

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Volume 11, No. 7, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, July 25, 2018



Ray Bubba Sorenson completed painting of the Bremer County Freedom Rock on Sunday, July 1. He spent nine days painting it, and on the 4th of July committee members applied three coats of a sealant. Finally, on July 8, the tent was removed. There are plans to do lighting, flags and other landscaping in the near future. A huge thank you to everyone for their input, and for all the generous donations for this project.

Corn Growers plan summer activities

Eleven Bremer County Corn Growers Board members and Field Service Representative John Finley met July 9 at the East Bremer Diner to plan summer activities.

Member Bruce Lantsky shared the activities and learning of the Ag School that began in early April. He shared that 10 or 11 students learned about renting land, buying inputs and how to market the crops. They also were shown all the equipment needed to plant the crops and spray them and how to insure the crop for yield

and value. Several of them took a tour of the Flint Hills Ethanol Plant to see how so many products are made from corn.

President Steve Mummelthel went over the Bremer County Fair plans where the soybean growers will help with the bio-fuels trailer display, and promote the ag class for next year. Wednesday morning the board will serve the usual free breakfast of pancakes, eggs, sausage, milk and orange juice to all the fair workers and participants.

They discussed meetings to attend in-

cluding the District Roundtable at Fayette, and the ICGA Grassroots summit in Des Moines.

Also discussed were checkoff usage dollars. They are used to promote water quality, ethanol and its uses, GMOs, chemicals and animal issues and export and trade policies.

Of course, they discussed membership of the Association and encourage board members to contact producers and ask them to support the Association.



Members of the Bremer County Corn Growers Association Board met recently to finalize summer plans.

Scholarship established to honor teacher

During a 35-year career, Ellen Doese, Wapsie Valley Agricultural Education Teacher and FFA advisor, went above and beyond to positively impact the lives of her students. Now, in celebration of her retirement and in honor of her dedication, a new scholarship fund has been established with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa. The Ellen Doese Agricultural Education and FFA Scholarship Fund will continue Doese's legacy by providing scholarships to graduating seniors of Wapsie Valley High School pursuing a degree in an agricultural field and who have been enrolled a minimum of two years in agricultural classes and/or the Wapsie Valley FFA program.

"Ms. D, as her students fondly called her, devoted herself to bringing out the best in each student and helping them find their own potential. The students were her life and she always put them before herself," said Becky Winkey, Doese's sister and the person behind the fund's establishment. "This fund will make sure Ellen's passion for and commitment to impacting student lives continues for generations of students to come."



Ellen Doese

A retirement open house was held Saturday, June 30 at the American Legion in Fairbank. All were welcome to help celebrate Doese and her successful years with the Wapsie Valley FFA and Agricultural Education programs. In lieu of gifts, guests were asked to make a donation to the scholarship fund.

Financial gifts to the fund of any size are still welcome. Gifts can be mailed to the CFNEIA administrative office at 3117 Greenhill Circle, Cedar Falls, IA 50613. Checks should be made payable to the Ellen Doese Agricultural Education and FFA Scholarship Fund. Gifts can also be made on the Community Foundation's secure website at fund.cfneia.org/doeseagscholarship.

As the Ellen Doese Agricultural Education and FFA Scholarship Fund is a permanent endowment fund with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa, donors to the fund can take advantage of a 25% state tax credit made available through the Endow Iowa program, in addition to normal federal deductions for charitable gifts.

For more information about the fund, please visit www.cfneia.org or contact Elizabeth Hackbarth, Director of Development, with the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa at 319-243-1352 or ehackbarth@cfneia.org.



Miss Readlyn Cassidy Brunscheon and 2018 Grump Larry Ladage served ice cream sundaes at a special event July 15 at the Readlyn Historical Society.



New Readlyn residents Matt and Devin Matthias enjoy ice cream.



Maren Jones' Birthday Party came down for ice cream!



Readlyn's most senior male resident, Wilbert Huebner, along with son, Dan, and his wife enjoyed the ice cream and social time (above left). The Brent Miller family (above right) also enjoyed the event.



Open Letter to the Citizens of Readlyn:

As proud as I am to be a resident of this wonderful community, I was recently told of a child from this community was seen on top of the newly painted Freedom Rock. I have a hard time imagining anyone showing such disrespect for our flag. It is very hurtful to me and I'm sure that anyone seeing that happen would feel the same way.

Of course I am concerned about the safety of the child, anyone falling from the rock could be seriously injured or worse. If you are aware of this, please have a special visit with that child and inform them how dangerous and disrespectful it is.

Thank you,
 Charlie Albrecht, 2016 Grump and Freedom Rock Committee member.

Grump's Grumblings

By Larry Ladage



Janet and I attended the Dedication of the Howard County Freedom Rock in Cresco a few weeks ago. They had an excellent program, which also included Bubba Sorenson, the artist who paints the Freedom Rocks around the state. We saw two of Readlyn's former Grumps and their wives at the event. The program ended with the Oakridge Boys singing *The National Anthem*.

