

Readlyn Community Club Annual Meeting

Come One, Come All on April 7!

This is your opportunity to attend and participate in your local organization that promotes lots of activities involving everyone living in and around Readlyn.

The event will begin with social time at 5:30 p.m., a delicious meal consisting of chicken and noodle, chili, and potato soups will be served along with homemade bread, and a relish tray at 6:00 p.m. Following the meal a short business meeting will take place. Agenda items include: election of 2018 officers, election of the 2018 Readlyn Grump, and selection of the t-shirt design to the 2018 Grump theme "Freedom Rocks." Please submit your drawings for consideration when you attend the meeting or drop

them off at the Bank if you pay ahead.

Entertainment for the evening will consist of "Trivia Night in Grump Town;" this game will be played with tables of 6 answering questions presented by a moderator. The winning table will receive six \$10 gift certificates to Kwik Star, and second place will receive six \$5 gift certificates to Inspired. There will also be a surprise prize for last place.

The membership fee to belong is \$25 per year, which includes annual membership, the delicious meal, a chance to select the Grump and T-shirt design and the Trivia game. You may pay in advance at the Readlyn Savings Bank and make your reserva-

tion to attend. If you are unable to attend, and you pay your membership by June 1, you may vote an absentee ballot for your choice of the Readlyn Grump.

Non-members will be able to participate at 8:00 p.m. and pay a fee of \$10 per person or \$60 for a team of six persons in the Trivia game. See you all there.

Selection of 2018 Grump

Selection of the 2018 Readlyn Old Grump will be a little different this year.

At the April 7 Annual Meeting of the Community Club, all members will receive a ballot to vote for any resident who has reached their 65th birthday by Grump Days to be the 2018 Grump. It is important to ask your selection if he or she would accept the role as 2018 Grump before you

cast your ballot.

Whoever receives the most votes will be notified shortly before the Crowning of the Grump on Friday night at Grump Days. This procedure will allow any resident 65 or older to become "The Readlyn Grump" and allows all Community Club members to take part in that selection.

Thank you all for your participation.

Can you guess the weight of the Freedom Rock?

Don't miss this opportunity to honor all Bremer County veterans! With the completion of the Bremer County Freedom Rock less than three months away, and the

cost of this patriotic project approaching \$10,000, we are asking for your monetary support. The intention of each county Freedom Rock is to "draw survivors

together in grief, pride, and the remembrance of fallen veterans."

As previously reported, the future Freedom Rock is "home" on V49 in Readlyn. Smith Excavating of Sumner deserves a huge thank you for donating 75% of the cost to move this mammoth rock.

The next steps are to power wash the rock twice, to provide electrical service to the rock, and to rent a canopy large enough to provide cover for the rock, the artist - Ray "Bubba" Sorenson II - and his myriad of paints and equipment.

In addition, expenses include his artistic fee, his specialty paints and materials, his accommodations, and any additional expenses for the more than week-long project.

The actual painting will begin June 18 with a projected completion date of June 25.

Once Bubba's work is complete, the rock needs three coats of sealant and landscaping. The final project will be a visual tribute to men and women who have served or are serving our country from Bremer County.

Anyone living in Bremer County is invited to make patriotic suggestions regarding what should be on the rock. Please send ideas to Charles Albrecht, editorca01@netins.net or call 319-404-5225. Suggestions will be presented to Bubba, but it is the artist's decision regarding the final design.

Bonus! In January when the enormous rock was moved, it was weighed and the weight was kept a secret. To add a twist to your donation, anyone kind enough to make a donation of at least \$10.00 to this historic event may submit a guess of the rock's weight (one guess per person). Use caution: your guess may not exceed the actual weight. The winning guess will be announced at Grump Days.

All donations will be greatly appreciated. Please make checks out to "Bremer County Freedom Rock." Entry forms may be mailed in the envelope enclosed in this edition of the *Chronicle* or dropped off at Readlyn Savings Bank. A gratitude list will be published in the *Readlyn Chronicle* (unless you request to remain anonymous).



Can you guess the weight of the Freedom Rock? In January when the enormous rock was moved by Mark, Sam and Paul Smith (pictured) of Smith Excavating, it was weighed and the weight was kept a secret. Anyone making a donation of at least \$10.00 to this historic event may submit a guess of the rock's weight.



Leaf Burning

The City of Readlyn will permit burning of leaves.
(NO building materials, or other household wastes)

Burning can take place April 1 to May 15, 2018

Reminder: No burning on paved streets or sidewalks.
PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR NEIGHBORS WHEN BURNING AND DO NOT BURN WET LEAVES.

Entry Form

My guess: _____ tons _____ lbs.

Donation enclosed: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Return to: Freedom Rock; P.O. Box 201, Readlyn, IA 50668

Wapsie Valley FFA crowns their Sweetheart King and Queen

The Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter crowned their 2018 Sweetheart King and Queen on March 1 in the High School auditorium. The candidates were elected and voted on by their fellow classmates who are part of an agriculture class.

The candidates that were selected on to the Sweetheart Court for the girls include: Freshmen-Courtney Schmitz and Emma Cutsforth, Sophomores-Sloane Banger and Sammi Kane, Juniors-Olivia Willey and Erin Riordan. The male candidates were Freshmen-Garrett Barnes and Dallas Wittenburg, Sophomore-Reese Welcher, and Junior-Bryce Kleitsch. Jacob Joeger and Sean Banger were honorary escorts for Sloane Banger and Olivia Willey.

The past Sweetheart King and Queen of 2017 were Julia LaRue and Jacob Risse. They passed their reign to the newly elected Sweetheart Queen Courtney Schmitz and Sweetheart King Dallas Wittenburg.

The Sweetheart King and Queen runner-ups include Junior Olivia Willey and Freshmen Garrett Barnes.

The responsibilities of the Sweetheart King and Queen are to be present at five FFA events and to represent the Wapsie Valley FFA chapter to the best of their abilities. Congratulations to all the candidates, runner-ups, and the newly elected Sweethearts Courtney Schmitz and Dallas Wittenburg.



Courtney Schmitz and Dallas Wittenburg were crowned the 2018 Sweetheart King and Queen.

Community Calendar

Mondays - Novel Knitters at the library 6:00pm
Thursday mornings Story time at the library 9:00am
Tuesday, April 3 - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.
Tuesday, April 3 - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library, call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.
Saturday, April 7 - Last pepper tournament of the season at the Watering Hole.
Tuesday, April 10 - V.F.W. Auxiliary meeting at the library.
Thursday, April 12 - 5 pm deadline for articles in the April 25 Chronicle.
Tuesday, April 17 - Coloring at the library, 1-3 pm; school-agers welcome after school.
Wednesday, April 18 - Senior Citizens lunch and cards, 11:30 am at Inspired.
Tuesday, April 24 - Tech Class at the Library "Basic Apps for Androids" 6:30 PM.
Wednesday, April 25 - Merry Elders at Inspired 11:30 AM.
Thursday, April 26 - Book Talk, 7 pm at the library.
Tuesday, May 1 - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library, call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.
Tuesday, May 1 - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.

Grump's Grumblings

By Louie Hartman



Hello, April! The last month absolutely flew by, but it was very productive in work and play.

During literacy week I was invited to read to the Readlyn preschool and 1st grade room where Little Grumpsters Elis Behnke and Marshall Tiedt are students. It's always fun to be with them. The preschoolers hoped I wouldn't be grumpy when I left—what must they think of this Grump process? I'm sad to say the cement Grump Statue was pushed off the park bench and suffered a broken chin. Burton Thies is working on repairing "him."

