

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Volume 11, No. 9, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, August 29, 2018



The Readlyn First Responders are looking to purchase an Automated Chest Compression Machine. RTC Communications has donated \$5,000.00 towards the purchase of this machine. Pictured from left to right: Steve Aiello, Readlyn First Responder, Sharon Huck, General Manager of RTC Communications, and Clinton Watts, Readlyn First Responder.

Macken earns ribbon at State Fair

Marjorie Macken, who has given out plenty of awards and ribbons in her 91 years of life, had never won a ribbon herself, until this past weekend.

Marjorie decided to enter a peach pie and cinnamon rolls in the Beginner's Contest at the Iowa State Fair. The Beginner Contest is for people who have never exhibited at fair before. Her son, Joel, helped her get the proper entry forms and invited

her to stay at his home in Des Moines to do her baking. Marjorie made her peach pie twice in order to get the perfect crust.

In preparation for making the cinnamon rolls, Marjorie started her bread at midnight and got up every hour to knead the bread, roll out the rolls, and bake her pan of rolls. Joel set two alarm clocks so they would not oversleep on the morning of the contest. Missy, Joel's chocolate lab, almost got a taste of the prize-winning rolls when she came into the kitchen after her morning romp outside and smelled the delicious rolls cooling just out of reach on the kitchen counter.

Marjorie and Joel arrived at the Elwell Family Food Center Building by 8:00 a.m. eager to submit the two entries and watch the judging. Marjorie was excited when the judges took her pie behind the curtain for further discussion. In the end, a pie with a lattice work top took first prize and Marjorie's pie placed fourth.

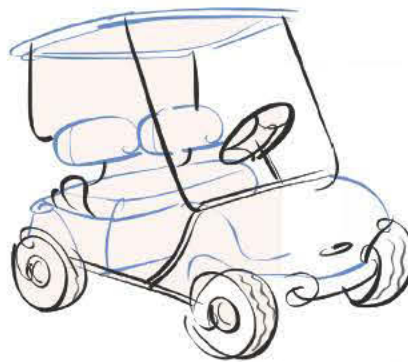
But, for the bread category, Marjorie was proud to receive second place, and her very first ribbon, for her cinnamon rolls!

It was a learning experience for Marjorie even though she's been baking for many years. Such things as displaying the goods on fancy dishes instead of paper plates gives a more appealing presentation. Or flavoring your rolls with different flavors instead of just cinnamon may make them stand out.

Like many contests, it's a matter of getting the judges' attention. In hindsight, Marjorie says she was more concerned with the products not being over- or undercooked and completely forgot presentation.

The Iowa State Fair Food Department is the largest of any state fair in the country with 171 divisions, 727 classes, and over

9,574 entries at this year's fair! Congratulations, Marjorie, on this well-deserved honor!



Golf Cart Ride on the Readlyn Bike Trail Sept. 22

The annual golf cart ride on the Readlyn Bike Trail will take place on Saturday, Sept. 22, from 1:30 —4:00 pm.

Interested riders are asked to meet behind Hartman's at 248 Clark Street by 1:15 pm. We will go from Readlyn to Killdeer Avenue and back.

Please join us for a leisurely ride on the bike trail. If you do not have your own cart, please contact Pat Wehr for a reservation. Wanda Busch from Rudy's in Denver is once again generously donating carts for this event.

Contact Info for Golf Cart Reservation:
Home phone: 279-3001
Cell: 319-415-2001
Email: wehr@netins.net



Marjorie Macken is shown with the peach pie she entered in the Iowa State Fair this year.

Bigger, better Grump Days!

Two ambitious Readlyn Community Club members stepped forward at the August meeting to offer two new venues for Grump Days 2019.

Kim Brown has volunteered to organize a Grump Days Treasure and Flea Market. Her idea stemmed from attending Dunkerton's celebration where she collected business cards to generate a seed list of possible vendors. Please contact her (319-415-9675) if you are interested in being a part of this new event.

Hailey Broten stepped forward offering to create a kids and adult bicycle poker run which will take place before Thursday night's movie. It will offer healthy exercise as well providing another fun family event.

Please, if you have additional ideas to enhance Grump Days or our community, attend the next RCC meeting Thursday, October 11, 7:00 at the Watering Hole.

Readlyn Rock Rocks

Ruth and David Wittenburg, the chief advocates who made the Freedom Rock come to fruition, unveiled events for RCC's newest tourist attraction. Work was completed July 1. On the Fourth of July, three coats of sealant were applied. The next steps are to peel sod away, and add gravel, flags, floodlights, billboard, granite bench, sidewalk and a sign recognizing donors.

At a cost, DOT will place direction signs on Highway 3 by the Kwik Star sign and Ron Ingersoll's farm. The county will erect signs on V49. A sign on the Bike Trail is another possibility.

As you can see, additional funds will be sorely needed. Although a steady flow of donations and visitors from all parts of Iowa have arrived, please feel free to stop by the bank to give additional monetary donations to Dani. Dedication will probably be Memorial Day 2019.

Thank you

In addition to the ladies mentioned above, a huge shout out goes to Burton Thies. He repaired the display case in front of the Watering Hole so that you can once again slide the glass windows and place notices inside.

Fall Main St. decorating

All hands on deck! Please meet outside the Historical Society Building Saturday, September 15, 9:00 am, to help decorate Main Street.

Mayor's Desk

By Dan Wedemeier



Hi everyone,
The summer is gone and school is starting! Please use extra caution when driving around town. Kids will be out and about walking to and from both schools. Also watch out for the buses unloading and loading. At Community Lutheran Schools the buses unload and load on the street. You are required to stop! At the Wapsie Valley building they unload and load in the parking lot but we have a lot of cars parked on the side of the street loading and unloading. So be careful of children running in and out of those areas. Let's have a safe and fun year of school!

The splash pad has been a great success this summer. It seemed someone was always using it. I have only heard good things about the splash pad. As Labor Day is approaching we will be shutting the splash pad down for the season about a week after the holiday.

With the new fiscal year in progress for the city we are working on a couple projects. One is the resurfacing of First Street from Main Street east to V49. We have gotten bids on the project and will be deciding on them yet this month. The other major project is a drainage line along Malone Street for sump pumps. We are still working with contractors to get a design and cost, but we are planning on getting this accomplished this year. Any questions, call City Hall or me.

The sewer plant project is very near completion. The engineers came up with a punch list for contractors to complete to have everything up to standards. We will have a walk-through with all of them the first part of next month. I plan on a public open house later this fall. The plant is functioning great! We have had a few high water incidents and all went well. I am most impressed with the quality of the water discharged from the plant.

With this plant nearing completion, Barney and Austin have been working to get compost and brush pile moved back to the sewer plant. So if you see a closed sign or gate at our current spot, we have moved back to our old place for compost and brush. Any questions call City Hall.

The other project that we have been working on is a wetland development on approximately 7 acres of Westendorf property on the southwest corner of town. The City of Readlyn's sewer plant project qualified us for a \$400,000.00 water quality improvement grant. As many of you may remember, we tried to use this for a Bio Cell project on Malone Street. To utilize these funds the City worked with DNR and SRF people for other options that would best improve the quality of water runoff. Two-thirds of the City's storm water runoff goes through this area and has caused problems in the past. The City's plan is to buy this area and develop it into a wetland area with an educational walking path. The City will be looking at bids to get started on this project. Any questions, call me.

Readlyn has had several homes for sale and it seems like they are all getting filled up with new people. My wife and I would like to welcome you all to town and hope you get that warm, hometown feeling from us all! Welcome to town and if you have any questions, call City Hall or me.

Grump's Grumblings

By Larry Ladage



Thoughts From the Grump –
On July 15, Miss Readlyn Cassidy Bruncheon and I served ice cream sundaes for 25 cents at the Readlyn Historical Society to over 100 people. A good time was had by all in attendance, with lots of visiting. Apparently, this was the largest amount of people served at the annual summer event.

August 4, during Tripoli's town celebration, eight of the Readlyn Grumps, including myself, rode in the parade. We were also scheduled to participate in Denver's parade on Saturday, August 18. There were plans for 9 or 10 of the Grumps in that parade and we planned to drive golf carts for that, courtesy of Rudy's Golf Carts from Denver.