Bremer County's Freedom Rock is finished now and they will be having a Dedication at some point also. If you haven't done so, stop out at the park in Readlyn and take a look at it.

The Readlyn Historical Society was scheduled to serve ice cream sundaes for 25 cents on Sunday, July 15. Miss Readlyn and myself helped serve the sundaes.

I am driving for summer school for Tripoli Schools to River Hills, Cedar Falls. That will keep me busy until the end of July.

Hopefully the former Grumps and myself will be riding in the Tripoli Parade on August 4 and the Denver Parade on August 18. Come and share the excitement.

Only in a town like Readlyn can you walk down the street, or go into local businesses and have everyone wave or talk to you. Always makes me feel like I belong here.

Guess that is all until next month's article. Enjoy summer!
 Larry Ladage, 2018 Grump

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Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Miss Readlyn Comments

By Cassidy Brunscheon



Hello! First, I would like to thank everyone who made it possible for me to become Miss Readlyn 2018. I would like to thank my sponsor, Farmer's Co-op, the lovely ladies who put the queen contest together, Sheila Boevers and Dani Sauerbrei, the Community Club for putting on a spectacular Grump Days, all the volunteers, and my parents for being so supportive! I've dreamed of being Miss Readlyn since I was a little girl, and it is very surreal to me that it is really happening. I also want to congratulate runner-up, Caitlin McElhose, and all the other candidates who participated this year. They are all amazing representatives of Readlyn.

Summer has been crazy so far. At Grump Days I was crowned queen along with Larry Ladage as the 2018 Grump. I spent the weekend riding in the parade, eating delicious food, listening to great music, and volunteering with Kids in the Park. Immediately after Grump Days, I packed my bags and headed off to Luther College for a week-long music camp called Dorian. There, I spent every day singing, doing musical theatre, and meeting lots of new people. The mass choir for the camp was 230 people! I love music, so being around people who love it just as much as I do was a great experience. My summer has been filled with taking the ACT test, college visits, a trip to Minnesota to visit family, and working at the Watering Hole.

My first duty as Miss Readlyn was attending the Historical Society Ice Cream Social. There, Larry and I served ice cream to all the people who attended. The night was filled with ice cream, socializing, and many pesky flies! It was nice to see so many people from the community all come together for a sweet treat! I'm writing this right after the event, and I couldn't have been happier the way it turned out. My next event is running for Bremer County Fair Queen at the end of July.

Even though it is still July, school never ends! I'm a football cheerleader this year and practices have already started! I'm so excited for this football season, so make sure you mark your calendars for all the home games. I also want to congratulate the Wapsie Valley baseball team for earning the District Championship and moving on to Sub-State (the first time in over 20 years).

I am so honored to be your Miss Readlyn 2018 and I will represent my town the best I can. Thank you!
 Miss Readlyn, Cassidy Brunscheon

Community Calendar

Mondays - Novel Knitters at the library 6 PM.
Tuesday, Aug. 7 - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.
Tuesday, Aug. 7 - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.
August 7 - School registration 11:00 AM-7:00 PM.
August 8 - School registration 9:00 AM-3:00 PM.
Wednesday, Aug. 8 - Merry Elders at Inspired 11:30 AM.
Thursday, Aug. 9 - Community Club Meeting at The Watering Hole; Officers at 6:30 PM, Members at 7:00 PM.
Tuesday, Aug. 14 - V.F.W. Auxiliary at the the home of Verdeen Pavelec, 7:30 pm.
Wednesday, Aug. 15 - Senior Citizens lunch and cards at Inspired, 11:30 AM.
Thursday, Aug. 16 - Jigsaw Puzzle Competition at the library 6:00 PM; Deadline 5 PM for Aug. 29 *Chronicle*.
Thursday, Aug. 23 - First Day of School for students.
Tuesday, Aug. 28 - Coloring at the library, 1-3 PM.
Thursday, Aug. 30 - Book Talk, 7 PM at the library.

Readlyn Community Happenings

Community Club meeting Aug. 9

The regular meeting of the Readlyn Community Club will be held at the Watering Hole Thursday, Aug. 9 at 7 p.m. All members are invited to attend. We will discuss the 2018 Readlyn Grump Days and any changes for the 2019 event. Also we will be discussing fall activities and will have a report from the Freedom Rock committee about future plans for landscaping the area. This is your opportunity to share your ideas and become involved in your community. Please plan on attending.

Pepper Tournament

The results of the pepper tournament on Friday evening of Readlyn Grump Days are as follows:

- 1st Place: Jason Huebner and Miles Matthias - 226
- 2nd Place: Roger and Connie Buhr - 199
- 3rd Place: Coty Albers and Sean VanNatta - 143
- 4th Place: Shirley Kuker and Judy Henn - 132

Pavelec reunion

The 23rd Ed and Louisa Pavelec family reunion was held Sunday, July 8, 2018 at the Readlyn City Park with a noon pot-luck.

Twenty-five family members attended from Waterloo, Hudson, Readlyn, Janesville, Cedar Falls, Williamsburg, Tripoli, Oran, New Hartford and Waverly. The afternoon was spent visiting.