My job at UNI affords me a week off while the students are enjoying spring break. Two days of my vacation were spent looking for an SUV to replace our beloved red VW Jetta. We basically keep our cars like pets, but we were doing the grunt and groan thing trying to get out of the car. Humorous, but not pretty. Since I've never purchased a car by myself before, it was quite an educational two days. During negotiations and upon learning I was from Readlyn, I was asked if my husband was the Ol' Grump. I was like, "Funny you should ask because I am the 2017 Grump." Even though there were some laughs, and I had an opportunity to talk about Readlyn, alas, no discounts on my blue Honda CR-V.

As for the playing versus working, I attended three plays in different venues. *The Jersey Boys* at the Gallagher Bluedorn with the music and passion from growing up in the '60s, brought a whole range of emotions. Wapsie Valley School's play *Annie* was very well done with the student talent, costumes, sets, and even an adorable dog. Watching this group of young people having fun and working so well together was a pleasure and gave hope that "everything" is going to be OK. Last but not least, we attended *The Full Monty* at the Waterloo Playhouse. Before it started the announcer warned that if we were easily offended we should leave now. We laughed incessantly during the play and found the total lack of political correctness quite refreshing during that short time.

Current Grump Days Report: 1) The theme is "Freedom Rocks." 2) Fireworks are booked for Friday night thanks to all of the can donations. 3) A teen dance on Friday night will include the bubble machine and hair spraying. 4) The Adventure Run on Saturday, 2:30, at the ball park will replace the Glow Run. 5) Bands booked are Mitch Boevers and 2 Beaucoup.

The Valentine Ball successfully raised \$16,500 for our local groups and activities thanks to the many generous donors and bidders as well as Kim Brown and her crew of volunteers.

Finally, you are invited to the Readlyn Community Club annual membership drive on Saturday, April 7. A soup supper and trivia games are included in the \$25 membership fee for the year. All funds received stay in the community to support Readlyn's many awesome activities. This is also your chance to vote for the 2018 Grump and T-shirt design. Please plan on attending. See you there.

Your Grump,
Louie Hartman

Smiley Family Dentistry
 Restoring Health. Celebrating Smiles.

Jonathan Smiley, D.M.D.

2024 2nd Ave. NW, Waverly, IA 50677 (319) 352-2270
 SmileyFamilyDentistry.com

New patients welcome!
 Proud to continue Dr. Rettig's tradition of excellent dental care.

Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Miss Readlyn Comments

By Erika Jeanes



Happy month of March to all! This month has been very exciting and super busy full of FFA and school activities. I was fortunate enough to be able to participate at the FFA District Convention in Waukon along with 30 other members of the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter. The event I participated in is the Chapter Program of Activities. This event includes memorizing a slide show presentation of the activities that our chapter takes part in. Jacob Joeger, Mitchel Bartels, and I participated in this event and we received 1st gold. We are advancing to the state level competition on April 23 at Iowa State University. We are very excited for this opportunity! Congratulations to everyone who participated at the District level and to all moving on to the State competition! This was my last District Convention as well as our wonderful Advisor, Mrs. Doese. She is more than just a teacher and advisor to me and so many others, she is like our second mom. Lydia Martin's dad, Doug, remembers specifically being part of Mrs. Doese's very first Officer Team. This year Lydia is part of her very last Officer Team. One of my favorite sayings and words of wisdom from Mrs. Doese is, "The sun will come up tomorrow." This saying always gets me through a stressful day or situation. Thank you to Mrs. Doese for 35 years of service to her students, community, and all those who have been apart of the FFA organization!

I also had the opportunity to attend the 1st annual NICL Academic Awards Banquet. This banquet was held March 19th at the AEA Education Center in Cedar Falls. I along with Carson Kerns, Cameron O'Donnell, Donny Schmit, and Ben Weepie were invited to this banquet. The purpose of this banquet is to recognize the top five students from each NICL school for their academic accomplishments. We were presented an All-Academic Award certificate and served a delicious prime rib dinner and side dishes prepared by Fredericka Locker and Waverly Hy-Vee. We enjoyed listening to our guest speaker, Gary Kroger, who had a very inspirational message to share with us all. A huge thank you to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Bergman for allowing us to attend and chaperoning this great event.

Our Ag 4 class is also raising money for our trip to the Chicago Board of Trade. This adventure will take place April 30th through May 2nd. We have a couple of fund-raising events coming up on April 4th at Buffalo Wild Wings in Cedar Falls. If you tell your server you are with the Wapsie Valley Ag 4 class, a percentage of your bill will be donated towards the Ag 4 class trip. We will also have a labor auction at the FFA omelet breakfast on April 8th at the Readlyn Elementary from 8 am-12:30 pm. Come for some delicious food and get some help with those spring projects!

Send news of your community to the *Readlyn Chronicle* at:
ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com

Newy's wireless Communications
 240-7150
 Cellular Phones and Accessories
 U.S. Cellular Authorized Agent
 www.newswireless.com

Readlyn Community Happenings



Delores Meier

Delores Meier/90th birthday April 6

Delores Meier will celebrate her 90th birthday with family dinner.

She was born on April 6, 1928 in Maxfield township to Fred and Anna Harms. She married Harold Meier Sept. 19, 1948 at St. John's Maxfield Lutheran Church.

She enjoys sewing, tatting and hardanger stitching.

Her family includes two sons and two daughters, 7 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

Cards may be sent to her at Box 211, Readlyn, IA 50668.

Thank You

Thank you for all of your prayers, cards, calls, flowers, food, visits and support during my hospitalization and since my return home. Thank you to the Readlyn First Responders and the Tripoli Ambulance crew. All was greatly appreciated as I continue recovery at home. God's blessings to each of you.

Jim Wehling



Gloria and Tom Sickles

Sickles/50th wedding anniversary

Tom and Gloria Sickles from Readlyn are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. Tom Sickles and Gloria Behrens were married March 30, 1968 in Waverly, Iowa.

Gloria is retired from CUNA and Tom is semi retired as a DHIA supervisor.

They have three children and seven grandchildren. Chad and Stacy Sickles with children Dana and Madison from Marengo, Iowa. Mark and Jennifer Koepke with children Luke and Cody from Denver, Iowa and James and Anne Sickles with children Brenna, Dylan and Paige from Denver, Iowa.

Cards may be sent at P.O. Box 176, 224 East 5th St., Readlyn, IA 50668.

Pepper Tournament

The March 3 pepper tournament was held at the Watering Hole in Readlyn with 18 card players participating. The winners and their scores were:

- 1st Place: Keith Brunscheon and Jason Huebner - 187
 - 2nd Place: Corlyn and Reiny Freitag - 169
 - 3rd Place: Don Childs and Dave Schumacher - 163
 - 4th Place: Connie and Roger Buhr - 159
- Saturday, April 7, will be our next and last of this season's tournaments. All are welcome! Entry fee is \$3.00. Bring a partner.

April 14, 2018
 8 a.m. to Noon in the Readlyn Farm Automation Parking Lot

CLS Scrap Metal Drive

Back by popular demand!
 Thank you for your support!
 No appliances please.

Locals meet Sonny Perdue

By Ron Leistikow
BCCGA Board Member

US Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue talked at length about ethanol & the RFS at the Commodity Classic on February 27, in Anaheim, CA. Attendees from the Bremer County Corn Growers Association included Mark Mueller, Brett and Barb Walker from Waverly, and Ron and Judy Leistikow from Readlyn.

Ron and Judy also had the opportunity to talk to Zoe Martin, a reporter with the *Iowa Farmer Today* newspaper. Ron's main concern was maintaining and increasing the E15 waiver and the RINS Controversy. Secondly is NAFTA and thank goodness President Trump has just announced he is exempting Mexico & Canada from trade negotiations.