On August 2, the Grump took a pie to the Bremer County Fair Pie Auction in Waverly. Thanks for the help, Janet! The pie sold for \$850.00 and was bought by Schweer Repair, Tripoli. Over \$16,000 was made during that pie auction to go toward funding the new Bremer County Fairgrounds.

The Bremer County Freedom Rock is completely painted. In the near future there will be additions, such as flags, lights and landscaping around the rock. This Freedom Rock represents not only Readlyn, but also all of Bremer County. Anyone wanting to see the rock, it is located just north of the Kwik Star by the ballpark. Hopefully, anyone from Bremer County and elsewhere will also stop to visit and drive through the friendliest and cleanest town around, also known as Readlyn.

Starting on August 23, I will again be driving a van for Tripoli Schools to take a student to River Hills in Cedar Falls. The summer has gone so fast.

Watch the *Readlyn Chronicle* next month for more news.

2018 Readlyn Grump, Larry Ladage

Miss Readlyn Comments

By Cassidy Bruncheon



How is it the end of August already?! I've had such a busy summer and so many great opportunities. The summer has gone by so fast, and school starts August 23. August has been busy with freezing sweet corn, school shopping, and going to cheer practice. But while I dread the day school finally arrives, I'm excited to see what my senior year has in store for me!

At the end of July, I packed my bags for the weekend and headed up north with my mom to the Chanhasen Dinner Theater in Minneapolis. We saw the musical *Newsies* and it was incredible. There's nothing like seeing two men do the splits and having another man walking on his hands. All jokes aside, the amount of talent in the production was remarkable. Whenever I visit Chanhasen, I am always blown away by the talent and the incredible food (I highly recommend the chocolate cake)! But the weekend had to end because the next day, I woke up at 5:00 AM and traveled back to Iowa to run for the Bremer County Fair Queen.

I was honored this year to run for Bremer County Fair Queen along with nine other girls from neighboring towns. It was such a great experience meeting other queens from different towns and meeting the 2018 Miss Iowa. We all had a fun day, even though it was a little nerve-wracking. I want to thank the Readlyn Community Club for sponsoring me in the contest. Congratulations to everyone on the court and to the 2018 Bremer County Queen!

This summer I also attended the 2018 Meistersinger All-State Camp at Wartburg College. During this camp, over 400 singers from across Iowa come together to get a jump-start learning 5 extremely difficult pieces. These songs, which we rehearse for 9 hours a day at the camp, are used for auditions in October to get into the prestigious All-State Choir. I had such a good time singing with my current choir friends and meeting so many others.

One of my many duties as Miss Readlyn is to represent Readlyn in the surrounding communities' parades. I rode in the Tripoli parade at the beginning of the month (see photo below) and in the Denver parade for their town celebrations. I have so much fun talking with people not only from my community but from other towns.

Football season is almost here! As a cheerleader, our squad has been very busy planning for the upcoming season. From making posters, creating locker signs, taking pictures, to practicing cool stunts, the squad has been busy. The season starts with Media Night at the High School. The team is ready for a tough season, and we cheerleaders are ready to fight with them. I also want to wish the Cross Country and the Volleyball teams good luck on their seasons. Our first official football game was at Clayton Ridge on August 24, and then we meet Denver at home on August 31. Hope to see everyone there!



Community Calendar

- Mondays** - Novel Knitters at the library 6 pm
- Thursdays**- Story Time at the library 9 am beginning Sept. 13
- Tuesday, Sept. 4** - Visiting Nurses Foot Clinic at the library; call 319-235-6201 for an appointment.
- Tuesday, Sept. 4** - V.F.W. Post #5661 meeting at Readlyn Telephone Co.
- Wed., Sept. 5** - Backpack Checkup at the library 3:30-5:00 pm
- Tues., Sept. 11** - Tech Class at the library, Cloud Computing 9 am
- Tues., Sept. 11** - V.F.W. Auxiliary, 7:30 pm
- Wed., Sept. 12** - Merry Elders at Inspired 11:30 am
- Thurs., Sept. 13** - Deadline for Sept. 26 *Readlyn Chronicle*, 5 pm
- Sat., Sept. 15** - 9:00 am – Fall Main Street decorating; meet at the Historical Society
- Wed., Sept. 19** - Senior Citizens lunch and cards at Inspired, 11:30 am
- Sat., Sept. 22** - Annual golf cart ride on the Readlyn Bike Trail 1:30 —4:00 pm
- Tues., Sept. 25** - Coloring at the library 1-3 pm. school-agers welcome after school
- Thurs., Sept. 27** - Book Talk, 7 pm at the library
- Looking ahead to next month:**
- Thurs., October 11** - Flu shots at the library 3-5 pm by Bremer County Health Department

Smiley Jonathan Smiley, D.M.D.
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Dr. Jonathan Smiley and family

Readlyn Community Happenings

Auxiliary meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 met August 14, 2018 at the home of Verdeen Pavelec at 7:30 pm with five 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. A bill was paid. Volunteer hours were turned in. Membership dues are now due. A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Luann Happel to accept the audit of the treasurer's book in July, carried.

Third District meeting will be August 25 in Osage. Two letters and two emails were sent to Congressmen for a Veteran's Bill, mailed in the name of membership chairman to Mary Ransford. 358 pop tabs were turned in for Ronald McDonald House. We got the Department Bond for President and Treasurer. We got the Department Program book.

September is the month for the poppy drive, and also Military Suicide Awareness month.

A get-well card and Kwik Trip gift card were sent to Kathy Thiele who had hip replacement. District President Robin Hughes will inspect our Auxiliary September 11 at 7 pm. Thank-you was read from Kathy Thiele and letters from Arlyce Heideman, Vicki Gannon and Debra Wells. A motion was made by Luann Happel, seconded by Ellen Thies, to adjourn, carried. Hostess was Verdeen Pavelec.

Westendorf reunion

The 25th Annual Leo and Mildred Westendorf family reunion was held Sunday, July 29, 2018 at Cedar Bend Park by Waverly. Attendees enjoyed Kringle donut holes and coffee at 10:30 a.m. A mini-church service was led by Steve Pavelec and music by Haley Block.

At noon was a potluck dinner with 53 members attending from Oelwein, Cedar Falls, Readlyn, Waterloo, Denver, Madison, WI, New Hartford, Milwaukee, WI, Janesville, Waverly, Cedar Rapids, Lake Mary, FL, Racine, WI and Minneapolis, MN.

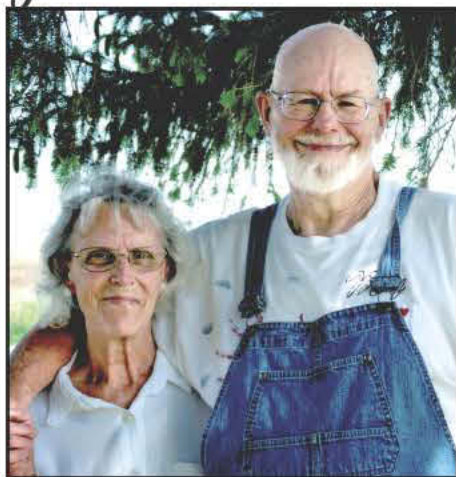
The oldest member present was Verdeen Pavelec (83) of Readlyn and the youngest was Bennett Pavelec, son of Brett and Karalee Pavelec of Cedar Rapids. Traveling the longest distance were Randa King and Kyle of Lake Mary, FL.

Winners of the Bean Bag Tournament were Lori Becker of Cedar Falls and Jonny Dierks of Minneapolis, MN. Winners of the golf tournament on Saturday at the Waverly Country Club were Willard Mohling of Denver and Jonathon Larson of Cedar Rapids.

On Friday, 16 members attended the tea at Barn Happy. Saturday night, Beverly and Wayne Block of Oelwein hosted the walking tacos and the reunion along with the Brad Block family.

Deadline for the Sept. 26 Readlyn Chronicle:

Thurs., Sept. 13
5:00 PM



Claudette and Virgil Pook

Poocks to celebrate 50th on Sept. 8

Virgil and Claudette Pook will celebrate 50 years of marriage with an open house on Saturday, September 8, from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Sumner. Everyone is welcome.