Traveling the longest distance were Scott and Robin Williams from Williamsburg. The youngest was Elisha Pavelec, two-year-old son of Craig and Jamie Pavelec of Tripoli. The oldest attending was LaVera Bergen, 84 years old of Waterloo. Hosts were LaVera Bergen and family of Waterloo and Hudson.

A golf tournament was held Saturday, July 7 with 8 people participating in Parkersburg.

VFW Auxiliary

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met July 10, 2018 at the home of Darlene Peters at 7:30 p.m. with seven members present. The meeting opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. The minutes and treasurer's report were read and accepted. The General Orders and chairman reports were read by all.

We sent clippings of our installation of officers to State Historian Kathy Schreiber and 3rd District Historian Linda Tasler. A motion was made by Luann Happel to take our savings and put it in our checking account and Darlene Peters seconded it, carried.

Seven letters were handed out about the veterans' bill to send to congressmen. The Auxiliary financial report and number of members were given to the V.F.W. post commander.

The 3rd District meeting will be at the Osage Post August 25, 2018. 3,109 pop tabs were turned in for Ronald McDonald House. Volunteer hours were turned in and 187 hours were turned in for May and sent in. A card and gift was sent to Mary Lockard after having surgery in Arizona. A card and Kwik Trip gift card were sent to Darlene Tiedt after being hospitalized.

A motion was made by Marrillee Tiedt and seconded by Wilda Albrecht to adjourn, carried. The meeting closed with prayer. Hostess was Darlene Peters.



Don and Kathy Blasberg, Aug. 20, 1978



Kathy and Don Blasberg

Blasbergs to note 40th anniversary

Don and Kathy Blasberg of Tripoli will be celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary with an open house Sunday, August 12, 2018, at the Readlyn Community Event Center, Readlyn, IA, from 3-8 PM.

Kathy Haase and Don Blasberg were married August 20, 1978, at Faith United Church of Christ in Tripoli, IA. Don is engaged in farming and Kathy is employed at Innovative Ag Services, Oran, IA.

They are the parents of two daughters, Kristy (Matt) Manson of New Hampton, IA and Sarah (Heath) Vignes of North Liberty, IA. Their grandchildren are Braden and Brooks Manson of New Hampton, IA.



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1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

For the Library's 50th year, 50 Things you can do at the library

1. Check out Books
2. Check out Movies
3. Use Computers
4. Public Wi-Fi
5. Magazines
6. Consumer Reports online
7. Local Newspapers
8. Copy machine
9. Document scanning
10. Fax: Sending and receiving
11. Lamination services
12. Multi-Purpose Room Rental
13. Story hour
14. Play chess / checkers
15. Coloring
16. Book discussion
17. Audio Books
18. Job search resources
19. ABC Mouse
20. Awe Computer for Kids
21. Toy box
22. Puzzles
23. InterLibrary Loan
24. Foot Clinic
25. City Sign Messages
26. Bridges E-Books and Audiobooks
27. Wapsie Valley Yearbooks
28. Multi-media projector
29. Overhead projector
30. Typewriter
31. Paper Cutter
32. 3 hole punch
33. Chronicle Article Submissions
34. Past issues of Chronicle on Library Website
35. Proctoring tests
36. Cake pans
37. Printing Income tax forms
38. Local event notices; Community Information
39. Coffee
40. Computer classes
41. Restrooms including handicapped accessible
42. Drinking Fountain
43. Display a collection
44. Knitting Group
45. Comfortable Seating Areas
46. Trained Librarians to help you
47. Friendly conversation
48. Summer Reading Programs and prizes
49. On-line Resources and Databases
50. Ask Alexa

Booktalk Readlyn Reads



In August we will read the All Iowa Reads book "The Boys in the Bunkhouse" by Dan Barry. It is a harrowing yet uplifting story of the exploitation and abuse of a resilient group of men with intellectual disability, and the heroic efforts of those who helped them to find justice and reclaim their lives. In the tiny Iowa farm town of Atalissa, dozens of men, all with intellectual disability and all from Texas, lived in an old schoolhouse. Before dawn each morning, they were bussed to a nearby processing plant, where they eviscerated turkeys in return for food, lodging, and \$65 a month. They lived in near servitude for more than thirty years, enduring increasing neglect, exploitation, and physical and emotional abuse—until state social workers, local journalists, and one tenacious labor lawyer helped these men achieve freedom. A luminous work of social justice, told with compassion and compelling detail, *The Boys in the Bunkhouse* is more than just inspired storytelling. It is a clarion call for a vigilance that ensures inclusion and dignity for all.

Pick up a copy and join us at the library for discussion on Thursday August 30th at 7:00 p.m.




**Get your team together for a
Jigsaw Puzzle Competition!**
Thursday August 16th 6:00 p.m.

Identical puzzles will be given to 4 teams of 4 people.
The first team to finish their puzzle wins!
Phone 279-3432 or stop by the library to register.
Kids 12 and under must be on a team with a parent.
Call early! Limited to the first 16 people.



The library display case needs your interesting collections. Do you have an exhibit you could share with us?

