted Genoways 7 pm at library

Readlyn Community Happenings



Ruth Steinbronn

Ruth Steinbronn celebrates her 90th birthday

Ruth Steinbronn celebrated her 90th birthday with her family on September 22.

She was born September 17, 1929, near Buck Creek Iowa.

Her family includes two children, Lois (Rick) Thacher, Readlyn IA, and Gene (Kathy) Peters, Tripoli, IA. One child, Judy Williams, is deceased. She has five stepchildren: Mark Steinbronn, Jerald (Elaine) Steinbronn, Jeffrey (Meg) Steinbronn, Sherri (Steve) Borglum and Michael Steinbronn (deceased); 16 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren.

If you would like to send her a birthday wish, her address is: Northrest Specialty Care, 2001 Heath Street, Waterloo, IA 50703.

Senior Citizens meet Aug. 21

On August 21, 2019, 16 members attended the 11:30 AM meal at Inspired for the Senior Citizens meeting. President Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer before the delicious meal.

The meeting: The treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht and the balance in the account after expenses was \$166.

The secretary's minutes from the July 17, 2019 meeting were read.

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

Birthdays for the month of August were Rick and Lois Thacher and Charlie Albrecht. Fred and Sonja Bast and Charlie and Wilda Albrecht were celebrating anniversaries.

OLD BUSINESS: Ice cream sundaes were served by the new Grump, Roland Schmidt, at the Readlyn Historical Museum on July 21 from 5-7 PM. There were a total of 10 Grumps that attended the ice cream social.

It was reported that 9 Grumps rode in the Tripoli parade on August 3 and 7 Grumps rode in the Denver Parade on August 17.

NEW BUSINESS: The Garden Club has started work on the new Gazebo on the Bike Trail Head. Funds of \$5000.00 for this project were left by the late Herb Clemen. This will be a nice addition to the

bike trail for people to enjoy. Thank you to the Herb Clemen family for this generous donation.

The Golf Cart ride on the bike trail was planned for September 21 from 1:30 to 4 PM. This is a leisurely golf cart ride on the bike trail from Readlyn to Killdeer and back. Riders were to meet behind Hartman's at 248 Clark Street by 1:15. To reserve a golf cart from Rudy's at a cost of \$10.00, please contact Pat Wehr at cell# 319-415-2001 or home, 319-279-3001.

The Readlyn Community Club was to meet August 29 at 6:30 PM for officers and directors and 7:00 PM for all members at Inspired.

The next meeting will be September 18 at 11:30 AM at Inspired.

Motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Roland Schmidt to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was followed by card playing and fellowship.

Verdeen Pavelec, Acting Secretary

Send news of your club, organization or church to the *Readlyn Chronicle* at: **ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com**

Some class members from Wapsie Valley High School – Class of 1972 gathered together on Saturday, August 17, 2019 and celebrated their birthdays with "The 65th Birthday Bash" at The Watering Hole, Readlyn.



These words can never truly convey how much we deeply thank all of you for remembering us and our family over these last few months. Our hearts are full of thankfulness for all your prayers, hugs, kind words, phone calls, visits, gifts, food, help with driving, help with our outside work, anniversary cards, and gifts; as well as all the sympathy cards and memorials, and get well cards for Virgil.

We are truly blessed by God's continued love as we heal from the tragic loss of our grandson, Brock, and all of Virgil's health issues. Thank you all so much. God's blessings to you all.

Virgil and Mary Matthias

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In Memory of Kenny Einfeld
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In Memory of Linda Schneider
Family of Linda Schneider
Trent and Nancy Lockard

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Foot Clinics Are Back

Starting January The Bremer County Health Department will begin having foot clinics at the Readlyn Library on the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Baby's First Book

The Readlyn Library strives to promote a lifetime of reading. If you know anyone in the Readlyn area that is expecting, stop by the library and register them to receive a free book. Help us welcome new Readlyn's newest residents to the world and also to the world of reading!

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Email: readlynlib@gmail.com
Website: www.readlyn.lib.ia.us

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

Barb Sowers' Final Shift
Everyone! Stop by the library on October 7th to bid a fond farewell to Barb on her last day. Barb has supported the community for over 20 years. Please take the time to let her know the effort was appreciated.

Flu Shot Clinic

The Readlyn Community Library will be hosting a **Flu Shot Clinic on October 10th. From 3:00-5:00.**

Infectious disease officials recommend everyone six months and older should get vaccinated every year by the end of October. The flu is contagious and can cause serious respiratory infection. The timing of seasonal flu activity is unpredictable and can vary, but most typically occurs between October and May. After vaccination, it can take two to four weeks for the antibodies that protect against the influenza virus infection to develop in the body. Vaccination is especially important for people at high risk for developing flu complications, such as adults age 65 and older, pregnant women, people with chronic medical conditions, and children younger than age five. Yearly vaccination provides the best protection against flu throughout the season.