This was great for U.S farmers. Sonny also talked about much-needed Immigration Reform.

Here in Bremer County our Corn Growers Organization has dropped the annual corn and soybean test plot (after 22 years). Thanks Steve Boevers, for assisting & providing your farm for us!

We have Ron Leistikow (left) visited with the new Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue, in Anaheim, California at the Commodity Classic on February 27, 2018.



Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 31
9:30 AM
Readlyn City Park

Age Groups:
 0 - 3
 4 - 5
 6 - 7
 8 - 9

Sponsored by Readlyn Community Club

In case of bad weather, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held at the Readlyn Fire Station.



1968



2018



Readlyn Community Library Building Celebrates 50 years

History of the Library

Readlyn is proud to have a city library which was established in 1965 spearheaded by the vision of Mrs. Ethyl Rommell who felt that the growing town needed a library for the betterment of the community. The Readlyn Community Library first originated in the back room of the City Hall / Fire Station on March 27, 1965. Books were purchased from money raised locally and donations from towns people. The library continued to add more items and eventually outgrew the original space. The new building was constructed in 1968, and the multi-purpose room addition was completed in 1992.

Glennis Meier, Carol Strottmann, Barb Sowers, Amie Whiteside and Linda McCarty have served as directors of the library. We are grateful to the contributions and efforts of the many community members that have served as trustees on the library board.

The library has always kept pace with new formats and programming. The Video collection was introduced in the late 70's and now has about 1,600 selections. Public computers made their appearance in the 1980's and the automation of the circulation system was launched with the new millennium in 2000. Today the library offers audiobooks on CD, DVDs, computers and of course books. The library has four public access computer stations and a wireless network for laptop users.

To keep up with the changing times, the Readlyn Community Library has evolved in many ways. Today's libraries are multi-faceted – many things to many people. Libraries are a resource providing assistance, knowledge, entertainment and a sense of community. The library will always hold an important role in the community of Readlyn and the surrounding area. Visit our website: www.readlyn.lib.ia.us



Interior of Readlyn's brand new library 1968



Current library interior

National Library Week Celebration

April 8-14 is National Library Week, an annual celebration of the life-changing work of libraries, librarians and library workers. Libraries aren't just places to borrow books or study—they're also creative and engaging community centers where people can collaborate using new technologies and develop their skills and passions.

During that week the Readlyn Library invites you to visit the library. We will be offering refreshments, prize drawings, commemorative bookmarks and book bags. As well as fine forgiveness for the donation of a canned food item for His Hands Food Pantry.

Memorial Donations

In Memory of Chad Erickson		In Memory of Ralph Kane	
Readlyn Reads Book Club	\$45.00	Barbara Meyer	\$10.00
Audrey Schmidt	10.00	Roger & Connie Buhr	5.00
R.J. & Corlyn Freitag	10.00	Joe & Julie Regenold	10.00
Don & Mary Lou Billhorn	20.00	In Memory of Del Finder	
Luann Happel	20.00	Virgil & Mary Matthias	\$10.00
In Memory of Edith Duffy		In Memory of Gary Stromer	
Rex & Barb Blaylock	\$10.00	Barbara Meyer	\$10.00
Gary & Betty Matthias	10.00		

- In Memory of Ralph Kane**
"Steam Train Dream Train" by Sherri Duskey Rinker and Tom Lichtenheld from Dan & Connie Wedemeier
- In Memory of Chad Erickson**
"You!" by Sandra Magsamen from Dan and Connie Wedemeier
- In Memory of Del Finder**
"I am Peace" by Susan Verde from Dan and Connie Wedemeier

Please refer to the Chronicle's Community Calendar for this month's library events.



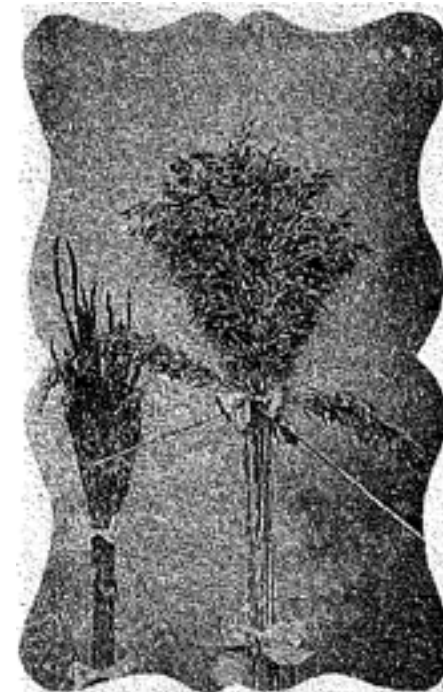
Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Wm. Schumacher Seed Oats Company Readlyn, Iowa

Driving south on Main Street in Readlyn, Iowa you will approach a T intersection, turn right and you are driving west alongside the former tracks of the Chicago Great Western Railway, now a bicycle trail connecting Readlyn to Denver and Waverly. Going further west you are driving past the St. Paul and Zion Lutheran cemeteries and traveling on farther you cross Crane Creek. Four miles west of Readlyn you encounter another T intersection. The farmstead on the right you just passed is on a quarter section of land owned earlier by William (Patent Bill) Schumacher. It was here Patent Bill developed a variety of oats differing from the standard product of that time. His oats had many more kernels per stalk than other varieties. He also invented a machine that graded his oats so only the desired kernels would be sold as seed oats. Selling seed oats and other

products Patent Bill created was a major sideline to his farming operation. He experimented and developed his oats by planting 250 varieties of oats on a test plot and rented an 80 acre farm near Sumner where his oats were raised. Oats, in the early 1900s, was a major crop on farms as feed for livestock. Soybeans were not grown! At the same time in the 1910s Bill Schumacher was selling his seed oats, he formulated a jam by processing buttermilk and labeled it Buttermilk Honey. He also patented a barn door latch, one of which was donated to the Readlyn Historical Society by Marv and Helen Schumacher. Patent Bill merchandised his oats, jam and latch by setting up his booth at county fairs, the Cattle Congress in Waterloo, the Iowa State Fair and even at the World Fair in Chicago. He also advertised in papers and put up handbills. His products were merchandised with a Readlyn address.



Schumacher Oats - In 1917 produced on an average 102 bushels per acre. In 1918 produced an average yield of 97.5 bushels per acre.

The innovations Patent Bill produced are too numerous to cover on one page of the *Readlyn Chronicle*, some of which are: a brooder which provided heat for little chicks. His barn and all outbuildings burned in 1920. Bill constructed a new barn which was featured in a newspaper article by calling it a pushbutton barn. He built a form to make tile, made some each day enough to tile his farm. Joe Bar-



tholomew furnished the tiling machine and Bill invented a machine to cover the tile placed in the ditch and smooth the field. Bill was one of the first to tile his farm. The bushels per acre increased by tiling were enough to induce other farmers to tile their land. He converted a Model T Ford truck into a manure spreader by attaching a device which would unload and spread the manure. He converted a Model T into a tractor. Later, he built his own tractor. Another innovation: He installed a wind generator to produce electricity for his farming operation.