* Stamps * Coins * Baseball cards * Teacups
* Music boxes * Snow globes * Toys * Buttons * Keys
* Ashtrays * Bottles * Hats * Samplers *



Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Big families were not unusual years ago

Years ago, among farm families around Readlyn, it was not unusual that a family consisted of parents and eight or more children. Children, especially boys, were an economic asset and were needed in the operation of the farm. In this article four large families are featured.

The Huebner and Wittenburg families are from earlier times, the late 1800s, the Wehling family from a more recent time, the early 1900s, and the Sauerbri family from an era of smaller families, the middle 1900s. What is the average number of children in a family now? Probably between two and three. In early times children, being needed at home, quit school at the end of eighth grade, if they even went that far. For example, in my class, RHS 1947, 27 of us started grade nine. Of our 54 parents only one, Fred Strepke, graduated from high school.

August Wittenburg and Anna Groeper were married January 5, 1882. They had 15 children, two died in infancy. Their children included: Henry, died at age 4, Emma (Fred Wehling), Herman (Clara Hesse), August (Martha Ruehs), Maria (Henry Matthias), Ted (Bertha Seegers), Jack (Rosetta Sell), Minnie (Ed Seegers), Melinda (Frank Broncnoon), Bill (Agnes Melius), Fritz (Eida Seegers), Herb (Melinda Degelau). One other child died in infancy.

August Wittenburg was a charter member of Zion Lutheran. The land for the Zion Cemetery was donated by August. The Wittenburg family photo is typical of that era - no smiling. It is unique because names were placed on the individuals. Marg Degelau, daughter of Jack Wittenburg furnished information.

Edward Huebner and his wife, Elnora, both came from Germany, he in 1820 and she in 1836. Among their many children they also had a son named Edward. This Edward Huebner married Caroline Barny on February 4, 1884. They became parents to the following 13 children: Clara (Herman Rathe), Emma, (William Tiedt), William (Martha Meyerhoff), Amanda (John Wehling), Ida (Henry Buhr), Edward, died in infancy, Elenore (William Piehl), Hilda (Ernest Homeyer), Walter (Ida Boehme), Erwin (Frieda Bruch), Paul (Clara Bruch), Arnold, died in infancy (1907). Wilbert Huebner, now 98, son of Walter Huebner, stated that he has more than 100 first cousins. Difficult to comprehend! None of the children of Edward Huebner graduated from high



school. (Herold Wehling from the research of John Schumacher).

John Wehling married Amanda Huebner of the previous Huebner generation September 5, 1907. Their 12 children are: Clara (Frank Buehle), Helen (Ed Oltrogge), Roy (Esther Fink), Lorenz (Paula Widdle), and his twin, Florence (Ted Kuker) were married in a double wedding ceremony, Arthur (Agnes Kuker), Lucille (Clarence "Inch" Schumacher), Bertha (Harold Strotzman), Luvern (Bernice Buenzow), Erwin (Ladora Fruechtenburg), Raymond (Dorothy Nicholas), Herold (Lafonda Hilther). Clara, the oldest, was 26 years older than Herold, the youngest. Herold has no recollection of any of his four oldest sisters having lived at home. At birth Herold was already twice an uncle and the third came two weeks later. He is the only one in the Wehling family to graduate from high school. (History from Herold Wehling)

Walter Sauerbri married Anna Rathe in December 1926. Their 13 children include: Willard (Carolyn Hartman), Warren (Ladonna Heinemann), Wesley (Delores Strepke), Wayne (Marilyn Petersen), Willis (Doris Hamlow), Vi-

olet (Robert Jacobson), Velaine (Delbert Hayes), Virginia (Duane Sickles), Werner, died in infancy, Veronica (Allen Buhr), Walter Jr. "Butch" (Nancy Milks), Valetha (David Dornbusch), Woodrow (Kay Young). All graduated from high school. Willard, Veronica and Butch have college degrees. Willard and Warren were born in Tripoli, the rest at home on the farm. Willard, alone is deceased. (Thanks to Wes and Warren)

Jim Collins, Readlyn, shared the following concerning his family. His grandfather had 22 children, ten by his first wife, who died. He then married his housekeeper and they had 12 more

children. His mother was one of the 22. Jim is one of 15 and being born in the middle was able to know the older children as well as his younger brothers and sisters. His family and an uncle's family made their living on a 360-acre farm on the edge of Livermore, Iowa. Jim said all family members had to pitch in to bring money into the household.

Recently there has been a much greater interest in people tracing their ancestry. For those interested in ancestry, Denver Public Library has a program assisting research. Information for this article was easily accessible because family ancestry information was readily available.



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4th graders tour the Readlyn Museum

On Thursday, May 24, the Readlyn Elementary 4th grade class, along with their teachers, Mrs. Lincoln, Kathy Shook and Jill Schwickerath, toured the Readlyn Museum.

Ron and Judy Leistikow and Judy Henn explained many interesting facts about Readlyn's history. Some of them were:

The billy club that the town cop used if necessary during a traffic stop.