"The flu is not something to be taken lightly – every year thousands of people are hospitalized or die from the illness," said Susan Rehm, M.D., an infectious disease specialist at Cleveland Clinic. "By getting vaccinated, you're protecting yourself and others by lessening the amount of flu that's spread around the community."

The 2018-2019 flu season lasted 21 weeks, making it the longest season in a decade. The CDC estimates around 42 million people were sickened by influenza, leading to up to 647,000 hospitalizations and 61,200 deaths.

New DVDs

- The Secret Life of Pets 2
- Godzilla: King of the Monsters
- MIB: International
- Scooby-Doo: Return to Zombie Island
- The Dead Don't Die
- Aladdin



Color Us Creative

JOIN US
Tuesday, October 8th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Halloween Photos

When your ghost, ghou, princess, or pirate stops by the library for this they can get a spooky photo taken. Guardians must be present, photos will be available to print at the library for a fee or sent to your email for free.

Story Hour Is Back

Every Thursday at 9:00 starting September 26th. Stop by the library or give us a call if you have any questions.

Idea for an event? Let us know!

Remember: The library is the perfect place to do homework!

New Webpage Coming Soon!

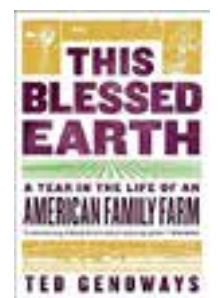
The State Library and SILO are introducing a new website platform for Iowa libraries that receive website hosting from the State Library.

The new platform will offer a fresh, modern appearance, easy to use editing tools and offers many benefits for libraries, most important to our customers, the new website will be more responsive for mobile and tablet users.



October's title:
This Blessed Earth
by Ted Genoways

Pick up a copy at the library and join us for discussion on
Thursday November 7th at 7:00 pm
(Postponed a week due to Halloween)



The family farm lies at the heart of our national identity, yet its future is in peril. Rick Hammond grew up on a small ranch, and for forty years he has raised cattle and crops on his wife's fifth-generation homestead in York County, Nebraska, in hopes of passing it on to their four children. But as the handoff nears, their small family farm—and their entire way of life—are under siege. Rising corporate ownership of land and livestock is forcing small farmers to get bigger and bigger, assuming more debt and more risk. At the same time, after nearly a decade of record-high corn and soybean prices, the bottom has dropped out of the markets, making it ever harder for small farmers to shoulder their loans. All the while, the Hammonds are confronted by encroaching pipelines, groundwater depletion, climate change, and shifting trade policies. Far from an isolated refuge beyond the reach of global events, the family farm is increasingly at the crossroads of emerging technologies and international detente. Following the Hammonds from harvest to harvest, Ted Genoways explores this rapidly changing landscape of small, traditional farming operations, mapping as it unfolds day to day. *This Blessed Earth* is both a concise exploration of the history of the American small farm and a vivid, nuanced portrait of one family's fight to preserve their legacy and the life they love.