Virgil Pook and Claudette Aubrey were married September 8, 1968 at St. John American Lutheran Church in Sumner. Their family includes: Scott and Jill Pook, Valerie and Jason Gaede, Zachary and Amanda Pook, and Travis Pook all of Sumner, Christine and Lyn Wedemeier of Marion, Emily and Russ Yansky of Cedar Rapids and son-in-law Rick Helin from Texas, husband of deceased daughter, Susan. There are ten grandchildren.

Poor Farm Foundation Hosts...



OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, September 9th
2:00-6:00 pm

- Building tours (many museum items)
- Homemade pies and sandwiches
- Petting zoo, Outdoor games
- Schafkopf tournament (2pm)
- Fiddle playing, Blue grass music (4pm)
- Square dancing (5pm)



Location: 1951 Larrabee Ave. Waverly, IA

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121 Main Street, Readlyn, IA 50668 | (319) 279-3375 | Office Hours: M-F 8AM-4:30PM
www.readlyntelco.com



Readlyn Community Library

We put the READ in Readlyn

Barb Sowers
Nancy Lockard

Cash Memorials

In Memory of Steve Meier

Nancy Ehrhardt	\$10.00
Barb Sowers	\$10.00
Garylee Thurm	\$10.00
Trent & Nancy Lockard	\$20.00
Grace Kuethe	\$20.00
Shirley Kuker	\$10.00
Karan Boevers	\$10.00
Gene & Sherri Nieman	\$40.00

In Memory of Marilyn Sauerbrei

Gary & Barb Buhr	\$10.00
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Book Memorials

In Memory of Dorothy Wilson
"This is not a Cat" by David Larochelle
from Ron & Judy Leistikow

In Memory of Cody Rademaker
"Galaxies Galaxies" by Gail Gibbons
from Ron & Judy Leistikow

In Memory of Merna Rechkemmer
"Quiet" by Kate Alizadeh
from Ron & Judy Leistikow

In Memory of Oriel Wolff
"Flowers" by Gail Gibbons
from Ron and Ella Matthias

In Memory of Berniece Schumacher
"Llama Llama Loves to Read"
by Anna Dewdney
from Ron and Ella Matthias



Color Us Creative

JOIN US

Tuesday, September 25th
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Children are Welcome after School

Get the **Plan Ahead**
FLU SHOT
not the flu!

Thursday October 11th
3:00-5:00

At the Readlyn Library
Bremer County Health Department

FREE Fall Tech Classes at Bremer County Libraries

Tuesday September 11th at 9:00am

Readlyn Community Library Cloud Computing

What it is and how to
store and access data
from your personal device.



309 Main St.
P.O. Box 249
Readlyn, IA 50668



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

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



What Do Libraries Do

Libraries are places of information. When most people think "library" they think books. And while that is certainly true, these days books take different shapes, such as e-books and audio books. More than just books, libraries are places of information, offering people free access to a wealth of information that they often can't find elsewhere, whether online, in print or in person. Whether they're looking for DVDs or the latest best-seller; health or business information found on internet databases not accessible at home, or going for story times and community programming, the library is a center of community.

Build Community Libraries are community hubs. In addition to connecting people to information, libraries connect people to people. They are safe havens for kids when school is not in session, offering after school homework help, games and book clubs. Libraries offer computer classes, enabling older adults stay engaged in a digital world. Community outreach programs keep those who are housebound connected to the larger community.

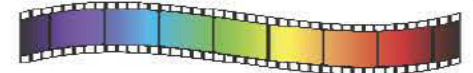
Provide Access Libraries level the playing field. As great democratic institutions, serving people of every age, income level, location, ethnicity, or physical ability, and providing the full range of information resources needed to live, learn, govern, and work.

Promote Literacy Libraries are committed to helping children and adults develop the skills they need to survive and thrive in a global information society: the ability to read and use computers.

Protect Your Rights Libraries are advocates for your right to read and your right to reader privacy.

Innovate Libraries are places for community engagement, a platform for great minds to come together. The way people are using our libraries is changing as fast as technology is changing society. Increasingly, libraries are becoming a place for creation and collaboration.

New DVDs



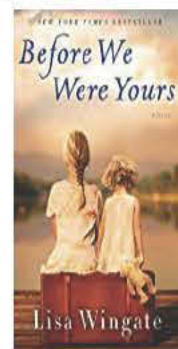
- Sherlock Gnomes
- I Feel Pretty
- Rampage
- Alex & Me
- Ready Player One
- Overboard
- Death of Superman
- Life of the Party
- Avengers ~ Infinity War

Backpack Checkup

Dr. Eric Brocka
Wed. Sept. 5th
3:30-5:00
Register to win a
free backpack



Readlyn Reads



September's book is
"Before We Were Yours"
by Lisa Wingate.

Based on one of America's most notorious real-life scandals in which Georgia Tann, director of a Memphis-based adoption organization, kidnapped and sold poor children to wealthy families all over the country

"Lisa Wingate takes an almost unthinkable chapter in our nation's history and weaves a tale of enduring power. That Georgia Tann and her Memphis Tennessee Children's Home Society could actually exist, unraveling the lives of countless children, stealing their pasts and changing their futures, will give you chills. But the real feat of this stirring novel is how deeply Wingate plunges us into the heart and mind of twelve-year-old river-gypsy, Rill Foss. Rill's utterly singular voice will stay with you long after the last page is turned, as will Wingate's courage to follow her anywhere . . .

Pick up a copy and join us at the library for discussion on Thursday September 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Other classes Around the County...

Sumner	Sept. 6 at 6pm	Photo Editing
Plainfield	Sept. 14 at 2pm	Basic Gmail
Denver	Sept. 19 at 10am	Basic Computer skills
Janesville	Sept. 20 at 10am	Basic Android Apps
Sumner	Sept. 22 at 10am	Downloading ebooks & audio books
Tripoli	Sept. 22 at 10am	Basic Gmail
Janesville	Sept. 27 at 10am	Photo Editing
Denver	Sept. 27 at 6:30pm	Goodreads



Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Exploring the Jaschen-Thran relationship

All my life I had the desire to visit the village in Germany where my grandparents came from. Finally, in 1996, at age 66, I bought a ticket and flew from Waterloo to Minneapolis through Amsterdam to Berlin, rented a car for 16 days and headed to Klein Beuchow, the small village where my Grandpa and Grandma Thran were born.

I was now in the former East Germany (Russian Zone) where very few people speak English. I taught German in Williamsburg for five years to 1965, forgot most of it but did remember enough to barely get by. I found a Bed & Breakfast in Luebbenau and started to explore.

The second day I visited Klein Beuchow, the village of my Thran grandparents. I got out of my car to look around. As I was standing there, confused, an older gentleman just happened to walk by. He approached me and said in German that he was the mayor, and could he help me. My car had a Hannover plate so he knew I was a stranger.

I told him in German that my grandparents were born here. He asked my name. I said Thran. He said he never heard of the name Thran, but maybe his mother-in-law, who was 86 years old, knew the name Thran. He took me to her home. I said to her, "My name is Thran and I live in America." I got the greatest shock of my life when she said, "I heard that a Thran married a Noack in America." I blurted out, "That's my Grandpa and Grandma!"

This lady was a Noack like my grandmother and they were cousins. This was surprising because my grandma left Germany in 1886, 110 years before I visited Germany. To find a relative in Germany was beyond my wildest dream. I have since visited Germany 16 times and, on subsequent visits, was always given a room in the home of Horst Fechtner, the Burgermeister who asked if he could help me.

The third day I approached the Evangelical (Lutheran) minister, Pfarrar (Pastor) Oelmann, who later became a good friend, and asked to research the church archives, which went back to the early 1600s. There

I found and copied the baptismal records of my grandparents and their brothers and sisters as well as the wedding records of my ancestors. While copying these records, I came across of the name, Moritz Jaschen. I was puzzled because we had a neighbor in Readlyn by that name.

When back in Readlyn, I saw Annetta Jaschen Graening and asked where her Grandfather was born. Her answer in one word — Zirkwitz! Less than a mile from where my grandparents were born! I always wondered why the Thran family and the Jaschens were close. My grandmother was sponsor to two Jaschen daughters, Annette Graening and Lizzie Buhr. The families were from neighboring villages in Germany and attended the same church in Zirkwitz. My grandparents settled in Westgate and Moritz was married in Westgate. On my next trip, I copied the Jaschen records and gave them to Larry Graening, grandson of Moritz Jaschen.