Ice tongs that were used to gaff the chunks of ice that weighed between 40 and 50 pounds from the Wapsie River.

A picture of the Readlyn Depot (which was torn down), but used to have a train which consisted of an engine, two cars and a caboose, also known as a dinkey. People would ride the train from Readlyn to Waverly for business or shopping.

We listened to the old Victrola play music on the records after winding the crank.

They enjoyed seeing the Readlyn High School scoreboard that was used in the gym during basketball games.

And many more items are there to talk about.

We have recently received items from the families of LeRoy Platte and Virgil

Kuhlmann.
Come and visit the Museum by calling GaryLee Thurm, Ron Leistikow or Judy Henn.



Readlyn Elementary School fourth graders enjoyed a tour of the Readlyn Museum.



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“The Elite Series” Part 1

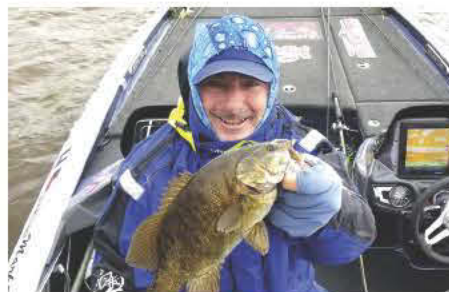
I do believe I'm still on cloud nine! Last month I talked about getting ready to head to Lacrosse, Wisconsin to Marshal for the Bassmaster Elite Series. What a trip it was! For those not familiar with the Bassmaster Elite Series, these 108 anglers are the best in the world. They are the NFL to the game of football, the NBA of basketball or the Major League of baseball. To put it mildly, the best of the best anglers on earth. It's every tournament angler's dream (such as myself) to compete in the Bassmaster Elite Series. Myself and my best friend and tournament partner Adam Farmer were lucky enough to both be chosen to serve as Marshals to the series at Lacrosse. A Marshal's job is to be Bassmaster's eyes and ears on the water. A Marshal is paired each tournament day with a pro and our job was to make sure the angler follows all rules and also communicate with Bassmaster via smartphone on how the pro is doing and log each fish that is caught. All this information is then posted on Bassmaster.com for their live tournament coverage. This month I'm going to talk about the first two days of this tournament, because, as you'll find out, day three needs an entire column of its own!

The first two days of the work week went slow as I had Wednesday through Sunday off to be a Marshal. As the day ended on Tuesday I was so excited I could hardly stand it. That evening I got packed and ready to go as I was to meet with Adam on Wednesday morning at my cabin in Prairie Du Chien. Adam and I both arrived to my cabin at 10 am and loaded his truck and we were on our way to Lacrosse! As we rolled into Lacrosse, we began to see sponsor-wrapped trucks. We were like a couple of kids excitedly seeing the tow vehicles of

our fishing heroes from an early age. We drove from boat ramp to boat ramp seeing where the pros were parked on their final day of practice before the tournament started on Thursday. We then checked into our hotel and headed to our Marshal briefing meeting at 3:30 pm. While at the meeting the tournament officials took us through running Basstrakk, the app we used to communicate with Bassmaster. They then went over the rules and supplied us with a bunch of swag from Bassmaster sponsors and supplied us with our official Marshal shirts and hats. The whole time we sat in this meeting, we knew the pros were in the next room in their own meeting. Anticipation was high as we waited to see who our day one pro was. Then the time finally came, they opened the divider wall of the hotel conference room and there sat all 108 Elite Series pros! Adam and I were so excited as we pointed out all the different anglers. Guys like Skeet Reese, Mike Iaconelli, Ott Defoe, and Gary Klein. And right in the front row was the angler I'd looked up to since I was 10 or 11 years old, Kevin Vandam! Though I'd met him a couple times before it's always surreal to see him. I'm so used to seeing him on television, it doesn't seem real when you're face-to-face. I quickly grabbed a picture with him and said



Eric Johnston and Kevin Vandam



Mark Menendez

hello as the meeting broke. My trip was already made saying hello to Kevin. As we left the hotel we received the text from Bassmaster on our day one pairing. I drew Mark Menendez. I thought, “Cool, a guy I've watched for years!” Mark Menendez is a pro that's been on tour for 28 years. I was excited to ride with him with all his years of experience.

Day one dawned rainy and cool, I had my rain gear on and was ready to go. I met with Mark and helped him get his boat in. He then informed me we were making a long run south. We were boat 41 of the 108 boat field. Even in the pouring rain it was so exciting to see all the fans that came out to watch us take off and see all the pros' boats in the water. As we idled out of the marina I had no idea how long a trip I had ahead of me. In a driving rain Mark ran to the dam at Genoa, locked through and drove the boat all the way to the bottom of pool 9, 48 miles to be exact. This is an area I'm very familiar with and Mark fished a lot of the same spots as I do in my tournaments. I'm not allowed to give the pro any information, so it was interesting to see how he found the same spots I had fished and how he fished each spot. He caught his fifth keeper fish by 10 am and decided to lock back up to pool 8. We were both soaked as it never stopped raining the entire day. Even the best rain gear couldn't hold up and day one was hampered some with the rain coming down so hard that it was hard to even talk to each other. Our check-in time was 3 pm and was a welcome sight as wet as we both were. Mark weighed 11 pounds with his best five on the day. After getting off the water, I quickly met up with Adam and headed to the hotel. We were so cold and wet we didn't stay to watch the weigh-in. A hot shower and meal and we anxiously awaited our texts