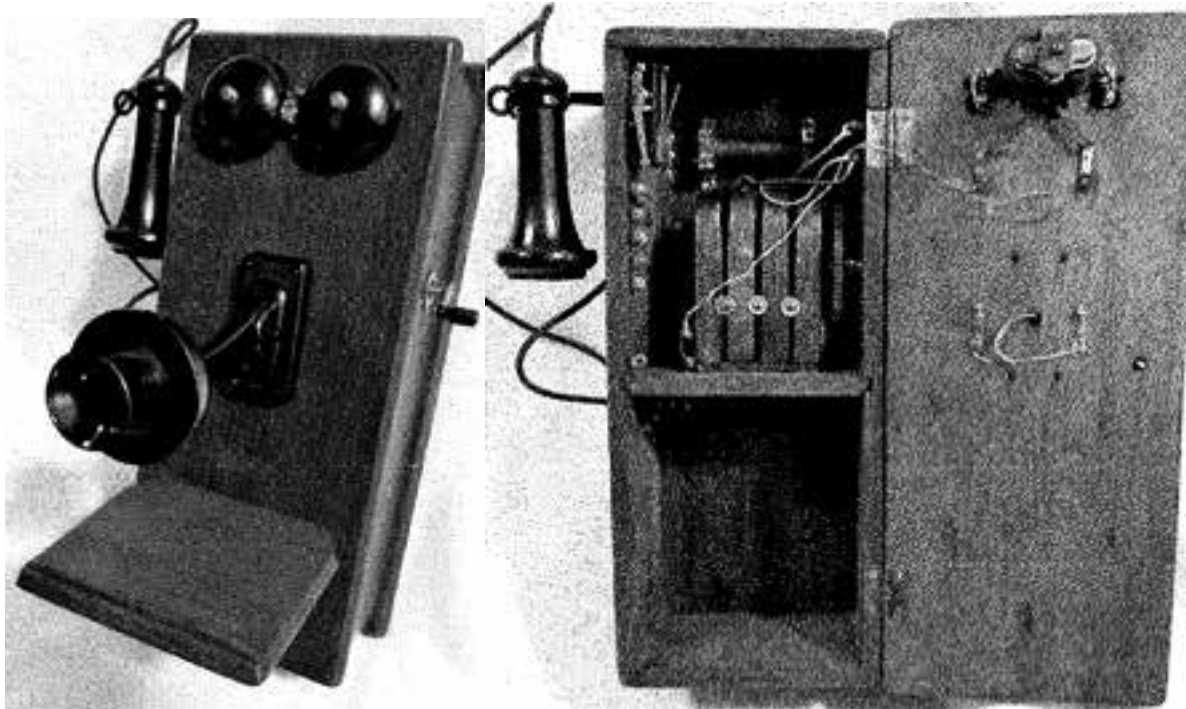




Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

The Telephone Older Folks Grew Up With



One of the most entertaining, interesting, even humorous eras in early Readlyn history was the era of the old style wall phone and the party line. I am writing about the situation as of the year 1959, the year I left Readlyn.

At that time, the telephone office was located in a home directly across Main Street from City Hall. Gertrude Greise Pooch was the telephone operator. Her husband, Arnold, assisted her. I will attempt to describe the workings of the telephone system.

The old style wall telephone is illustrated in two pictures (above), one from the front, and one with the open back. Viewed from the front the phone had a receiver hanging on the left side, a mouthpiece protruding in front and a small crank on the right along with two bells at the top

To make a call, first put the receiver to your left ear, then turn that little crank on the right side. Turning that crank activated a dynamo, (totally visible in the picture) generating electricity enough to cause the bells on the upper part of the phone to ring, as well as the bells of all the phones on the party line and also alerted the telephone switchboard. A party line consisted of a group of patrons numbering up to ten or more who were interconnected on the same telephone line coming from the telephone switchboard.

The typical switchboard is

shown in the third picture (below). The board was manually operated with someone on duty at all times. It was recommended that calls be made only between 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM unless there was an emergency. After regular hours, for the convenience of the operator, there was a bed in the nearby room to enable her to process calls.

MAKING A CALL TO A PARTY IN THE READLYN DIRECTORY NOT ON YOUR PARTY LINE: Turn the crank activating the bells for one short ring, the method by which the operator was reached. The operator would plug a phone jack attached to a cord into the hole in the board for the caller's phone line. The operator would acknowledge the caller with the word "central." The caller would reply by giving a four digit number, the number of the



party with whom the caller wished to speak. The operator would place the jack attached to the other end of the cord into the number of the line connecting the two parties.

The first two digits of the number called was the number of the line on which the party being called was located. The last two digits designated the sequence of long rings and short rings assigned a specific telephone on the party line. For instance, my dad's tavern number was

3404. The first two digits, 34, identified the line 34 on the board and the last two digits, 04, designated the phone located on the wall in the tavern. As I remember, 04 designated the combination of one long and one short ring.

Luann Happel said her telephone ring was three short rings, her last two digits on her number possibly being 03. For instance, 05 could have been, short, short, long, long, with 08 possibly being long, short, short, long, etc. Ted Diercks' call at home was short, short, long, short, short. To end a call, turn the crank slightly giving a ding, notifying the operator the call was ended.

TO CALL SOMEONE ON YOUR PARTY LINE: Simply turn the crank on your phone to ring the sequence of shorts and longs assigned to the phone of the party line you wish to reach.

TO CALL LONG DISTANCE: All calls went through the operator. Give the operator the number and she would place the call. A caller had two options, either to place the call person-to-person or station-to-station. A person-to-person was more expensive, however, there was no charge if your party was not contacted.

A phone booth was available near the door in the telephone office. I seem to recall that a call to Denver cost 12 cents. We guys would use this phone booth to call gals for dates. Once in awhile, the gals might be free and say yes! Collect calls went through the operator.

The era of party telephone lines was an interesting and unique period in Readlyn history. A big laugh can always be heard

when someone brings up the subject of party lines. When one phone would ring, all phones on the line would ring. Imagine how often the phone would ring during the day and how alert the family would have to be to answer their own ring. When a phone would ring, all on the line would know who was being called. There was absolutely no privacy! Others on the line could lift the receiver and rubberneck. People who listened in were called rubbernecker! Rubbernecking was a favorite pastime for some on the line! When someone would lift the receiver to rubberneck, a soft click could be heard. One caller told all rubbernecker to get off the line, this is a private call. I doubt if all complied with his demand! There was a case of a woman who had a difficult time getting her work done because she was too busy rubbernecking. A person I know came home from a dance at the Coliseum Ballroom in Oelwein, at 2:00 a.m., rang his own phone, rang his phone again immediately to give the call a sense of urgency, then would count the number of clicks on the line. People would get out of bed to rubberneck. A call at this time of day would wake everyone on the party line.

In making a call, it was impossible to determine if the line was open: the only method was to lift the receiver and listen if someone is talking. There were some who monopolized the line, frustrating the others. There often could be a long wait until the line was free. Gene Nieman said that there were four on his line, he and three women. The line was seldom open. Sometimes they talked for two hours or longer. He had to make his calls later in the evening. I could cite many other examples of callers finding difficulty attempting to access their line.