In 2016, I invited Larry and Jill Graening to meet me in Spreewald, Germany, the area where our grandparents lived. Spreewald was at one time a giant wetland, the Spree River running through it. Spreewald (Spree River Woods) is more than twice the size of Bremer County and contains more than 200 canals totaling more than 900 miles in length. Flat-bottom boats are poled throughout for transportation — no motors. It is a great tourist destination.

We were fascinated by the Lutheran church located in Zirkwitz, pictured above right. The church was built in 1770 (before the US was a nation), replacing a church built in 1315, more than 800 years ago. The German government recently restored and painted the outside and redecorated the inside. Larry climbed to the top of the steeple to admire the wooden works of the large four-direction clock. The baptismal font was constructed by a church member in the 1600s, nearly 500 years ago.

It was a strange sensation for Larry, Jill and me to be in the same small villages in which our ancestors had lived for hundreds of years. Also to imagine what the area was like at the time they left. And what were the deep emotions when they



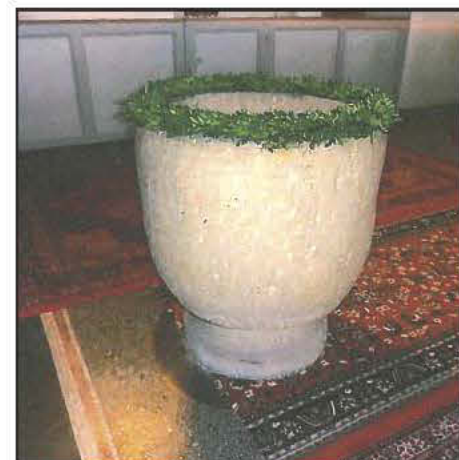
The Lutheran Church at Zirkwitz was built in 1770. The interior is shown below, including a close-up of an almost 500-year-old baptismal font. Jill Graening photos

said goodbye to leave for America, never to see their families again? Although we were in the same villages as our grandparents, we were not able to determine their former homes. We toured Spreewald for more than a day and, another highlight, took a scenic boat ride on a main canal. Larry has a picture with the Jaschen name on a gravestone. It was indeed a pleasure to host Larry and Jill! I would encourage everyone to research their family background and, if possible, explore their former overseas homeland.

Jaschen family of 10 Children

Moritz Jaschen was born in Zirkwitz, Germany December 12, 1872. He married Sarah Pape, born in Maxfield Township, Bremer County, May 27, 1877 in Westgate, Iowa on June 16, 1899. They farmed two miles south and two miles west of Readlyn. Their children: Ernest (Martha Bonzer), Gustav (Annetta Matthias), Richard (Hulda Foelske), Erna (Elmer Bublitz), Lizzie (Edwin Buhr), Bertha (Ed Timms), Malinda (Clarence Lamprecht), Walter (Rosetta Bently), Annetta (Art Graening), Martha (Oscar Nolte). Verner Jaschen provided this information.

Next month — The first auto fatality in Bremer County!





101 1st St., Tripoli, IA
(behind the Welcome Center)

RE-OPENING LABOR DAY WEEKEND
Open Friday & Saturday,
Aug. 31 & Sept. 1 from 10-12.

After Labor Day weekend, we will be open
Saturdays in Sept. 10 AM-12 Noon
Like us on Facebook or check out our website on Google!

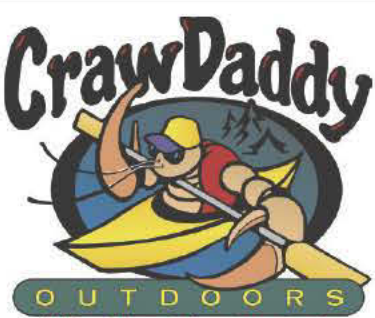
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Darrin Siefken, Owner
207 East Bremer Avenue
Waverly
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Where Your Adventures Begin

Gabby Power one of 12 National Teach Ag Ambassadors

Gabby Power is making a difference in the lives of high school students nationwide by teaching students about the opportunities of being an agricultural educator.

"I want to recruit people like me because it is important to fill the agriculture education needs of the country," Power said.

Power, a senior Agricultural Education major at Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU), was one of 12 students selected nationwide to serve as a National Teach Ag Ambassador from October 2018-October 2019.

As a Teach Ag Ambassador, Power will represent the agricultural education family by networking with prospective agricultural education teachers and presenting about the profession in high school classrooms and at conferences, such as the National FFA Convention. She also has the opportunity to present workshops throughout the year.

"For one of my workshops, I plan on inviting high school students to SMSU on Teach Ag Day to promote my major. It will be a great way to get students to campus and interested in my major," she said.

"The selection process to becoming an ambassador was difficult and time consuming, but worth it," Power said.

A large portion of the application consisted of an essay and references. From the applications sent in, about 25 students were selected for an interview. The interview consisted of one question with a 30-minute response time. Only 12 students were selected to become the 2018-2019 ambassadors.

There is also one intern that is selected to help coordinate events throughout the year.

"The selection process is intense and competitive, but I hope to be the intern for Teach Ag in the next couple of years. I still can't believe I am an ambassador," she said.

"I feel as though my MAELC (Minnesota Agricultural Education Leadership Council) internship last summer in Grand Rapids, my college choice, and the activities I am involved in at SMSU impacted the judges' decision to choose me," Power said.

Power is involved in many activities on campus: Student Senate, Senior Residence Assistant, Student Activities Committee (SAC), treasurer of Ag Club, intramurals, EMSP Club, and Admissions Ambassador.

"I came from the small town of Readlyn, Iowa with a population less than 900. I'm used to being involved in a lot of different activities. I have two more years left at SMSU and I plan on staying involved," she said.

"One day, I hope to make a difference in someone's life to give back to the people that helped me become who I am to-

day. I wouldn't be where I am today if it wasn't for my ag teacher in high school. In April of my senior year, my teacher sat down with me to help me decide a career path to pursue. College was fast approaching, and I had no idea what I wanted to do. She helped me realize my passion for ag," Power said.

Power came on a visit at SMSU and instantly fell in love with the family-like atmosphere, she said.

"I have been given great opportunities at SMSU that have helped me improve my public speaking skills and leadership abilities. I can stand up in front of 400 people to deliver a speech without a problem," Power said.



Gabby Power

Poor Farm Foundation to host open house Sept. 9

The Poor Farm Foundation Board of Directors will be hosting an Open House at the Poor Farm, 1951 Larrabee Ave on Sunday, September 9 from 2 to 6 pm.

The tours of the facility will show attendees how the county made a home for those residents that needed a place to live and some care from the 1860s through the 1990s. Some of the rooms at the facility have been decorated by communities of the county with history items from the past 100 years and some antiques of great interest to all.

When not on a tour, attendees may participate in the scheduled Schafkopf

tournament at 2:00 pm., watch the fiddle playing with Charlie Gors and brother and maybe others at 4:00 pm and enjoy square dancing after that.

While all of this is happening, you may take time to sit down and enjoy some homemade pie and other food and drink.

So, please come and enjoy a nice quiet relaxing Sunday afternoon and share fellowship with your friends and neighbors.

Craft fair at Oran School

On Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Oran School gymnasium, a craft fair is being held from 9 AM-4 PM.

Inside spaces are sold out, but outside spaces are available. Currently 24 crafters are coming to sell their wares, from all over Iowa! It is a great time to pick up gifts for Christmas. Admission is free and so is the coffee.

Outside spaces (10x10) rent for \$5. That is not a typo! Send your reservation and fee to Rita Losh, 5194 East St., Oran, Iowa 50664.

Questions? Call (319) 277-7333. Hope to see you there!



Three Rainbow Clover 4-H Club members display their fair ribbons. Left to right are crops exhibitors Jackson Leistikow, winning Champion Corn & Soybeans & Grand Champion overall crops; Sydney Matthias, all blue ribbons, Andrew Matthias, all blue ribbons.