In 1936, Patent Bill moved to Denver from the farm on which he was born but remained involved in farm operations. He abandoned his seed oats business when he moved. However, I do remember working for Art Schneider in the summer of 1948 and we spent more than a day shocking oats for Patent Bill while Bill was present. Bill, by 1936, had developed a freight elevator and installed his first unit in the Wolf Hatchery building in Waverly. He installed elevators in funeral homes with the first of many located in the Matthias (Art) Funeral and Furniture Store in Denver. Furniture at that time was coupled with a funeral operation to provide employment while not involved in funeral duties. Funeral homes were generally on three floors,

the body prepped in the basement, furniture on display and services held on the first floor with living quarters above. An elevator met the need. Schumacher Elevator installed many elevators to the point where Bill, in 1960, for convenience constructed a motor home on a Ford truck chassis in which installers could overnight while working away from Denver. The motor home also carried the components and the tools necessary to install an elevator.

After Marv Schumacher served his two years in the US Army, he and Helen moved to

Iowa City, where after another five years Marv graduated in 1962, earning a degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Iowa. He returned to Denver that same year and assumed control of the Schumacher Elevator operation. In that same year, 1962, the company installed its first passenger elevator in the Chickasaw County Courthouse. In 1964, the same type elevator was placed in the Black Hawk County Courthouse. Schumacher Elevator continued to grow to the extent that in 2000, to become more efficient, operations were consolidated into a new facility just off old Highway 63 in Denver. Present sales volume has increased to the point necessitating a major addition, now in progress.

Interesting projects: In 2016, sixteen small elevators called manlifts were installed in the giant Miller Coors Brewery in Golden, Colorado. These manlifts enabled workers greater access in performing maintenance on the huge storage grain silos. In 2017, a contract was completed installing 16 elevators capable of lifting 5500 pounds in the fourteen story Stead Family Children's Hospital in Iowa City, where small patients receive the famous Wave. At present Schumacher Elevator is installing, among other projects, four elevators in the 24-story Hyatt Hotel in Rochester, MN. Recently, inroads have been made into the Canadian market. Solid relations have been established and projects have been completed for leading companies such as Cargill of Canada and Rogers Sugar.

Presently, employee numbers hover between 215 to 225. Nearly 100 vehicles are required in daily operations. Sales volume is more than 52 million and projected to more than double in the next few years. A rosy outlook!

To their great credit, Marv and Helen have immersed themselves in community affairs, Readlyn and Waverly included in that community. Both Readlyn and Waverly have recently received funds from the Schumachers to further projects.

Denver is indeed fortunate to have Marv and Helen Schumacher as citizens. Both have assisted in the planning along with providing substantial funding for major projects in the progressive Denver community.



Schumacher's Machine Shop is the original building in Denver, Iowa. Shown above is Schumacher Elevator Company today.

News from Community Lutheran School



Braden and Caleb play roller ball hockey in PE.



Three-year-old preschool experiments with rainbow colors with Ms. Sarah from Bremer County Conservation.



Three-year-old preschool celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday on March 2 at the Readlyn Library with Ms. Barb with story time and green eggs and ham!



7th and 8th graders explore chemical reactions.



Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd grade planted a taco!! Yum!



First and second graders perform a readers' theater about planets!



Water cycle experiments with 1st and 2nd graders.



Sunday, March 18 the CLS students sang "I Am Jesus Little Lamb" at Immanuel Lutheran, Klinger.



On Thursday, March 15 the CLS families came together for a delicious soup supper at Family Game Night before the midweek Lent Service at St. Paul's.



Students celebrated Grandparents Day at CLS with songs, prayers, and praise at chapel services. The older students worked together with their grandparents with a STEM bridge building project. All classrooms enjoyed their time together playing and strengthening their faith and relationships with their grandparents!



Editor's Note: The *Readlyn Chronicle* began with the April 30, 2008, issue (which is being reprinted here). The first *Chronicles* were created using a light table and wax machine to apply the typed words onto the pages. My, how times have changed!

Readlyn Chronicle

Volume 1, No 1 Composed by the Readlyn Community Club Published by Vanguard Publishing Co., Sumner, IA April 30, 2008



Mayor's Desk

I am greatly appreciative of the time and energy that is given by the volunteers to put this paper together. I am two years into the Readlyn Grump Committee and find it a fun project. I hope to ensure that you support the future issues of this paper. It is a joy to see and good luck.

Grump Days

Grump Days will be celebrated this year on Friday & Saturday, June 21-22. There will be more activities for all ages and ages the usual Saturday morning parade. Please contact us on page 7 and 8.

Calendar:

- May 1 - May Day
- May 3 - City Wide Garage Sales Ken A. & J. Derby
- May 2 & May 4 - School Play Wapsie Valley, 7:30 p.m. "Happily Ever After"
- May 5 - VFW Meeting, 7:00 p.m. Telephone Office Center de Mass
- May 6 - National Teacher's Day
- May 8 - Class Night at Wapsie Valley
- May 8 - Grump Committee 6:00 p.m. Community Club 7:00 p.m. Zion Lutheran Church
- May 11 - Mother's Day Buffet, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. The Center Inn
- May 12 - VFW Auxiliary Meeting Nurses Day & Police Week
- May 17 - Armed Forces Day
- May 18 - Graduation, Wapsie Valley
- May 21 - Senior Citizens Dinner
- May 26 - Memorial Day
- May 24 - Merry Elders
- June 3 - Last Day of School

FIRST ISSUE

We have been at this for the first issue of the "Readlyn Chronicle". This issue is being put together by members of the Community Club for the purpose of informing all residents about upcoming activities in the community. We plan to publish once a month, with delivery on the Wednesday closest to the first of the month. Future issues may include a feature of a local business, we could do new features, perhaps news articles from the local press, the mayor, Miss Readlyn, city council minutes, and any other information the residents would like to hear about. Also included is a listing of the local businesses. They all need and appreciate your support. Comments, suggestions, and any other info would be appreciated. They may be dropped off at an envelope at the library or emailed to readlyn@readlynia.com. Please help us make this paper better! If you are interested in joining our club, please send an email to the above address with your contact information. We would like to have you on our committee.

Only One Old Grump



What, only one old Grump? That would be a good reason to live in or to move to a community. There are several other reasons to move to Readlyn. What about the beautiful City Park, family play ground equipment, beautiful gazebo, Veterans Memorial decorations on the days and lots of youth for pickers and gatherings? Then there is the ball park, two diamonds to play on, picnic shelters, restrooms, parking and nice shade trees. What about all the amenities needed to provide for our residents? We have the Readlyn City Library, Wapsie Valley Elementary School, Community Lutheran School & Preschool, Quick Developing Minds Day Care and the local Police Department. We have Dentist shops, Massage Therapy, Chiropractic, and several small Specialty Businesses. You can purchase groceries at the best prices at the Readlyn Store and Sports Center at the Center Inn Drive, and have a drink at the Pub. We have Vanguard Real Estate and a top notch catering business in fact. Any meeting or celebration you may have need of.

Readlyn Telephone Co. Annual Meeting

The Readlyn Telephone Company held its Annual Meeting on Saturday, April 19th, 2008 at 1 p.m. at 321 Main St. Readlyn Iowa with 15 shareholders present. The board of directors (Sharon Husek, General Manager, readlyn@readlynia.com) for the year 2008 and presented the financial report for the year of Readlyn at this time. The report showed a profit of \$110,000. Being the latest technology, the company is now using fiber optic cables and is a big profit value to our community. The project will involve installing new communication links to and inside the house of business. Readlyn Telephone Company plans to transfer the current telephone and internet services to the fiber optic system for all customers on a complete RTC will be actively looking at our system to provide internet. Free cell television (DVR) over the fiber in the near future. An alternative open house will be held on Monday, May 12th, 2008 from 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at 121 Main Street to address questions. A flyer will be mailed soon to all of you of the date.