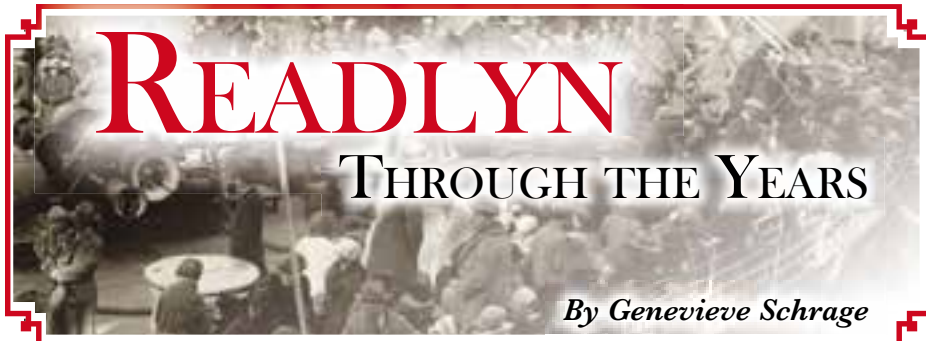
With the cooperation of all households on the same line everything went well. If an emergency arose and the line was in use, break in, state that there is an emergency and people would readily give up the line! It was a good bet that they would listen in.

A general ring consisting of seven short rings was used to contact all lines on the switchboard simultaneously. This method was used for announcements and sometimes to announce the name of the Wednesday evening summer movies. A merchant could also pay for an announcement.

An additional duty for the telephone operator was to manually turn on the switch activating the town whistle, which happened at 7:00 am, 12 pm, 1:00 pm and 6:00 pm. All emergency fire calls were also handled by the operator. In those days, the telephone operator had arguably the most important job in town.



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Part Two

Continued from last month's Chronicle

Most towns had picket fences set up to collect tin cans. Farms were growing crops that were never grown in this area before. In our family, we grew flax, which was handled much like oats and was made into linen for parachutes. We grew sugar beets to help supply the lack of available sugar cane. Our own supply of cane from Louisiana was not enough sugar for our country. Growing sugar beets increased greatly after the war, and it was accepted more highly.

Bananas and pineapples had to be imported, so they were very scarce. Also,

any other foods that had to be imported were not arriving.

Stamp books were issued for a number of items. There were books for meats and cheeses, books for sugar (corn syrup was a substitute), books for shoes, books for gasoline.

In the early days of the war, when fighting was taking place in almost every corner of the civilized world, there were organizations of many kinds, coming together, making everyone aware that the United States was at war and that was no picnic. There were school organizations besides women's groups that made blankets, quilts, and warm weather and cold weath-

er clothing. Many high schools joined together and drafted upperclassmen who were interested in joining the U.S. Citizens' Defense Corps. Some were Medical Corps helpers; some were responsible for alerting citizens of a black-out over a densely populated area. From the years of 1941-1943, the country was made more alert of bombing our Western coastline area. Our group of five or six from Readlyn, a few more from Waverly, Tripoli and Sumner, met twice a week in Tripoli, for a year or a bit more, at least until the biggest threat was over. Dr. Swensen, a chemistry teacher at Wartburg, gave us a list of many unheard-of chemicals which we had to memorize—I don't remember that we got that job done. We also had to learn to march from the commander. We practiced that quite often, but couldn't quite see the reason for that.

People realized that the war was becoming very serious, and then the Supreme European Commander Eisenhower met with other Allied leaders and came up with the D-Day plan, for June 6, 1944. The leaders knew this undertaking would take many lives, even if it succeeded, but, after a thorough plan had been put forth, they had confidence that, by using parachutes, navy forces and army forces, besides all their war equipment, there was some chance of succeeding. The German people were hoping for freedom from the Nazi rule. They cheered the Allied invasion. Millions of Jews were executed by the Nazis.

I was going to college at the time, and many girls had boyfriends who would be involved in the landing. I did have a casual friend with whom I was learning my geography and history lessons. I had heard of Farragut, Idaho, Great Lakes Naval Station, College Station and Corpus Christie, Texas, and Alameda, California and then the individual islands of the Philippines, and then all my lessons stopped.

The D-Day invasion was a success for

the Allies, and Hitler was driven back having lost his territory, and disappeared. By 1945, President Roosevelt had become desperately ill, and in the early spring, he died. Soon after his death, the Axis powers in Europe gave up and the war in Europe was ended. It was VE Day, but the war was still carrying on in the rest of the world, so there was not much celebrating. Now the big problem was Japan, who was not about to give up. But then came the Atomic Bomb!

General Paul Tibbets dropped the first bomb (I think that he was a general, at least he should have been). The first Atomic Bomb hit Hiroshima--then several days later, another was dropped on Nagasaki. That did it! With thousands of lives lost, Japan gave up! The World War was over on August 13, 1945, with the official signing on August 15, on the battleship Missouri.