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Thank You

Thank you to everyone for the cards, calls, food, memorials and all the help given me at the time of Steve's death. Thanks to Pastor Rabary for his prayers and visits. All your kind acts were greatly appreciated. God bless you all.

Jane Meier & family

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Readlyn Community Happenings

Senior Citizen meetings

June 20

On June 20, 17 members attended the 11:30 meal at Inspired for the Senior Citizens Meeting.

President Ron Leistikow led everyone in prayer. We enjoyed a great meal.

President Leistikow called the meeting to order. The secretary's minutes from May 16 were read.

A motion was made by Verdeen Pavelec and Wilbert Huebner to accept the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Charlie Albrecht reported a balance in the treasury of \$72. Motion by Larry Ladage and Verdeen Pavelec to accept the report. Motion carried.

We sang *Happy Anniversary* to Don and Mary Lou Billhorn as on 06/27/18 they will have been married 53 years. Congratulations!

We all signed a card for Wes and Delores Sauerbrei and sent it to Parkview Assisted Living in Fairbank. We wanted to let them know that we missed them in Readlyn and that we were thinking of them.

There were no birthdays this month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ron Leistikow and Charlie Albrecht spoke about the Grump Days celebration. There will be a few changes for the 2019 celebration next year, but everyone agreed that this was another successful year. Larry Ladage, the new Grump, was present and he thanked the community for voting for him and feels very honored to be Readlyn's 2018 Grump.

The fireworks were fantastic and funded by all the can donations and monetary gifts from individuals and donations from the businesses in Readlyn. The donations were all appreciated.

Thursday, June 21 the painting of the Freedom Rock started. The next meeting was to be July 18 at Inspired at 11:30 AM.

Motion was made by Don Billhorn and seconded by Albrecht to adjourn. The meeting was followed by fellowship and card playing. Please come and join in the fun and find out what is going on in Readlyn.

Lois Thacher, Secretary

July 18

On July 18, 16 members attended the 11:30 AM meal at Inspired for the Senior Citizens meeting. President Ron Leistikow

led everyone in prayer. We enjoyed a great meal for lunch.

President Leistikow called the meeting to order. The secretary's minutes from June 20 were read. A motion was made by Don Billhorn, seconded by Wilda Albrecht, to approve the minutes as read. Motion carried.

Charlie Albrecht reported a balance in the treasury of \$88. Motion was made by Roland Schmidt, seconded by Verdeen Pavelec, to approve the report. Motion carried.

We had one July birthday on July 18 and that was for Mary Chapin. Since she was not in attendance we all signed a birthday card and sent it to her.

New Business:

Larry Ladage, the 2018 Grump, was in attendance and will be contacting the Grumps from previous years to ride in the Tripoli Days Parade August 4 and the Denver Days Parade August 18.

Judy Leistikow reported that the Readlyn Historical Society held their Annual Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 15 from 5-7 PM. They served over 100 ice cream sundaes at 25 cent each. Leistikow also reported that they received items from the families of LeRoy Platte and Virgil Kuhlmann, donated to the Readlyn Historical Society. The Readlyn Historical Society is very appreciative of their donations. Come and visit the Museum by calling GaryLee Thurm, Ron Leistikow or Judy Henn.

Ron Leistikow reported that 2 big sales in and near Readlyn were coming up July 21 (LeRoy Platte's business sale) and on July 28, household sale. On August 4, Virgil Kuhlman's sale was held.

The next Readlyn Community Club was at the Watering Hole Thursday evening, August 9 at 6:30 PM for the officers and 7 PM for all members.

Charlie Albrecht reported that the painting of the Freedom Rock was completed on Sunday, July 1 by Ray Bubba Sorenson. There are plans to do lighting, flags and other landscaping in the near future.

The next meeting will be August 15 at Inspired at 11:30 AM. Motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Judy Leistikow to adjourn. The meeting was followed by fellowship and card playing.

Lois Thacher, Secretary

Community Club meeting

Sixteen Readlyn Community Club members attended the August meeting.

Kids in the Park has been handed over to Life Group per Hailey and her committee's request. They will receive the money presently in their account from this year, and an additional \$1,000 annually from the Readlyn Community Club. Roger will make a key for them so that they have access to the RCC shed. Moved by Dani and seconded by Linda; passed unanimously.

Dani will check with Celebrations to see if they have some sort of a divider that can be used in the beer tent to separate the beer section during the crowning ceremonies. If not, we'll try to put a speaker in the back.

Suggested locations would be where the car show was unless Tiedt's are kind enough to sponsor the car show again. If so, the area east of the cookie walk would be another possible location. Moved by Judy and seconded by Bonnie to add this venue; it passed unanimously.

David presented an update on the Freedom Rock.

Rejuvenation of planters on Main Street was discussed but no decision was made.

Fall decorating will be September 15; Ron and Roger will collect cornstalks at 8:00. Meet downtown at 9:00 to assist with the decorating, please. Everyone is appreciated and welcomed! The next RCC meeting will be at the Watering Hole October 11, 6:30, for the Board, and 7:00 for the actual meeting. All RCC members are welcome to attend.

A huge thank you to Burton Thies for

making the Community Announcement Display Case outside the Watering Hole once functional again.

Help the Community Club decorate Main St. for fall!
Sat., Sept. 15
9AM



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Libraries offering free technology classes

The public libraries in Bremer County are excited to offer free technology classes starting in September. From learning the basics of how to set up email, to more specialized classes in social media, Internet safety, and digital photography, these classes will help learners feel more confident with technology skills.

The classes will be held at each of the seven public libraries in Bremer County: Denver, Sumner, Tripoli, Readlyn, Plainfield, Janesville and Waverly. Funding to offer these classes was obtained through Bremer County. Each library site will host four classes during the fall session for a total of 28 classes. The fall session of classes will run during September, October and November. Additional classes are being planned for February, March, and April. Each class will be taught by qualified technology instructors.

Some of the classes offered this fall include Basic Computer and Basic Gmail, designed for those with little or no computer experience, digital photography classes, which will help participants transfer and store photos from their camera or phone to the computer, and Microsoft Publisher for creating flyers and brochures. Classes on online shopping, buying and selling on Ebay, computer maintenance, and creating a holiday letter are also being offered. Brochures with the class schedule, a description of the classes, and contact information for each library is available at the seven library sites.

Learners have the option of attending classes at a library location of their choosing. Times for the classes vary at each library, with classes being offered in the morning, afternoon or evening. Those interested in taking a class should find a time and location that fits their schedule. Participants can sign up for one or many of the classes. Classes are open to all, regardless of age or computer experience. The classes are free to attend but pre-registration is encouraged by calling the class site to sign up. Participants are welcome to bring their laptop or devices to class. For more information about the classes, contact any of the public libraries in Bremer County.

Thurs., Sept. 6	6:00 pm
Tues., Sept. 11	9:00 am
Fri., Sept. 14	2:00 pm
Wed., Sept. 19	10:00 am
Thurs., Sept. 20	10:00 am
Sat., Sept. 22	10:00 am
Sat., Sept. 22	10:00 am
Thurs., Sept. 27	10:00 am
Thurs., Sept. 27	6:30 pm

Thurs., Oct. 4	6:00 pm
Sat., Oct. 6	9:00 am
Thurs., Oct. 11	6:30 pm
Fri., Oct. 12	2:00 pm
Sat., Oct. 20	10:00 am
Thurs., Oct. 25	10:00 am
Thurs., Oct. 25	6:30 pm
Fri., Oct. 26	10:00 am

September:

Sumner	Photo Editing
Readlyn	Cloud Computing
Plainfield	Basic Gmail
Denver	Basic Computer
Janesville	Basic Android Apps
Sumner	Downloading eBooks
Tripoli	Basic Gmail
Janesville	Photo Editing
Denver	Intro to Goodreads

October:

Sumner	Cyber Security
Readlyn	Photo Editing
Denver	Microsoft Publisher
Plainfield	Buying & Selling on Ebay
Tripoli	Computer Maintenance
Janesville	Online Shopping
Denver	Keep Kids Safe Online
Waverly	Digital Photos - Part 1

November:

Thurs., Nov. 1	6:00 pm
Thurs., Nov. 1	6:00 pm
Fri., Nov. 2	10:00 am
Sat., Nov. 3	10:00 am
Thurs., Nov. 8	10:00 am
Thurs., Nov. 8	6:00 pm
Fri., Nov. 9	10:00 am
Wed., Nov. 14	5:00 pm
Thurs., Nov. 15	10:00 am
Fri., Nov. 16	10:00 am
Thurs., Nov. 29	10:00 am

Sumner	Online Shopping
Readlyn	Cyber Security
Waverly	Digital Photos - Part 2
Plainfield	Buying a New Computer
Tripoli	Online Shopping
Readlyn	Google Drive
Waverly	Digital Photos - Part 3
Plainfield	Downloading eBooks
Tripoli	Social Media Safety
Waverly	Online Shopping
Janesville	Holiday Card/Letters



Members who helped at the pedal pull were, left to right, Jada Aiello, Kenny Wenger, Bridget Seemann, Ryan Schares, Madyson Richards, Kennadi Neil, Reily Richards, Hannah Miller, Kaylee Kleitsch, Ayden Cummings, Ellie Voy.