Many customers have raised questions about the transition from analog to digital in February 2009. This transition will be complete if you are a subscriber to the Readlyn Cable Television. You will need a converter box for television you receive signal from an antenna and your television also has a set.

Mother's Day Buffet

The second annual Mother's Day Buffet is planned for May 11th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the main room of Center Inn. Join and the Community of Service Center will again offer a fabulous selection of foods.

We offer a formal setting from breakfast to dinner, you have the choice of four meals, three potatoes, three hot vegetables, five salads, and a few surprises thrown in! Desserts and beverages included. Call for reservations, walk-in accepted. Call 275-4289. If no answer, please leave a message and phone number.

Memorial Day Observance

Memorial Day will be observed beginning with a graveside service at Klinger Cemetery at 9:00 a.m. A parade will take place at 10:10 a.m. on Main Street. Participants will be the VFW Post 3001, the VFW Auxiliary, Wapsie Valley Marching Band, and the local Boy and Girl Scouts of America. Following the parade, a program will take place at the elementary school gym. Featured speaker will be Tom Rusek, an Iraq War Veteran. A mobile graveside service will conclude the activities at the school. The community is invited to the Library meeting room following the service for a potluck dinner beginning at noon.

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Readlyn Chronicle



Letter to the Editor

After living in the Readlyn Area for over 30 years, we have a newspaper that will inform us of what is happening in town. "Local" what started as an idea for a newspaper that the community is in for all readers, turned into an excellent newspaper that will have ads and news items that will be a great group of local citizens. People will soon start to read ahead of taking us into the "future" and we will see a newspaper that will be the best of our town. The first issue of our town will be a big thanks to all who worked so hard. "Wonder how this all happened?" A GROUP of people volunteering and working together to provide the best of our town. "Local" is the best.

Readlyn Library News

LIBRARY HOURS:
 Monday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Tuesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Wednesday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Thursday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Friday 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Story Hour is held on Thursday mornings at 9:00 a.m. through May 15. For children ages 3 and up.

Free Computer Help at the Library
 Need help with your computer? Power Word offers free computer help at the library. Our staff will assist you with everything from basic keyboard shortcuts to more advanced topics like internet safety and virus protection. We'll help you navigate the internet safely and confidently. Call for more information.



Weekly meetings are held Wednesdays at the Library's Multi-Purpose room, starting at 5:30 p.m.

READLYN HEADS

May Book Discussion: title is "Famine" by J. G. Ballard

Local Union is the phrase used to describe the ties between Mexico and the United States, which are growing closer together in their struggle to form a free trade agreement. While the local community has a long history of support, it is important to remember that the local community is not just a collection of people, but a community that is growing and changing. The local community is not just a collection of people, but a community that is growing and changing. The local community is not just a collection of people, but a community that is growing and changing.

Recycling cell phones & cartridges - We are looking for used cell phones and computer ink cartridges for recycling. Our street shipments through 521 street phones and 517 for ink cartridges. Thank you to all who have contributed. Keep on recycling these items at the library.

Miss Readlyn
Ashlea Kleitsch

First of all, I would like to take an opportunity to thank the friends, family, and most of all, the community, for supporting me in my journey as Miss Readlyn. In the past year, I have had a lot of amazing experiences. I have been to a lot of places, met a lot of people, and learned a lot about myself and the community. I am grateful for everything that has happened to me, and I am excited for the future. I will continue to support the community and represent the town of Readlyn with pride.

Sunrise Catering
 201 Main St
 (319) 279-4988
 Jan & Dan Hansen

Mother's Day Buffet
The Center Inn
 4 meals, 3 potatoes, 3 hot vegetables, 100 salads, beverages & drinks, live!

Please call for reservations 279-4038

Fireworks
 Donating Welcome
 May be left at Readlyn Savings Bank

Memorable Quotes
 "Character is how you behave when no one is looking"
 -Cicero

"If you fail the first time, you don't have to remember what you did!" -C. C. Harbo

Character Counts Words of the Week for 2018

PHILIPPIAN WORTHINESS

May 4 - **HOPEFULNESS** - Our hope should be in God, not in ourselves.

May 11 - **FAITHFULNESS** - Seek to grow in faith and devotion.

May 18 - **INTEGRITY** - Walk your talk and stand for what is right.

May 25 - **DILIGENCE** - Invest all your energy to complete a task.

Grump Days Parade
 Life is Great in 2008

Entry forms due by May 18

Call for entry forms:
 Mark Westerman 279-3666 or
 Nancy Power 279-2821

Miss Readlyn 2008?
 Who will be crowned Miss Readlyn 2008? The 2008 Miss Readlyn competition will be held on Saturday, May 19, at the Center Inn. The winner will be crowned at a ceremony in the evening. The competition will include a pageant, a talent show, and a community service project. The winner will represent the town of Readlyn throughout the year. Applications are being accepted now. For more information, contact the Readlyn Chamber of Commerce at 279-4038.

Grump Days Activities
 A lot of fun activities are planned for the Grump Days event. There will be a parade, a talent show, and a community service project. The event will be held on Saturday, May 19, at the Center Inn. The activities will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The event is free and open to all. For more information, contact the Readlyn Chamber of Commerce at 279-4038.

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Grumps Grumblings

I really don't think that I am grumpy enough to be the "Grump Grumbler", but after this long, hard winter that we have had, I am beginning to wonder. I'm not sure if I should be grumpy or not. I'm not sure if I should be grumpy or not. I'm not sure if I should be grumpy or not. I'm not sure if I should be grumpy or not.

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Frequently Called Numbers

Emergency: Police, Fire and Ambulance 911
 City Hall (electric, water, sewer) 279-3411
 Police Department 279-3996
 Agriculture 1-800-368-6752

Spring Clean Up Days

The City of Readlyn will be having Spring Clean Up Days on May 5, 6, & 7. This is a great chance to get out of your yard and help improve the appearance of your neighborhood. There will be a lot of fun activities and prizes. The event is free and open to all. For more information, contact the Readlyn Chamber of Commerce at 279-4038.

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W O R S H I P O P P O R T U N I T I E S

Immanuel Lutheran Church
 2683 Quia Avenue
 Readlyn, Iowa 50668
 (319) 279-1977
 Executive Pastor Tom Wegener
 Worship, 8:30 AM Sunday

St. Matthew Lutheran Church
 2649 230th Street
 Readlyn, Iowa 50668-9639
 (319) 279-1338
 Pastor Alfred Kruse
 Worship, 10AM Sunday January-May

St. Paul Lutheran Church
 220 West 4th Street
 Readlyn, Iowa 50668
 (319) 279-3916
 Interim Pastor Michael Wagula
 Worship, 8:30 AM Sunday

Zion Lutheran Church
 243 Lima Avenue
 Readlyn, Iowa 50668
 (319) 279-3564
 Pastor Alfred Kruse
 Worship, 8:30 AM Sunday

READLYN VFW POST 5662

and

LADIES AUXILIARY

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Monday, May 26
9:00 a.m. - Graveside Services at Klinger Cemetery
10:30 a.m. - Parade with Wapsie Valley Marching Band

Services following at Readlyn Elementary School

Star Spangled Banner.....Wapsie Valley Marching Band
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Welcome.....Commander Wes Sauerbrei
 Memorial Day Address.....Tom Risse, Iraq Veteran
 POW/MIA Ceremony.....Verdeen Pavlec
 "Come Visit My Grave".....Charlie Albrecht
 Musical Selection.....Wapsie Valley Marching Band
 Mock graveside services in front of school

Thank You For Coming!