Again, I was going to college and this was an observance that I shall never forget. Automobiles were going 55-65 miles per hour again, after having been trained to drive no more than 35 miles an hour for 4 years. Gas rationing, along with other forms of rationing, was ended; it took a while to build up supplies of many things. Such things might have been household appliances and farm machinery, along with construction machinery.

I had filled up my car with gasoline several days before the war was over, but I had forgotten my gasoline stamp book. The lady was not going to let me have any gas, but then she relented and said that maybe they might not check her out. Just four days later the war was over.

As has been said, there is only one good thing about having a war — there are new inventions that spring up. In this case, we saw the new generation of "plastics," and how! In my case, we did not need the shoe rationing stamps toward the end of the war — plastic shoes had already entered the market.

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Readlyn Community Happenings



Recycle!

A committee of LaVerne and Judy Leistikow, Ron Leistikow, Chris Davis and GaryLee Thurm have been sacking cans and boxing bottles. It helps to do this about twice monthly to assist the Redemption Center so they can keep up with the collections. Shown in the photo at left is GaryLee Thurm at the Readlyn Recycle Plant.

VFW Auxiliary meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met September 10, 2019 at the Readlyn Community Library 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. Volunteer hours were turned in. 12 Legislative letters and 2 telephone calls were made and sent in.

Ellen Thies and Verdeen Pavelec attended 3rd District meeting at the post #3914 in Charles City. 1600 pop tabs were turned in for Ronald McDonald House.

Big 10 Conference will be October 18-20, 2020 in Omaha, NE. Mid-Conference will be January 17-20, 2020 in Des Moines. State Convention will be June 4-7, 2020 in Des Moines. We're invited to National President Peggy Haake's visit to V.F.W. Post #2208 in Waverly, October 3. September is Military and Veterans suicide awareness month. Verdeen Pavelec visited Jean Wells and Arlyce Heideman in Sumner. 349 canceled stamps were turned in. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to adjourn. Carried. The meeting closed with prayer. Hostess was Wilda Albrecht.

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Wapsie Valley FFA members to receive American Degrees

By Kaylee Kleitsch, Chapter Reporter

We are proud to say that this year we will have nine members receiving their American Degrees at National Convention in Indianapolis. National Convention will be held the last week of October, with the American FFA Degree award ceremony on November 2nd. Congratulations to all of these members who have worked so hard to receive this degree!

- Sean Banger
- Britney Hershey
- Erika Jeanes
- Jacob Joerger
- Landon Kuhlmann
- Megan Lahmann
- Austin Schares
- Sidney Schnor
- Carson Woods

As the highest degree achievable in the National FFA Organization, the American FFA Degree shows an FFA member's ded-

ication to his or her chapter and state FFA association. It demonstrates the effort FFA members apply toward their supervised agricultural experience and the outstanding leadership abilities and community involvement they exhibited through their FFA career.

Thank You

The family of Dennis Peters would like to thank everyone for prayers, food, visits and other acts of kindness at the time of his untimely death.

He will be missed by many.

God bless you all.



Louie and Ron Hartman relax by the Coors waterfall that Ron constructed.

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Local firefighters receive hands-on industrial fire response training

St. Paul, Minn. – On July 27 and 28 and August 10 and 11, firefighters from the Independence Volunteer Fire Department and the Fairbank Fire Department attended an industrial firefighting training program hosted by Flint Hills Resources at its Pine Bend refinery near St. Paul, Minn.

Firefighters Judd Taylor, Adam Kuhse, Richard Newton, Morgan Jacobs, Jesse Manning, Jacob Wolf, Conner Jones, Collin Woods, Tyler Odneal and Carson Woods joined volunteer firefighters from three other Iowa and Nebraska departments for the training. Participants received hands-on instruction in battling live fires, hose handling and teamwork, offensive attacks on pressure fires, proper use of firefighting foam, defensive cooling and fire extinguisher training. The training was provided by members of the Pine Bend Refinery Fire Department, a professional firefighting force that serves the refinery.

“The refinery’s fire training grounds provide firefighters an opportunity to review response techniques and perform in many different fire rescue scenarios,” said Chief Brad Gordon of the Fairbank Fire Department. “The training has improved our firefighters’ ability to respond to a variety of fire emergencies.”

Flint Hills Resources, which owns and

operates the ethanol plant in Rosemount, Minn., sponsors the annual training program to help enhance local fire departments’ emergency response capabilities for the communities they serve. The company provides the training at no cost. Twenty-nine firefighters from nine Iowa and Nebraska fire departments near its biofuels and ingredients production facilities trained at the Pine Bend refinery this year. This is the sixth year Flint Hills Resources has offered the training program to these fire departments.

“We appreciate the important role that the Fairbank Fire Department and the Independence Volunteer Fire Department play in our community,” said Garland Krabbenhoft, plant manager at Flint Hills Resources Fairbank facility. “These volunteer firefighters gave up their personal time and went above and beyond what’s required of them to attend this training. We thank them for everything they do to keep our community safe.”