Wapsie Valley FFA members participate in Oran Day Celebration

By Reily Richards, Chapter Reporter

On July 21, 2018 the Wapsie Valley FFA Chapter hosted a pedal pull for the youth in the Oran community. Hannah Miller a local resident and FFA member said, "It is great to interact with the little kids around the community who could one day be in my spot helping with the pedal pull." The members had a lot of fun helping with the pedal pull and look forward to future years. The placings for the Oran pedal pull are listed below.

- 1st - Easton
- 2nd - Nora
- 3rd - Drake
- Age 9-10:
- 1st - Ella Schares
- 2nd - Braden Bantz
- 3rd - Kalle Voy
- Sponsored by Blackhawk Farm Bureau

Pedal Pull Results:

- Age 0-4:
- 1st - Jensen Rechkemmer
- 2nd - Breanna
- 3rd - Mason Brown
- Age 5-6:
- 1st - Alex McCabe
- 2nd - Makayla McCabe
- 3rd - Emma
- Age 7-8:



FFA members helped to direct the kids when they were pedaling.

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Jacob Risse attend youth tour

Thirty-seven high school students representing Iowa's locally owned electric cooperatives traveled to Washington, D.C., from June 8-14 and joined more than 1,800 other students from across the nation for the 2018 Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. Iowa's electric cooperatives were the first ones to send students to Washington, D.C., back in 1958; this year marks the 60th anniversary of the journey.

"The Youth Tour is the highlight of the summer for many students, and we're proud to send 37 of Iowa's best and brightest to our nation's capital this year to participate," said Chuck Soderberg, executive vice president of the Iowa Association of Electric Cooperatives. "These students gained a first-hand understanding of the legislative process and made connections with other student leaders from across the country that will last a lifetime. We look forward to continuing the Youth Tour tradition for years to come."

Jacob Risse represented Butler County REC while on the trip. This fall Risse will be a senior at Wapsie Valley High School.

He is the son of Butler County REC members Thomas and Jodi Risse of Sumner.

While on the trip, Risse was selected as the Iowa representative for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) Youth Leadership Council. He will be returning to Washington, D.C. in July for a workshop focusing on leadership, public speaking and the electric cooperative industry. The council also plays an important role in NRECA's spring annual meeting.

Students on the Youth Tour participated in leadership training, engaged in one-on-one conversations with elected officials, jumpstarted their national peer network, learned about electric cooperatives and toured the monuments and museums of Washington, D.C.

Students apply and are selected for this program by their local electric cooperative. Nationally, nearly 50,000 students have participated in this program over the decades. For more information, visit www.youthtour.coop.



Wapsie Valley senior Jacob Risse, the son of Thomas and Jodi Risse of Sumner, represented Butler County REC on a trip to Washington, DC this summer. He is shown at the nation's capitol. Photo contributed

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



Community Lutheran School is a ministry of Immanuel Lutheran Church, Klinger, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Readlyn, IA. Their mission statement is, "Providing a Christian environment for a quality education while inspiring students to go forth living Christ-centered lives as witnesses of the one true faith in God's Kingdom." Staff includes, front row, left to right, Danielle Armbricht, Danielle Kiefer, Teresa Imbrogno, Krissy Franck, Karen Schnuell-Ruth, Shari Davis; back row: Don Meier, Deanna Armbricht, Judy Schutte, Kerry Even, Megan Schutte, Wendy Matthias, Pastor Phil Girardin. God is real, present, and working through these staff members to bless all His children with love, learning, and living in His Word everyday at CLS. It's going to be a wonderful school year!!

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Donation helps local fire department purchase new emergency response equipment

Fairbank, Iowa – The Fairbank volunteer fire department will soon be able to purchase new rescue equipment intended to enhance emergency response preparedness and safeguard local communities thanks, in part, to a donation from Flint Hills Resources Fairbank, the local ethanol plant.

The fire department will use its \$5,000 donation to purchase a Stryker stair chair, which helps emergency responders safely transport patients down stairs without lifting reducing the risk of injury. Funds will also be used to purchase high-angle rescue equipment, which is critical in helping rescue victims trapped at significant heights such as silos and grain bins.

“Fire Departments and emergency responders are essential for keeping our communities safe,” said Garland Krabbenhoft, plant manager at Flint Hills Resources Fairbank. “We are pleased to help the Fairbank Fire Department purchase the equipment they need to help protect our citizens.”

The donation is part of Flint Hills Resources’ continued commitment to supporting emergency responders in communities where the company operates. Each summer, the company sponsors firefighters from communities near its Iowa and Nebraska plants to attend a two-day industrial fire training program held at the company’s Pine Bend refinery near St. Paul, Minn. This year’s training was held Saturday and Sunday, August 25 and 26.

About Flint Hills Resources, LLC
Flint Hills Resources, LLC, through its subsidiaries, is a leading refining, chemicals and biofuels company with operations primarily in the Midwest and Texas. Its manufacturing capability is built upon six decades of refining experience, and the company has expanded

its operations through capital projects and acquisitions worth more than \$13 billion since 2002. Flint Hills Resources’ subsidiaries produce and market gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, asphalt, ethanol, biodiesel, liquefied natural gas, olefins, polymers, intermediate chemicals, as well as base oils, corn oil and dried distillers grain.

Flint Hills Resources operates ethanol plants in Arthur, Fairbank, Iowa Falls, Menlo and Shell Rock, Iowa, Fairmont, Nebraska, and Camilla, Georgia. The plants have a combined annual capacity of 850 million gallons of ethanol.

The refining business operates refineries in Minnesota (Rosemount) and Texas (Corpus Christi), with a combined crude oil processing capacity of more than 600,000 barrels per day. The petrochemical business includes production facilities in Illinois and Texas. The asphalt business produces and markets product in the Midwest. A subsidiary owns an interest in a lubricants base oil facility in Louisiana.

The company is based in Wichita, Kansas, and its more than 4,000 employees strive to create value for customers and society. More information about the company is available at FHR.com.