for day two. As the phones went off I drew Cliff Prince for day two. The next morning I met Cliff at the ramp and I was excited to see how he approached the river. I was also excited to see the sun!! As we idled out of the Marina, Cliff's wife waved to him from the bank amongst the crowd. Cliff is a working man's pro. He spends all his time while not on tour running his business and working daily. It was interesting to see how an angler struggling to stay in the series approached the day. Cliff's day started out slow, he had had a very good day one and was sitting in the top 15, so it was so informative for me to watch how he held his composure and stayed focused with so much riding on this day. He talked about his wife and kids and how they traveled with him on tour during the summer. I think it's so cool that a lot of these anglers make it a family affair on the road when they can. As the day wore on Cliff caught fish one at a time to make his way up to a 13 pound limit of five bass. At the end of the day I shook his hand and thanked him for the experience. I then met up with Adam and we swapped stories of the day. On this day we had to stay at the weigh-in as that's where we would find out who our day three partner is. As the weigh-in ended anticipation was once again high on who I would draw. As we waited, good friend Lance Anderson came up and said hello. He looked at me and said you're going to draw Vandam, I can feel it. I said “yeah right” to him and he said “I hope you do!” As tournament director Trip Weldon started calling names, I was on pins and needles. I wasn't drawn with a pro in the first flight of 30 anglers. As Trip started flight two he announced “Boat 31.... Kevin Vandam.... Marshal.... Eric Johnston.” Check back next month for part two of Elite Series! Until next time **Get Outdoors!!!**



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Alec Marticoff to run in Chicago Marathon

My name is Alec Marticoff. I'm going to be a second-year student majoring in Biology (Pre-Med) at the University of Iowa this fall. Many of you may already know me. For those of you that don't, hopefully you can learn a little bit about me through this article. This article is to tell you about a very special student organization at the University of Iowa that I've had the great pleasure to be involved in. The student organization I'm talking about is Dance Marathon. Dance Marathon works with families who have children with cancer to support them financially and emotionally. Pediatric cancer affects over 175,000 children under the age of 14 worldwide and is the leading cause of

death by disease in children. Dance Marathon Student Organizations across the U.S. are so passionate about helping these kids and families get through some of the toughest times in their lives. University of Iowa Dance Marathon is going on its 25th year and is the third largest Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon in the nation. It has had a major impact at the University of Iowa Stead Family Children's Hospital and the families that go there. I'm sure many of you heard of "The Wave" to the kids after the first quarter at each Iowa football home game this year that won the Disney Spirit Award. The 11th floor, where all the kids are at, was built entirely by funds from Dance Mar-

athon and was named the University of Iowa Dance Marathon Pediatric Cancer Center. Dance Marathon also has pledged \$2 million to establish the University of Iowa Dance Marathon Chair in Pediatric Oncology, Clinical and Translational Research. As you can see, Dance Marathon at UI not only has a huge impact on the families and kids affected by cancer, but cancer research as well. I know that the Big Event in February is what most people think of when they think of Dance Marathon; the 24-hour dancing spree with no sleep, no caffeine, and no sitting. That is a HUGE part of Dance Marathon, not only for the leadership members and dancers, but for the families and kids too. However, Dance Marathon is a year-round endeavor. There are family events, playtimes, meet-ups, fundraising, planning, and even an actual marathon done before the Big Event comes around. And last year, for the first time ever, Dance Marathon was able to raise over \$3 million dollars for these families thanks to all of the donations and contributions of incredible people like yourselves!

As a dancer last year, I saw firsthand how incredible this organization really is. Dance Marathon was something I wasn't sure I would be involved in at first. Sure, I thought it was cool that all these college kids were raising money for kids with cancer, but I really didn't know if I wanted to be involved at first. I eventually made a spur-of-the-moment decision to join before the first meeting. Soon after that first meeting, I started to realize the vastness of DM's impact. Not only does DM raise tons of money for pediatric cancer, but all the individuals involved are making an impact on the families up on the 11th floor of the hospital. As I continued to do my part as a dancer and raise money throughout my first semester at Iowa, I didn't feel as if I was truly making an impact. Don't get me wrong, all that money was going towards things like copays, and other things the families needed, but I wasn't quite seeing

the impact firsthand. During that time, I got to meet some truly incredible people whom I can call my friends, my FRamily (I'll explain this later) and my (fraternity) brothers. As that Big Event in February drew closer, I heard more and more chatter about how amazing it was going to be. People were already freaking out left and right about preparation and last-minute fundraising to reach their goal and make it to the Big Event. Thankfully, that wasn't me because I managed to raise a little over \$800. It was finally time to attend the Big Event that everyone had been talking about since the first meeting. As I put on my lime green shirt and headed to the Iowa Memorial Union, I saw a sea of green filing into the ballroom. All I can say is for the rest of that 24 hours (even though I was dead by the end), I had a truly life-changing experience. I listened to the most inspiring family speakers, met some courageous families, and even more courageous kids. Most importantly though, I got to dance not only for all the kids who are currently fighting against pediatric cancer, but for all the kids who fought and didn't make it. I will never forget my first 24 hours. After the big event, I knew I wanted to do more.