Departments participating in the weekend training were the Alden Fire Department (Alden, Iowa), Beatrice Fire and Rescue (Beatrice, Neb.), Fairbank Fire Department (Fairbank, Iowa), Independence Volunteer Fire Department (Independence, Iowa) and Odebolt Volunteer Fire Department (Odebolt, Iowa).



Fairbank volunteer firefighters, left to right, Conner Jones, Collin Woods, Tyler Odneal and Carson Woods participated in the August 2019 training session held at the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend Refinery near St. Paul, Minn.



Readlyn Community Club is in need of 10x10 pop-up tents for Grump Days. If you have one you could donate, it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Dani Sauerbrei at the bank. Thank you!

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News from Wapsie Valley Elementary



Wapsie Valley Elementary students participated in the Be Academy and learned all about the expectations in and around school. Our associates, bus drivers, cafeteria staff, office staff, custodians, and teachers did an incredible job teaching students what it means to show the Warrior Way at all times!



2nd graders from Fairbank and Readlyn went to Fontana and learned about different specimens that live in the water and also tagged monarchs. The Monarch Watch Tagging Program is a large-scale citizen science project to help understand the monarch's fall migration. Tagging helps answer questions about the origins of monarchs that reach Mexico, the timing and pace of the migration, mortality during the migration, and changes in geographic distribution. Each butterfly is tagged with a unique code. The tags are lightweight, circular tags which were designed by Monarch Watch specifically for tagging monarchs. The tags do not interfere with flight or otherwise harm the butterflies. Citizen scientists capture monarchs throughout the migration season, record the tag code, tag date, gender of the butterfly and location, then tag and release them. At the end of the tagging season, these data are submitted to Monarch Watch and added to the database to be used in research. If you would like to learn more about Monarch Watch visit www.monarchwatch.org/.



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News from **Wapsie Valley Elementary**



Wapsie Valley Warriors love science! We love observing, investigating, making predictions, forming a hypothesis, testing and gathering evidence, and drawing conclusions. Check out these 4th and 5th graders experimenting!

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Wapsie Valley exhibitors take on Buchanan, Bremer Co. Fairs

By Kaylee Kleitsch, Chapter Reporter

Students from the Wapsie Valley FFA enjoyed presenting, showing, and helping out at the Buchanan and Bremer County Fairs this summer during various events. Buchanan's fair was held July 1-7 in Independence, while Bremer held theirs July 28 through August 3 in Waverly. If you attended either of the fairs, you could find FFA members helping escort queen candidates, working in the Cattlemen's booths, Grandstand Concessions, FFA Tenderloin Meal, Pedal Pull, or caring for and showing their livestock.

We had three of our own students run for Fair Queen between both counties. From Buchanan, Lydia Martins and Kaylee Kleitsch went through the interview process while Bremer had Anna Richards and Britney Shover running. Lydia Martins was awarded Princess from Buchanan County.

There were many different members that helped out during those two weeks. Courtney Schmitz said "Some might think working concessions for hours would be awful, but working with these great people makes time go fast!" Another student, Dallas Wittenburg, worked the Bremer Cattlemen's booth every day of the week this year. When asked why, he said "Cattlemen's was a fun, fast-paced environment. We got the opportunity to work with many nice people and it was a great way to volunteer and serve hundreds in the community. The Cattlemen's Association was very appreciative of the extra help during lunch hour when it got busy." Huge thank-you to everyone that volunteered their time and effort to make the fairs run as smoothly as possible!

Results of the livestock shows are as follows:

Buchanan Beef Show

Bryce Kleitsch
Continental Cow/Calf Pairs - Blue
Crossbred Steers - Blue

Buchanan Dairy Show

Reily Richards
Holstein Intermediate Calf - Reserve Champion
Hannah Miller
Holstein Senior Calf - Reserve Champion
Anna Richards
Holstein Junior Yearling - Champion

Buchanan Swine Show

Lydia Martins
Breeding Gilts - Reserve
Gilt - Blue(2)
Barrow - Blue
Pen of Two - Blue

Buchanan Horse Show

Katie Mortenson
Halter - Champion
Three Year Old and Older Mare - Champion
Sr Barrels - Champion
Sr Texas Flag Race - Champion
Sr Speed Race - Champion
Sr Poles - Champion
Sr Keyhole - Champion
Trail Class - Blue
Sr Western Pleasure - Champion

Buchanan Meat Goat Show

Lydia Martins
Full Blood, 12-24 Months, Never Freshened - Champion
Full Blood, 4 Years and Older - Champion
Percentage/Commercial, 0-6 Months - Blue
Pen of Two Breeding Stock, Commercial - Reserve Champion
Senior Showman - Champion

Bremer Beef Show

John Ebaugh
Champion Rate of Gain
Dairy Market Steers - Blue
Scramble Calf - Blue
Bremer County Born and Raised - Blue



Julia LaRue leads her Dairy Beef Steer at the Buchanan Beef Show.