Everyone is invited to potluck dinner
12:00 Noon at the
Library Meeting Room on Main Street

Wapsie Valley FFA Omelet Breakfast is Sunday, April 8

The Wapsie Valley FFA will be holding their annual spring omelet breakfast on Sunday, April 8, at the Elementary in Readlyn from 8 am until 12:30 pm. The menu includes: made-to-order omelets-with many fixings, hashbrowns, rindewurst, fresh frosted cinnamon rolls/Long John, milk/juice/coffee. The breakfast is a free-will donation and carry-outs and call-ins (319-231-0555) are available. The proceeds will go to the Wapsie Valley FFA to support their annual functions and attendance at their annual conferences. If anyone has any questions, please call the Wapsie Valley FFA Agricultural Education Department at 319-638-6711.

Trivia Night

Saturday, April 7 at 6 p.m.

\$25 Readlyn Community Club Membership, meal and play Trivia
 If you are not a Community Club member and want to form a 6-person team, come at 8 p.m. for Trivia for \$10 per person/\$60 per team.
Prizes: First Place: 6 \$10 Gift Certificates from Kwik Star, Second Place: 6 \$5 Gift Certificates from Inspired, and a surprise prize for last place!

Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America



Wapsie Valley FFA members participated in Leadership Development Events at the 2018 SW Sub-district competition at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo.

Wapsie Valley FFA Members exhibit skills at Sub-District Convention

By Lydia Martins, WV FFA Chapter Reporter

On February 21, 2018, Wapsie Valley members competed at the Southwest Sub-district competition at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo. After months of practice and preparation, the members performed at the first level of competition against other chapters in the SW sub-district. Wapsie Valley found great success at the competition with every Leadership Development Event (LDE) receiving first or second and advancing to the NE District Competition on March 10, 2018. Congratulations to all participants! Results are listed below:

Ag Broadcasting: Lydia Martins, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Ag Sales: Grant Grober, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Chapter Program: Erika Jeanes and Jacob Joerger, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Conduct of Meetings: Ethan Oltrogge, Kaylee Kleitsch, Courtney Schmitz, Tyler Ott, Dallas Wittenburg, Asa Kelley, Adri Platte, and Sam Banger, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Creed Speaking: Katie Mortensen, 2nd Place Advance to Districts

Extemporaneous Speaking: Karissa Michael, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Job Interview: Jacob Risse, 2nd Place Advance to Districts

Parliamentary Procedure: Hannah Miller, Reily Richards, Sloane Banger, Anna Richards, Sam Schnor, and Kennadi Neil, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Public Speaking: Sidney Schnor, 1st Place Advance to Districts

Wapsie Valley Ag 4 class planning Chicago Venture!

The Wapsie Valley Ag 4 class is currently planning and budgeting a trip to the windy city of Chicago. This past semester eight seniors learned and studied commodity markets and graphing future contracts which will then be seen at the Chicago Board of Trade this April. The Ag 4 students are using their planning and financial skills to plan for a trip to Chicago by devising fundraisers, developing an itinerary, and creating a budget. This year the Ag 4 class will visit the Chicago Board of Trade, Willis Tower, the famous Industrial Bean otherwise known as Cloud Gate, and career tours. This annual trip has been a tradition for many years where classes have either visited Minneapolis or Chicago for a 2 or 3-day adventure.

Fundraisers to support the class's ventures are Buffalo Wild Wings night on April 6, labor auction, hog raffle, malt sales, elementary movie night and snack sales.

Buffalo Wild Wings: Go to Buffalo Wild Wings April 4, 8am-11:30pm in Cedar Falls and say you're with the Wapsie Valley Ag 4 class and part of your check will go towards the funding of their trip!

Hog Raffle: Wapsie Valley Ag 4 class is selling hog raffle tickets. The two halves of the hog are donated by Kevin and Kurt Leistikow and processing donated by the Fairbank Locker. One ticket is \$2, 3 tickets are \$5, 7 tickets are \$10, and 15 tickets are \$20. Processing of the meat will be on April 9 and will be ready for pick up approximately April 19. The drawing for the winner will held on April 18 and need not be present to win. If you are interested in buying tickets, please contact Jacob Joerger at 319-464-5916.

Movie Night: If you are a parent and want a nice date night free from the kids, have them come out to the Ag 4 class movie night at the Wapsie Valley High School for ages preschool-6th grade. This will be taking place April 6 from 6-9pm. There will not be an activity bus for this event. There will be a sign up in both elementary in Fairbank and Readlyn with the cost of \$10 per child. The movie that will be shown is *Ferdinand*. Games for all ages like tag, volleyball, kickball and dodgeball will be available. There will be pulled pork sandwiches for supper served with chips and a rice krispie bar, and lemonade and water and drink.

Labor Auction: If you need someone to clean your house, pick up rock in your field, or even do your laundry, come out to Wapsie Valley FFA Omelet Breakfast April 8 at the Readlyn Elementary to bid on the Ag 4 class groups to service your needs for 3 hours! All the proceeds go towards the Ag 4 trip to Chicago. Students will be sold in groups of two as well.

Snack/Malt Sales: This past month we have been selling healthy snacks to all the agriculture classes during the day. These snacks range from baked chips, to Gadgetos, Chex Mix, and the most popular brown sugar cinnamon pop tarts. This fund-raiser gives us the opportunity to provide healthy snacks throughout the day to Wapsie students who are enrolled in any agriculture class! The Ag 4 class is also selling malts after school for \$1.50 which includes a whole 8 oz. cup of chocolate goodness!

Readlyn Community Happenings Hillcrest Home names new Director of Nursing

Hillcrest Home in Sumner, Iowa welcomed new Director of Nursing, Brandi Leistikow, late in February. Hillcrest is a Life Plan Community offering Independent Living apartments-Southview Apartments, Skilled Nursing Care, and most recently Assisted Living-The Terrace. The community provides services to individuals looking for a comfortable home-like setting in 3 areas that encourage independence but offer medical and individual assistance for those in need. Originally from the Cedar Falls area, Brandi graduated from Janesville Community School in 2009. She decided to pursue a career in nursing by obtaining a degree through Hawkeye Community College, officially becoming a Registered Nurse in 2012.

To enhance her skills and knowledge, she has enrolled in the Bachelor of Nursing program through the University of Iowa where she currently takes classes and hopes to complete the program late next year. Brandi is no stranger to Hillcrest Home. She worked for the facility as a floor nurse for 4 years shortly after graduating from Hawkeye. With her mind set on career advancement, though, Brandi eventually accepted a position with Bartels where she was named the Skilled Nurse Supervisor prior to being promoted to their Director of Nursing. Brandi was excited to realize the opportunity to return to Hillcrest when she noticed the position of Director of Nursing needing to be filled. By ultimately being awarded

and accepting the position of Director of Nursing, Brandi now oversees the nursing care of all facility residents as well as the entire nursing staff. She is excited for the opportunity to work close to home, in a small-town facility where family is the focus. Brandi enjoys working in long term care and hopes to use her position as an advantage to build relationships with the residents and their families and to encourage continued positive team interactions within her staff. Her vision is to provide the best level of care through a more individualized approach as well as to help

guide staff to be as confident and competent as they can in the care that they deliver. Brandi also has a vision for progressive management, noting the importance of staying up to date on rules and regulations in nursing facilities. Brandi and her husband Kyle live on a farm outside of Readlyn and are excited to be expecting twin boys this June. Hillcrest Home is very excited to welcome Brandi back to their team and look forward to the intent and vision she brings to the table. Congratulations, Brandi, on all you have accomplished!