That brings me to now. Now, I am in a leadership position as a part of the Family Relations Committee (FR) on the Programming sub-committee. So instead of lime this year, I'm going to be blue! Family Relations is probably the most special committee in Dance Marathon because we get to spend lots of time with our DM families, and since I'm on programming, I get to help plan all the big family events we do throughout the entire year. You may be asking, "What family events? I've only heard of the Big Event." Well throughout the ENTIRE year, we hold events for our families. Some of them include going to the Fun City Arcade, Adventureland, and Lost Island. This is just another way DM helps these kids to feel

Continued on next page



Alec Marticoff (second from left) will be running "For The Kids."

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Alec Marticoff

Continued from previous page

like kids again. We also get to have playtimes and parties in the hospital with the kids which is probably my favorite part about FR. This is such a special opportunity for me. I cannot wait to get to know more of these amazing families. Another way I got involved in DM this year was by becoming a family representative. This means I am assigned a family to bond with and help them have the best experience in Dance Marathon. Throughout the year, I'll get to know them, support them, and love them just like my own family. Oh yeah, and one other crazy decision I decided to make this year was to RUN A MARATHON. That's right, 26.2 miles of running in the Chicago Marathon on October 7 For The Kids (FTK for future reference). I know it's going to be tough, but in the end, it's only minor pain compared to what all these DM families face every day. These kids go through excruciating therapy and countless operations just to live, so running this marathon is all for them. I will be training for the next few months, so if you happen to see me running around Readlyn or the Bike Trail don't be afraid to give me a wave. This year will be another life-changing experience for me. In conclusion, I absolutely cannot wait for all these future experiences. It's going to be a year full of amazing people and events, but most importantly it's all... FTK!

As a leadership member this year, my goal is to raise \$2,800 by the Big Event and over \$750 for the summer! This is such an awesome cause. I would appreciate any donation. If you would like to help me reach this goal to help these families and kids fight pediatric cancer, please consider donating. If you would like to donate, there are several options:

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 136, Readlyn, Iowa 50668 (Checks are preferred for liability reasons and can be made out to U of I Dance Marathon).

Online Donation: My donation link is <http://osl.iowa.uiowa.edu/dancemarathon/donate/10/20295>. There will be a green Donate Now button at the top near my picture.

Facebook/Email: If you would like to know more about Dance Marathon, have questions for me, or questions about/problems with donating you can find me on Facebook as Alec Marticoff. Go ahead and friend me or direct message me with your questions. Otherwise, my email address is amarticoff@gmail.com.

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Final words from Readlyn Grump Louie

Hello, August! This is my final Grump Grumblin'. Thank you to those who made positive comments and acknowledged you read it. Most of my articles were belted out in a hurry, as the deadlines seemed to roll around faster and faster. My secret weapon is Pat Wehr who took the time to read my drafts and keep me in line.

Congratulations to our Grump 2018, Larry Ladage. I know Larry is going to have fun

with this honor and do a great job representing Readlyn. Also representing Readlyn beautifully will be Miss Readlyn Cassidy Brunscheon and Runner-up Caitlin McElhose. Congratulations also to the Little Grumpsters McKayla and Alexander McCabe. Twins with their names drawn from a hat; may their young lives always be so lucky. I have enjoyed my "Readlyn Royalty" Erika Jeanes, Elis Behnke, and Marshall Tiedt very much, and I hope they

have good memories of their reign. Thank you for the fun.

Did you hear the comments from the Miss Readlyn candidates about what they liked most about Readlyn? They talked of their childhood with Grump Days, the Easter Egg Hunt, and Christmas on Main. These are Readlyn Community Club (RCC) sponsored events. The RCC creates memories for our kids and makes them want to come back to raise their kids here if possible. Can you think of a better reason to support these events by donating just \$25 to become a member of RCC? Your donation bolsters our RCC funds and enables the RCC to continue supporting these fun events for families. Becoming involved is appreciated since some of our volunteers are becoming burned-out and/or aging, but it is not necessary. Please stop at the bank and talk to Dani Sauerbrei.

Speaking of the RCC, thank you very much if you volunteered some time participating in or organizing the parade, Kids in the Park, the Adventure Run, card tournaments, queen and little grumpster contests, pedal pull, golf tournament, church service, the beer tent, setting up, or taking down the tent, fences, etc. An additional thank you to the businesses and individuals who generously made monetary donations. Please thank them by supporting their businesses. It was a small but mighty committee this year, and they did an awesome job. Mike and Janeen Tiedt deserve a HUGE thank you for their work with Grump Days and the RCC for the last four years. Janeen has extraordinary organizational skills and is a pleasure to work with.