Julia LaRue
Dairy Market Steers - Blue
Bremer County Born and Raised Steers - Blue
Market Beef Heifers (All Breeds) - Blue
Karrisa Michael
Scramble Calf - Blue
Bremer County Born and Raised Steers - Blue
Britney Shover
Bremer County Born and Raised Steers - Blue
Shorthorn Plus Breeding Heifer - Blue
Feeder Heifer Calves (All Breeds) - Blue
Feeder Steer Class - Blue

Bremer Dairy Show

Luke Koepke
Breed Junior Champion, Jersey
Jersey - Blue

Bremer Poultry Show

Julia LaRue
Brown Egg Layers - Red
Brown Egg Layers - Champion
American Hen - Champion Overall
Karissa Michael

Miscellaneous Cockerel - Blue
Asiatic Hen - Red
Britney Shover
Bantam Old Drake - Blue(2)
Young Drake Heavyweight - Blue(2)
Bantam Single Comb Clean Legged Rooster - Red
Old Drake Medium Weight - Blue
Old Duck Heavyweight - Blue(2)
Bantam Single Combed Clean Legged Hen - Blue
Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship



Nick Grober, Mr. Forsyth, and Hannah Miller help out at the Bremer Pedal Pull.



Nick Grober escorts Kaylee Kleitsch at the Buchanan Co. Queen Coronation.

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By: Eric Johnston

Follow the Bait

Fall is in full swing and most outdoorsmen and outdoorswomen turn their attention to the many hunting opportunities around the area. I'm guilty of this as much as anyone, but what most don't realize is right now is some of the best fishing you will experience all year.

Weather patterns stay more consistent and the rivers are around normal levels so the fish, no matter the species you're after, stay in a more consistent pattern as the water cools. This month, I'll break that down for you.

Anyone who knows me, and as you read my articles, will find that I'm a bass nut! So a lot of what I'll be touching on is with bass in mind, but a lot of the info pertains to all species of fish we have around the area. A couple weeks ago, I planned a trip with my Dad, Doug. We fished pool ten of the Mississippi River and our entire day centered around one pattern, BAITFISH. What I mean by baitfish is minnows and shad that school up and head shallow as the water temperature drops.

We started the chilly September morning throwing topwater baits above a wingdam that connected to a point leading into a backwater slough. We cast our baits on the wingdam for a while and kept seeing a bald eagle flying overhead. Now, that's usually a normal occurrence on the river, but suddenly this eagle swooped down into the little slough and bass starting busting everywhere back there! I instantly hit

the trolling motor and positioned my boat so we could cast into the narrow cut. We both immediately started catching bass on nearly every cast!

We were using topwater baits that mimicked the shad the bass had pushed into the shallow water. I also had a rare occurrence happen: Dad hooked up with a three-pound bass and I was watching him fight the fish back to the boat when a bass blew up on my bait. I began my battle and quickly realized I had two bass hooked on my lure! That was a first for me!

This baitfish pattern is the deal in the fall for all species of fish. What happens is, as the water temperature starts to drop off of its summer time temp, the baitfish will school up and move shallow. A general rule temperature-wise that I like to use to put them into a fall pattern is usually in September and a drop of ten degrees from summer temps. The fish will use this feeding pattern right up to freeze-up as they bulk up for the long winter months when they move into deep wintering holes.

It always amazes me how shallow fish can get in the fall. On that trip, dad and I caught 30 fish off of one log that was in a foot of water! So don't be afraid to get shallow when looking for the schools of baitfish.

As far as baits to use, I like to mimic the bait size as best as I can. I love using a spinnerbait this time of year. With that I will select a blade size that is roughly the size of the shad I'm seeing in the water.



Doug Johnston

Also, it's tough to beat small shallow running crankbaits in the fall such as a Rapala dt 4 or lipless crankbaits such as rattletraps. Another tactic that is great for bass in the fall is top-water, much like dad and I used on this trip. I love to throw a pop-r or a Zara spook. The bass will absolutely blast it on top and it's such an exciting way to fish in the fall.

As far as colors go, you also want to mimic the color of the bait in the water, flashy colors and one of my favorites is gold. These same tactics also work for walleyes and crappies; you try your best to mimic the bait. Walleyes will be all over your crankbaits and rattletraps in the fall.



Eric Johnston

Also a twister tail or flashy-colored ringworm will work well for walleyes in the fall.

You can get after the crappies the same way, by throwing inline spinners or a minnow colored twistertails. There are many areas along the Cedar River or Wapsi river right here in the area where you can use this tactic to catch some quality fish. Check out Black Hawk and Bremer County's conservation webpage to find great accesses and parks along the Cedar and Wapsi that have fantastic fishing opportunities. You just might have some of your best fishing of the year!

Until next time, Get Outdoors!!



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Wapsie Valley FFA reminds everyone to stay safe on roads



First Responders from Fairbank, Oran, and Readlyn cover Hannah Miller's body.



Firefighters assess the two vehicles involved in the presentation.

By Kaylee Kleitsch, Chapter Reporter

As the new school year begins and many more student drivers are making their way to and from school every day, we want to remind everyone of the Mock Accident put on at the end of the last school year.