Valentine Ball committee scholarship deadline is Friday, April 6

The Readlyn Valentine Ball Committee is excited to announce this year's senior scholarship opportunity! We believe that Readlyn offers priceless opportunities to give roots and wings to our young citizens. Roots to hold them strong in their beliefs and where they can always call home. Experiences to help them spread their wings and contribute to the bigger world outside of our great town.

All Wapsie Valley High School 2018 seniors with a Readlyn address, Readlyn telephone number, or those who completed grade school at Readlyn Elementary are eligible to

apply for this \$500 scholarship. The subject of this scholarship is "My Readlyn Community Involvement." Please submit a well written, thought provoking 300 word minimum essay describing ways you volunteered in Readlyn and have been involved in the Readlyn community throughout the years. Describe how your involvement has impacted you and influenced your future plans. Submissions can be dropped off or mailed to the Readlyn Library no later than Friday, April 6, 2018. The scholarship winner will be announced in the May *Chronicle* as well as by mailed letter.

VFW Auxiliary Meets

The Wayne Teisinger VFW met March 13, 2018 with Luann Happel, Junior Vice President, presiding at the home of Ellen Thies with five 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. 142 volunteer hours were turned in.

issues were handed out to be sent to Senators Grassley and Ernst. A new cancer insurance was reviewed, discussed and tabled until next month. Year-end reports were reviewed which are due April 1, 2018. A poppy display idea was presented for 3rd District meeting which is April 21, 2018 in Northwoods. A closing prayer adjourned the meeting. Submitted by Ellen Thies.

Legislative letters pertaining to veteran

News from Wapsie Valley Elementary



The Fayette County Dairy Promoters purchased yogurt from Country View Dairy and donated a dish to every student at Fairbank Elementary. Mae Wedemeier, a 4th grade student and 2017 Little Miss Squirt, helped distribute the yogurt to all students and staff.



Students and parents participated in Literacy Week's activities at Camp Wapsie...Read S'More! Thanks to our staff, WVEF, Readlyn & Fairbank PTO, Readlyn Savings Bank, and Northeast Security Bank for their donations and support to make another successful Literacy Week!



The Fairbank PTO sponsored Family Fun Night on Friday, March 9. Students and families participated in the cookie walk, face painting, balloon-making, hula hoop contest and dancing. The PTOs fund lots of items and opportunities that enhance our learning environment at Wapsie Valley.



The winners for the February Warrior Way All-Stars are shown for displaying the Warrior Way every day!!



The winners for the February Warrior Way All-Stars are shown for displaying the Warrior Way every day!!

Deadline for Apr. 25 Chronicle: Thurs., Apr. 12, 5 PM

residential • commercial • industrial • farm
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 SHOP • 319-822-7794 FAX • 319-822-7337

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 CONTACT
DAN WEDEMEIER 319-269-6753
 READLYN, IOWA weeds.onfire@yahoo.com

Randy Bast
 Owner/Operator
 314 Purdy St.
 Jesup, IA 50648
 (319) 239-6455
 (319) 827-3435

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 • Septic Systems
 • Road Crossings
 • Tile Repair & More

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Patrick B. Dillon
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 • Estate Planning • Bankruptcy
 www.50674law.com

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 Southview Apartments
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Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America

Wapsie Valley FFA members attend the Legislative Symposium

Five of Wapsie Valley FFA members attended the Legislative Symposium to meet with State Representatives on January 30. This day-long event took place at the capitol building in Des Moines. This educational day was spent touring the buildings around the capitol including the State Historical Museum, Iowa Supreme Court, and the World Food Prize building. After the tours were finished, members enjoyed speaking with representatives about improving education and the importance of STEM careers. One of the members, Sid-

ney Schnor explains her experience at the Legislative Symposium, "It was a great opportunity for me and fellow classmates to ask questions and get direct answers related to education. All of the Senators and House members we met with were very interested in our members and their SAE programs!" Thank you to our representatives and congressmen at the Iowa State Capitol for allowing members to come and visit. Also thank you to the Governor of Iowa, Kim Reynolds, for supporting the FFA organization and STEM careers.



Members meet with Representative Sandy Salmon at the Capitol.



FFA members pictured with the House of Representatives.

Learn more about the history of Readlyn with every issue of

The Readlyn Chronicle.

For Rent

Totally Remodeled Apartment just off of Highway 63. \$500/mo

Also For Rent: Smaller Cabin, \$500/month just off Highway 63

Contact Ron Leistikow @ 319-279-3548

Ag Resources

- Farmers Co-op**
223 E. 1st St. • (319) 279-3396
- Farmers Savings Bank**
103 3rd St., Frederika, IA 50631
(319) 275-4301
- Fettkether Fertilizer Co. LLC**
7634 N. Ordway Rd., Dunkerton, IA
(319) 822-2482 or Cell (319) 404-0064
- First National Bank**
(319) 352-1340
www.myfnbank.com
- Innovative Ag Services**
24701 Oran St., Oran, IA 50664
(319) 638-7551
- Liddle-Ebert Ltd.** - Randy & Dee Liddle
Farm Drainage
1196 Hilton Ave., Plainfield, IA 50666
(319) 275-4528 (319) 231-5590
- Monsanto Dekalb/Asgrow** -
Dave Wheeler, 8234 E. Marquis Rd.,
Fairbank, IA (319) 230-1029
- Precision Planting** - Mike Heineman
2919 270th St. • (319) 279-3136
- PRime Ag Services - Channel Seedsmen**
Brian Pottebaum (515) 290-4098
Steve Rathe (319) 269-8083
- Quality Distributors, Inc.** - Brian Meyer
101 Main St. • (319) 279-3555
- R&R Drainage LLC**
Randy and Linda Bast, Jesup, Iowa
(319) 239-6455
- Readlyn Farm Automation Co.**
Burton Thies • (319) 279-3332;
(319) 279-3521
- Readlyn Vet. Association**
2636 230th St. • (319) 279-3867
- Rock On Wheels**
Roger Wheeler (319) 404-0407
Randy Wheeler (319) 231-3859
- Smidt Crop Management, Inc.**
Thomas B. Smidt, President
303 North 2nd St. PO Box 594, Greene
(641) 823-4817 or cell (641) 330-6717
smidtcrop@iowatelecom.net
- Spring Center Farm Pioneer** - Dean Buhr
2034 Vintage Ave., Sumner, IA 50674
(563) 578-8104 • (319) 240-2432
- Stine/LG Seeds** - Greg Matthias
2765 270th St. • (319) 279-3811
- Stokes Welding** - 412 7th St.,
Janesville • (319) 987-2801
Cell: (319) 230-7770
- Triple S Prairie Seeding LLC**
11313 Terrace Ave., Clarksville
(319) 269-9517
- Weeds On Fire Custom Application LLC** - Dan Wedemeier, Owner
Dan at (319) 269-6753
Elton at (319) 231-5104
- Wittenburg Truck Line, Inc.**
117 Malone Ave. • (319) 279-3371

Auto Sales and Repair

- Del's Auto Repair Inc.**
2308 Piedmont Ave. • (319) 279-3785
- Farmers Coop Service & Repair**
2640 230th St. • (319) 279-3436

Attorneys and Realtors

- Dillon Law, P.C.** - Patrick B. Dillon
Attorney at Law
209 E. 1st Street
Sumner, IA 50674
(563) 578-01850
Fax: (563) 578-1312
patdillon@50674law.com
- Joe Leehey Broker Associate**
(319) 415-7349
joe@sulentificschels.com
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Wapsie Valley prom is Saturday, April 21

The Wapsie Valley prom will be held on Saturday, April 21. The grand march will be held from 4 to 5 PM at the high school. The dance will be held from 8 to 11 PM.