The Freedom Rock is complete with David Wittenburg as head cheerleader. David and Ruth worked extremely hard and dedicated

many hours to secure and prepare the rock, place it by the ball park, synchronize time lines, arrange housing for the artist and provide a comfortable work space for him. The Freedom Rock is perfect. I have already seen visitors in the parking lot taking pictures of it. Thank you to all who made a guess of the rock's weight with a donation. Evelyn Strotzman came in very close with her guess of 126,500 pounds. The actual weight is 126,940 pounds. Evie received a Fareway gift card and \$100 from the Readlyn Community Club Freedom Rock Committee. Since there will still be some expense with landscaping and maintenance, please consider memorials or donations that will be recognized and can be deposited at the Readlyn Savings Bank.

You may have noticed that I'm using my last article to really promote Readlyn. A couple of other things on my wish list: a new camper dumping station and a campground with 8 sites down by the projected new park by the Welcome Sign on the bike trail. I think it would be very popular with those attending Readlyn events and those riding the beautiful trail.

On a personal note, I still really miss my pool. It is the hottest summer we've had for some time! I bought a 10' by 4' blow up pool with marine life painted on it that came with 3-D goggles for extra enjoyment. I suppose it should be pretty exciting, but since the water is only a foot deep and requires some awkward positioning ... it is just not the same. We adjust and keep the humor, right?

Thank you all for everything. Stay safe and be happy. I now officially hand over my Grumpiness to Larry Ladage. Good luck with all the paparazzi!

Louie Hartman



2017 Little Grumpsters, Marshall Tiedt and Elis Behnke ready for the ceremony to hand over their crowns.

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Pearls of Wisdom

By Pastor Philip Girardin

St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Immanuel Lutheran Church

Greetings to everyone in the greater Readlyn area! My name is Philip Girardin, and I'm the new pastor at St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Immanuel Lutheran Church here in Readlyn and Klinger. It is an incredible joy to have moved here to be able to live among you, and to share the love of Jesus Christ our resurrected and ascended Lord with you all. When we moved here, I was given the opportunity to write up a little article to introduce myself and my family. So, here goes...

Like many people I felt the calling of God upon my heart to be a pastor from a young age, but unlike many people, or like many, who knows, I fought against it. I decided to do my own thing my own way, so I went to school to become a police officer. My education began, and during that time my family moved, so I moved with them and transferred schools. My father, also a pastor, took a call moving us from Michigan to Southern Illinois. While there, I continued my education in law enforcement, until finally graduating with a Bachelor's of Science in Organizational Leadership from Greenville College then, university now. During that interim I worked all kinds of jobs, but the most significant was in EMS. I worked on the ambulances and met my wife there. It was during that time that God had His way with me and brought me back around into the idea of serving Him in the office of Holy Ministry.

My wife and I met at Lifestar Ambulance Service in Centralia. This company runs 911 service for the area, so we ran on all kinds of things. I do believe that in many ways it has shaped and formed us into the individuals that we are now, but also into the couple that we are. It is because of the work of God, through my wife, that I am where I am now. Her name is Heather, and she means the world to me. She is an

amazing gift from God. She's the righteous fox that I always imagined. Sometimes dreams do come true!

Heather and I have two wonderful children that you will see running around town, a little boy, who on the writing of this article is turning 6, and a little girl who is 9. Both of them think they are much older than what they are, and keep us on our toes. They are wonderful children, and truly a gift from the Lord. They will be attending Community Lutheran School here in town.

So Heather and I met on the ambulances and got married, and we had our two kids. We haven't been able to find that half child to make us the perfect American family! Then Seminary (I attended Concordia Seminary; Saint Louis, Mo.) came. A year after getting married, David was born in July, and I was taking introductory Greek in August. It was a whirlwind. Our first year we lived off campus. Between our first and second year we moved onto the Concordia campus and remained there until we were sent to Arkansas for Vicarage (Pastoral Internship). Our vicarage turned into a call, and that was where we remained until receiving the call to come and serve the People of God here in Readlyn.

That's about my story in a nutshell. God has truly blessed me in many and diverse ways going through life. My greatest blessing by far is my family, and we grew by one fur baby during our move. We have a rescue German Shepherd named Shadow. We have been blessed in our move and been welcomed by the community with open arms. We are excited to be among all of you, we love the community that we have become a part of, and hope to continue to grow into. We all look forward to seeing each of you at some point in our journey together. Just remember, Jesus loves you and so do I (in a non-creepy way!).

- Pastor Phil



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	<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church 2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Vacancy Pastor: Pastor Larry Feldt Sunday Service: 8 AM</p>
	<p>St. Matthew Lutheran Church Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street, Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Divine Service 8:30 a.m. Fellowship following Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Men's Breakfast, 1st Saturday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tuesday of month</p>
	<p>St. Paul Lutheran Church 120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Vacancy Pastor: Pastor Ronnie Koch Worship 8:00 AM</p>
	<p>Zion Lutheran Church 240 Elmer Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3643 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor Sunday Divine Service 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m. Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.</p>

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