Thursday, May 23 started off as a normal day. However, by 4th period, the school was surrounded by firetrucks, EMS vehicles, and police cars. Nothing had actually happened, but it very easily could've.

The presentation started when Kaylee Kleitsch came running into the office, crying and asking for help. She had been looking at her phone while going to the parking lot and hit an oncoming car. The announcement came over the intercom for all students and staff to go outside by the baseball field driveway. The student body found a couple crashed cars around the corner of the school. Hannah Miller had been ejected from her passenger side seat and through the window, dead on scene. Anna Richards was unconscious on the steering wheel, and Reily Richards was seated in the back of the vehicle, untouched but screaming for help. Students looked on as Firefighters and EMS personnel from Readlyn, Oran, and Fairbank took care of the "injured" students and cleaned up the scene. Meanwhile, Bremer County Police arrested Kleitsch on scene.

Once all of the actors were taken where they needed to be, students and staff came into the auditorium for the funeral procession. Here, the casket was carried through,



Anna Richards had multiple wounds and was pronounced dead on the way to the hospital.

crash, said, "If it causes just one teen to think twice about not texting and driving, it makes it all worth it." Anna Richards said, "The mock accident seemed to have a large impact on the Wapsie student body. We hope that this will encourage them to not text and drive. Nothing on your phone

is more important than a life."

We urge everyone to please put down their phones, buckle up, and watch for other drivers while on the road this year in order to keep everyone safe. One small decision can change countless lives for worse, or for better.

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speeches were given from the students involved in the crash, their parents, some of the first responders, and policemen. Videos and a slideshow were played, all in an attempt to show people how large of an effect something like this can have on a person's life.

While something this large scale may seem excessive, showing people first-hand how devastating texting and driving or riding without a seatbelt on can be is very important. Ron Oltrogge, a Readlyn Volunteer Firefighter on the scene of the

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(319) 352-0418

Machine/Tractor Repair

L&L Ag Repair
2220 Reed Ave. (319) 279-3363

Nick's Repair - 211 Malone Ave.,
Readlyn, IA - (319) 279-3517 or
(319) 269-5604 - Service & repair of small
engines & outdoor power equipment

Reiter Repair LLC
3501 E. Cedar Wapsie Rd., Waterloo
319-279-3876 • Cell 319-231-2452

RA Machine
2504 230th St. • (319) 279-3161

Schuldt Repair
2261 Reed Ave. • (319) 279-3539

Specialty Businesses

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Massage Therapy & Reiki
Sheila Rosengarten, LMT, RMT
136 Main St, Readlyn, IA (319)290-3392

Buhrow's Floors N' More
240 South State St., Denver, IA
(319) 984-5301 • (866) 984-5301
bfloorsnmore@msn.com

Cedar Valley Portables, LLC
Nashua • (319) 535-3456 or
cedarvalleyportables@gmail.com

CrawDaddy Outdoors, LC
Owner: Darrin Siefken
107 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly
(319) 352-9129

The Jig & Fly Shop and Gary's Wood & Craft
Garylee Thurm
405 5th St. Place, Readlyn (319) 279-3219

Myers Polaris
304 E. Main, Fairbank, IA
(319) 635-2311 • (888) 282-9992
www.myerspolaris.com

Newy's Wireless Communications - US Cellular - Jeff Neuendorf
1022 Skyler St. PO Box 681, Denver, IA
(319) 240-7150

Panther Lanes
502 7th Ave. SW, Tripoli (319) 882-3753

Parkview Assisted Living
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Schumacher Elevator Company
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Smiley's Family Dentistry
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319-352-2270

Tenenbaum's Jewelry
219 E. Bremer Ave., Waverly
319-352-4112

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

Attorneys and Realtors

Dillon Law, P.C. - Patrick B. Dillon
Attorney at Law
209 E. 1st Street, Sumner, IA 50674
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FFA gains Wyatt Forsyth, new advisor

By Kaylee Kleitsch, Chapter Reporter

This May, Wapsie conducted interviews for a new FFA Advisor after Adam Saquitne announced his decision to continue his teaching career at Union High School. A short time later, Wyatt Forsyth was hired as the new teacher, advisor, and role model. He is ecstatic about this school year and everything that comes with it. At the moment, he's working on getting to know all of his students and everyone in the Wapsie Valley community.

When asked about his new job, Mr.

Forsyth said, “I am very excited to take on my new role here at Wapsie Valley High School. I can't wait to build relationships and see students exceed beyond what their own comfort zone consists of. The foundation within this FFA Chapter is outstanding and I plan on sticking to what keeps this chapter successful as well.”

All of the members are excited to see where this new change will bring our chapter and look forward to continue working with Mr. Forsyth.



Officer Retreat - (Left to Right) Kennadi Neil, Kaylee Kleitsch, Nick Grober, Hannah Miller, Rely Richards, Anna Richards, and Mr. Forsyth at Officer Retreat in July.

Mr. Forsyth (right) poses in front of the Wapsie Valley sign.

His Hands Food Pantry

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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
No Sunday School
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.