Our post prom event begins at 11:30 PM at the high school. The students should have a lot of fun. We will have food, prizes and games for the students.

The post prom committee is seeking donations for this event. Any individu-

als, churches, groups or businesses that wish to donate can call Kristi Marticoff at 319-240-1744 or mail a check made out to the Wapsie Valley Post Prom. We are a non profit group and our mailing address is post office box #113, Readlyn, Iowa 50668.

We appreciate all the support from the community! We look forward to providing a great evening our students will enjoy.

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To participate pick up your registration form and pay \$5.00 at the Readlyn Library or the Readlyn Savings Bank by **Wednesday, May 9**. The Readlyn Community Club is coordinating this event and will be responsible for ads placed in the newspapers and online. Maps of the listings will be on readlyn.lib.ia.us, and can be picked up at the Kwik Star, Library and Bank at noon on Friday, May 11. Watch for more updates on the Readlyn Community Club Facebook page. Contact Louie Hartman with questions.

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Outdoors in the Cedar Valley *By Eric Johnston*



Delana's Day

As winter starts to lose its grip on us here in the Cedar Valley, I naturally start to think about spring and all the excitement that brings for me. From shed hunting to transitioning to spring turkey hunting, more mushroom hunting, and of course my favorite, tournament bass fishing! But before I close the door on another winter season, I like to reflect upon my winter adventures. In this week's article, I want to tell you about my favorite ice fishing trip of this past season.

Every winter I get out ice fishing as much as time, and my wife, will allow. With that being said, I manage to get out a lot because I married a rock star in my wife, Aubrey, when it comes to her under-

standing my passions and pursuing them. I usually wait for my seven-year-old daughter Delana to ask me if she can go. As much as I want her to love the outdoors like I do, I don't push her. Well, by February she still had not asked me if I would take her. Wondering why, I asked "Delana, would you like to go ice fishing?"

"I thought you'd never ask, Dad!" Delana said excitedly. So the next morning the trip was planned. While Delana isn't an early riser like her dad, she was up before the alarm and ready to go before I went to get her up. She helped me load everything in the truck including her bucket to sit on — "Don't forget my bucket this time, Dad," she said laughing. I guess on a previous trip I had a dad fail... After loading the truck we stopped at the convenience

store and picked up donuts, hot chocolate for her, and coffee for dad.

We were finally on our way to a local public pond that is loaded with bluegill and the occasional big largemouth bass. While Delana is quite an accomplished fisherman, I still like to take her places that I'm almost certain we will get bites, because after all, she is still just seven with a matching attention span. The whole way there I was smiling while she told me from the back seat about the fish she planned to catch and how happy she was to be going with me. When we arrived at the pond, I almost had to hold her back from running out there. She grabbed her bucket and pole and of course ol' dad would take care of the rest. We walked out on the pond and she quickly picked our spot. It made me proud that she remembered where we had caught them before.

I set everything up and Delana turned on her Humminbird ICE-35 and got to work. She quickly caught two bluegills as I watched with pride. I couldn't believe how quickly she was growing up and that she had taken in my instruction over the years and didn't need any help to start fishing.

"Are you going to fish dad?" She said almost waking me out of a trance. "I've got you down two to none, you better hurry up or I'm gonna beat you today!" Ahh, there's my competitiveness I thought. I started fishing and she made sure she stayed ahead of me. After an hour or so of fishing I had a bite and when I set the hook we both immediately knew it was a good largemouth bass. I silently laughed to myself as Delana told me, "Be easy with him, Dad, it's a good one!" I fought the fish for a minute or two all the while taking the coaching from Delana. We managed to get it through the hole and Delana immediately wanted my phone for pictures. We took a "selfie" together, then she coached me on how to hold the fish and the best angle for a shot. Then Delana informed me that it was probably three pounds and we better let it go. She helped me slide the fish back in the hole and we both sat there a few seconds and watched it swim away.

We fished for a while longer, and decided to pack up. Delana's idea of that would be putting her pole in her bucket and flasher in the sled, then head for the truck. I was left to pick up the rest and kept getting told I was slow. She finally decided to wait for me. As we walked together back to the truck, I almost willed up as she told me she loved me and thanked me for teaching her to fish. She says she's glad I taught her, so one day she can teach her daughter. Pretty big talk for a seven-year-old! As we got in the truck she reminded me she was hungry and the McDonalds was nearby. "And after that we better go get Mom a Valentine's Day gift. Because, after all, she lets us go fishing."

Such a smart girl, because she's right. Sometimes the simplest of trips like Delana and I had that day can be the most memorable. My only downfall is I didn't ask her sooner this past season. So my advice this week is get the kids and family outdoors whenever you can. I'm going to bet it will make some of your best outdoor memories years down the road. And it doesn't need to be a far away trip. We have a lot of great opportunities right here in the Cedar Valley. Until next time, Get Outdoors!



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Pearls of Wisdom

By Pastor Jean Rabary
 St. Matthew Lutheran Church and Zion Lutheran Church

Balanced Christian living

Recently, I had a God incidence when I had a foot problem that affected my walk, and body posture. The foot doctor said, "I will treat your foot to help you get your balance back." Not only is balance that important for the body, but it is also important for the soul. Counselors and therapists alike have helped countless people strike the right balance between family life and professional life. In First Things First, Stephen Covey says that we can choose to live either by a clock or by a compass. He put it this way,

"If we live by a clock, we are consumed by appointments, objectives, schedules, and activities. If, instead, we choose to live by a compass, we are guided by our visions, values, principles, mission, direction, and destiny."

Covey strongly advises us to know what is really important and central to us. In other words, he is pointing to our priority in life.

For those who follow Jesus, his teaching sets up the principle of our priority. "But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well" (Matthew 6:33).

Our relationship with God through faith in Jesus Christ is central. That relationship gives us the notion of eternity in our heart and provides us a sense of purpose and direction in life. Thus, everything else in life such as: family, career, life's outlook, and friendship, flow from it. When our life is first anchored in that relationship, the Holy Spirit helps us live a balanced life.

Living a balanced life, however, has always been a challenge for those who follow Jesus Christ. The story of the two sisters Martha and Mary in Luke 10:38-42 illustrates that. When Martha is overwhelmed with so many tasks, she tells Jesus that her

sister Mary should help her out instead of sitting by the Lord's feet listening to him. Martha's sentiment may also be reflected in our low view of those who devote themselves to prayer rather than "doing something."

Jesus' response focuses on the central issue for both Martha and Mary and for us. "Martha, Martha, you are worrying and are upset about a lot of things, but there is need of one. The one thing or the One who was needful and necessary was there [Jesus], and Martha's busyness kept her from being aware of that moment of grace while her sister Mary was abiding in it.

Doing more and more or acquiring more and more will make life less and less meaningful. St. Augustine was spot on when he realized that the human heart is restless until it rests in God. One author captures the essence of God's design by saying, "We are human "be-ing" and not human "do-ing."

If you like to be before God and want to be guided by his compass, give the following a try. Give the Word of God plenty of room to shape your heart and mind to live by what really matters: joyful living without anxiety (Phil. 4:4-6); good stewardship of time, money, and talents (Matt. 25:14-30; Eph. 5:15, 16; work with excellence (Col. 3:23); regular worship life and belonging to a community of faith (Heb. 10:25); raising our children in the training and instruction of the Lord (Eph. 6:4).

Jesus has come that "you may have life and have it abundantly," (John 10:10b). He is talking about life quality, significance, and balance. Note that the "you" there is both singular and plural. We experience Christ's abundant life individually and corporately in and through the community of believers. May the Holy Spirit help you strike the right balance! Have a blessed Easter.

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