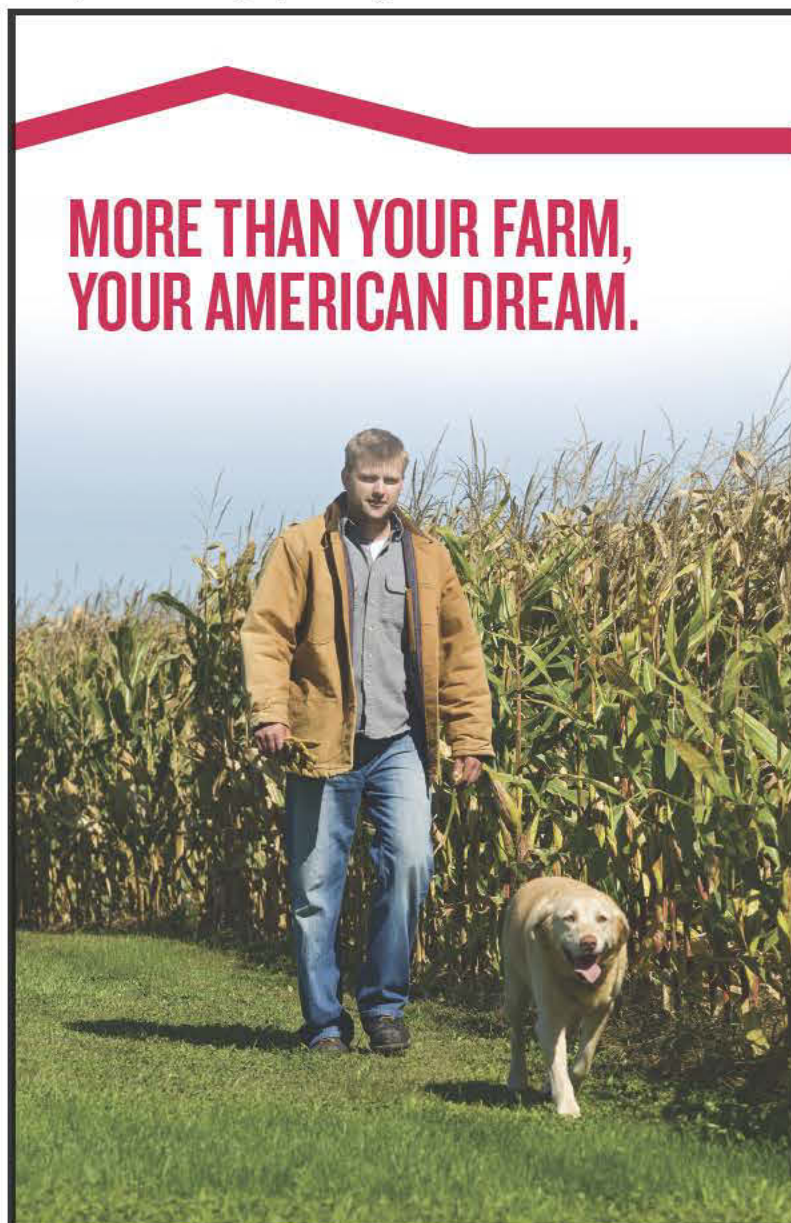


Andrew Willard, far right, of Flint Hills Resources in Fairbank presented a donation to Richard Chapman, Fairbank Fire Department, left, and Brad Gordon, Fairbank Fire Department, center.

**Deadline for the
Sept. 26 Readlyn
Chronicle:
Thurs., Sept. 13
5:00 PM**



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The Elite Series: Part Two

"Alright, we are going to start the pairings for flight two. Boat 31 Kevin VanDam....Marshal, Eric Johnston." I turned to Adam and said, "Did Trip Weldon just say that?!" I raised my hand into the air so Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament Director Trip Weldon could see I was there and accepted the pairing. I was fist bumping and jumping around.

As I left you last month, this had just happened. If you recall, I was fortunate enough to be a Marshal for the Bassmaster Elite Series for their tournament stop in Lacrosse, Wisconsin. I had just finished two fantastic days on the water with two top-notch pros Mark Menendez and Cliff Prince. Now though, day three needed its own column.

Kevin VanDam.... Let me try to describe to you this man. He's a seven-time Bassmaster Angler of the year. A 25-time Bassmaster winner, more than any angler ever, and a four-time Bassmaster Classic Champion. He's the Michael Jordan, Dale Earnhardt, or the Joe Montana of Bass Fishing. He's been my fishing hero from around the age of ten or so, and I was just picked to spend an entire day on the water with him. This month I'll go through my day riding with a true legend of the sport of competitive bass fishing.

So, after a lot of high fives and handshakes, Adam and I headed back to the hotel. I immediately called my Dad and let him know. He couldn't believe it, I'm pretty sure I could hear him choke up over the phone. My Dad knew what this meant to me and was so excited for me. After talking with Dad on the phone I called my wife, and she couldn't believe it either, she knew as well what this meant for me and told me she and my daughter, Delana, were driving up to meet me when we come off the water to get pictures. I barely had a chance to talk with Adam with my phone going crazy with texts and calls. As I had a break, Adam bear hugged me, he was just as excited for me as I was! We were both grinning ear-to-ear as we headed to dinner. Adam had drawn another well-known Angler in Bill Lowen and had just finished speaking with him on the phone. I was happy for him as Bill Lowen is an expert river fisherman and well known for it. We both knew Adam would learn a lot the next day, as I anxiously awaited a call from Kevin VanDam.

My good friend Jason Swanson called and as I was relaying all the excitement to him, my call waiting started on my phone. "Jason, I need to call you back, Kevin VanDam is calling me," I said with excitement! "Hello?" "Hey is this Eric?" "Yes it is," I said with a shaky voice. "Hey this is Kevin, your pairing for day three," as if he needed to describe that. "Hey Kevin,

I'm looking forward to going out on the water with you," I believe I said. It's actually kind of a blur, but then Kevin started talking to me as if we were buds getting ready for a day on the water. He told me he would meet me at the ramp in the morning.

That night was a sleepless night, to say the least. Our alarm was set for 4 am, but I was up long before that. As we left the hotel, it was still surreal to think about where I was headed. We arrived at the ramp early after stopping for coffee and a donut. As the pros started to roll in, Adam spotted Bill Lowen, and we wished each other a great day and went our separate ways. I waited near the ramp and saw Kevin pull into the parking lot. As I walked up to his rig, he said, "Good morning Eric, hop in the boat and I'll put you in." That was it, nothing else, he backed the boat down and launched the boat.

So there I was sitting in Kevin VanDam's boat as it floated from the dock. I looked toward the driver's console and the keys to his Mercury 250 Prox four-stroke was in the ignition. I then looked towards the trolling motor on the front deck and decided to go with that, although I badly wanted to fire up that big motor. I deployed the trolling motor and circled around the bay around all the other pros' boats. I'm certain I was grinning the entire time. I know I've said this a lot in this column, but I felt like I was dreaming. I was in control of my hero's boat! I soon saw him making his way to the dock as he worked his way through a crowd signing autographs and getting interviewed by local media. I pulled up to the dock and he hopped on. "Ready to go, Hammer?" he said with a wink. "Yep! Lets roll!" I said. "We're gonna catch 'em today," Kevin said as we idled away from the dock and waited to line up in order for takeoff.

I instantly knew how the day would go as we waited. He talked to me about his game plan for the day. Kevin is normally known for fishing fast with crankbaits, jerkbaits, or spinnerbaits. But today he told me he would be fishing the Mississippi River with a topwater frog. He said he could go out in the main channel and catch 50 smallmouth bass a day on crankbaits, but said they didn't have the size he felt he needed. So his plan was to fish a topwater frog and fish for 8-10 good bites, because he felt as though they would be in the three-pound range. Three-pound Largemouth Bass are the right ones on the big river. The pros fish for their best five bass to weigh-in on the day.

We talked about deer hunting and family as we idled out of the marina. Kevin got to the end of the no wake zone and before I knew it we were going 70 miles per



hour down the channel to his first area. He ran down to the well-known Goose Island area south of Lacrosse. The water was quickly rising and this area has a maze of backwater ponds and cuts, perfect for using a topwater frog. He began to fish, and I was amazed at how fast he worked down a bank. I always knew he fished fast, but it was a sight to see. I asked him about it and he said he would get as many casts as he can and when a bass blows on his frog he would stop and catch it.

His day started with the bite being slow. He showed me how and where he had caught them the day before, but something seemed off. He quickly moved to another spot and caught two fairly quickly, but then the fishing got really slow. They just didn't seem to be where he thought they would be. It was so cool to see how he changed tactics to figure them out and never got worried about being able to get his five bass. He kept saying, "I'll find them."

We talked about everything throughout the day, from football and Nascar to family, and our strong passions for all things outdoors. He was like being in the boat with a great friend all day. As noon rolled around, Kevin still only had two fish in the live-well. With the weigh-in at three, Kevin said, "I better get busy and catch some fish!"

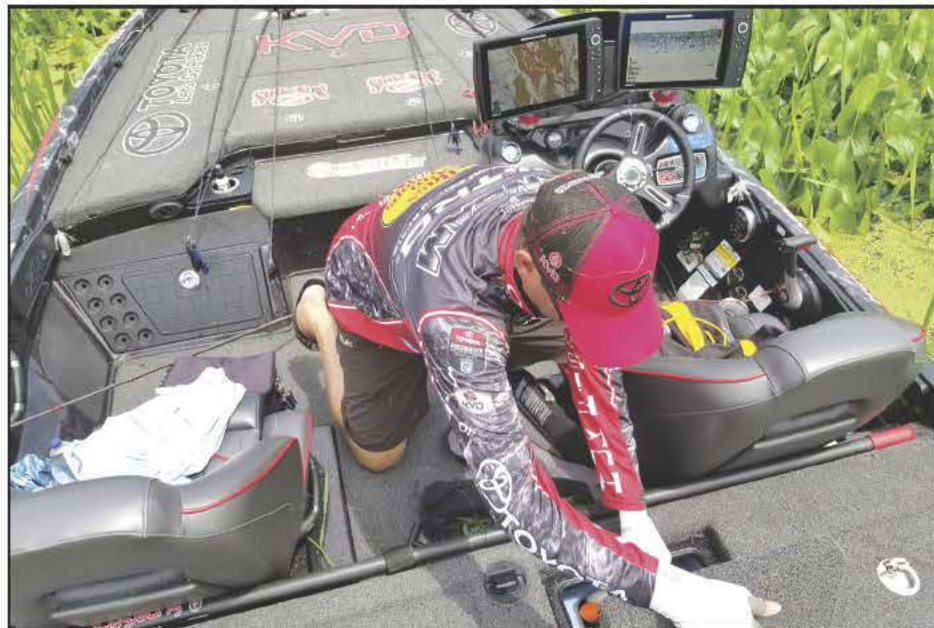
Kevin had finally figured out where his fish had gone. With the water rising so quickly, the fish had moved further back into the cover. As the water rises the fish will go with it. Kevin kept pushing further back into the weeds; at some points it looked like the boat was in the middle of a hayfield! With the fish finally found, Kevin got to work. By 1:15 pm, he had his fifth bass and started culling his limit up. I almost had trouble keeping up with BassTrakk!

He fished to the very last minute he could before we needed to get back to check in. We ran 70 mph back to the marina and idled our way to the check-in dock. We joked and laughed as we headed in. I soon saw my wife and daughter amongst the crowd as we idled up to the dock. My wife was snapping pictures and my daughter was waving. Kevin handed me the keys to his truck and said, "I'm sure you know which one it is." I walked up the ramp thinking now I get to drive his truck! I pulled into the line of pros getting their boats out and my wife ran up and took a picture of me behind the wheel. I backed the trailer in amongst the crowd of hundreds of people watching. I pulled Kevin out of the water and my daughter ran up and high-fived Kevin and got a quick signature on her Mossy Oak Elements hat.

I sat in the truck with Kevin as we went through boat check before he headed to weigh-in at an off-site location. We sat there talking about deer hunting and his kid's fire for it. As we got through boat check, I fist bumped him and thanked him for the day. I then saw Adam and we talked about our day. He had a fantastic day with Bill Lowen.

To sum this adventure up, imagine your sports hero growing up, whichever sport it was, and I got to go out on the field with mine to help play his game at the highest level. This experience is one I will never forget, and think of it fondly often. I love when people ask me about it and I get to tell them about my experience.

On another note, my family and I sold our house on Briggs Avenue and moved an entire block and a half to 308 Magill Avenue. It's funny, after nearly 14 years in Readlyn, we almost feel like the new folks on the block again! If you see me outside, don't be afraid to say hello and talk outdoors. I'll probably tell you all about my experience with Kevin VanDam! Until next month, Get Outdoors!



Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America



FFA members escorted the town's queen candidates (at left). (Above) Kyle Voy drove this Oliver tractor representing the Wapsie Valley FFA in the Fairbank Island Days Parade.

FFA members participate in Readlyn, Fairbank celebrations

By Reily Richards, Chapter Reporter

On June 15 and 16 and June 21, 22 and 23 Wapsie Valley FFA members kept busy

by being active in Grump Days, the annual Readlyn town celebration and Island Days, the annual Fairbank town celebra-

tion.

For Grump Days, members served a meal during the golf tournament on Friday and hosted a pedal pull later that evening. The pedal pull results are found below along with the gracious sponsor of each trophy. The Miss Readlyn candidates were escorted by members, Jacob Joeger, Jacob Risse, and Austin Wittenburg, of the chapter as well. On Saturday, Landen Kuhlmann drove his tractor and Gift of Grain wagon and our Sweetheart Queen, Courtney Schmitz and Sweetheart King, Dallas Wittenburg, represented the chapter in the parade as well. Members also grilled ribeyes and hamburgers during the late morning and afternoon while our Sweetheart King and Queen handed out homemade cookies they made and frosted with the help of their parents, supporters and other members of the chapter. The Bremer County Beef Producers provided the grill for the concession stand on Saturday.

For Island Days, Wapsie Valley FFA

members assisted by catering the Miss Fairbank candidates' meal open to the candidates, their families and sponsors held at the American Legion on Thursday, June 21. On Friday, members coordinated and implemented the annual pedal pull for boys and girls ages 0 to 10. Results of this event are found below. The chapter provided ribbons and candy bars for the winners of this. On Saturday, Bryce Kleitsch drove his tractor and the Gift of Grain wagon while Kyle Voy drove his tractor and our Sweetheart Queen, Courtney Schmitz and Sweetheart King, Dallas Wittenburg, represented the chapter in the parade as well.

The Wapsie Valley would like to express their gratitude for all community members who either participated in the pedal pull or who selected the FFA stand to purchase their meal from. The communities' ongoing support is sincerely appreciated!

See the pedal pull results for the two celebrations on the next page.

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Wapsie Valley Future Farmers of America



Students ages 0-10 displayed exuberant energy at the pedal pull.



Members served delicious meals to customers at the FFA food stand.

Pedal pull results

Pedal Pull Results-Readlyn:

- Age 0-4 Girls:**
 1st - Quinlynn Schimek (Trophy sponsored by Farmer's Cooperative Company)
 2nd - Caitlynne Busch (Trophy sponsored by Farmer's Cooperative Company)
 3rd - Juliann Boevers (Trophy sponsored by Farmer's Cooperative Company)
- Age 5-6 Girls:**
 1st - Brooke Schutte (Trophy sponsored by Wittenburg Trucking Company)
 2nd - Makenna Boevers (Trophy sponsored by Wittenburg Trucking Company)
 3rd - Makayla McCabe (Trophy sponsored by Wittenburg Trucking Company)
- Age 7-8 Girls:**
 1st - Mackenzie Scribner (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Telephone Incorporated)
 2nd - Sadie Hogan (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Telephone Incorporated)
 3rd - Ashlyn Strottmann (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Mutual Insurance)
 4th - Madelyn Hockenson (Trophy sponsored by Spahn and Rose Company)
- Age 9-10 Girls:**
 1st - Ava Meyer (Trophy sponsored by Wolff's Service Inc.)
 2nd - Candy Hesse (Trophy sponsored by Wolff's Service Inc.)
 3rd - Lilly Diers (Trophy sponsored by Spahn and Rose Company)
- Age 0-4 Boys:**
 1st - Tyson Kuker (Trophy sponsored by Schuldt Repair)
 2nd - Sterling Duhrkopf (Trophy sponsored by Schuldt Repair)
 3rd - Bennett Strottmann (Trophy sponsored by Schuldt Repair)
- Age 5-6 Boys:**
 1st - Alexander McCabe (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank)
 2nd - Drew Destival (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank)

- 3rd - Gabe Meyer (Trophy sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank)
- Age 7-8 Boys:**
 1st - Gavin Heinemann (Trophy sponsored by Kuhlmann's Repair)
 2nd - Blaise Hockenson (Trophy sponsored by Kuhlmann's Repair)
 3rd - Korvin Hesse (Trophy sponsored by Kuhlmann's Repair)
- Age 9-10 Boys:**
 1st - Zach Boevers (Trophy sponsored by Inspired)
 2nd - Aidan Brady (Trophy sponsored by Inspired)
 3rd - Blake Hesse (Trophy sponsored by Inspired)

Pedal Pull Results--Fairbank:

- Age 0-4 Girls:**
 1st - Macey Ralston
- Age 5-6 Girls:**
 1st - Caelyn C
 2nd - Reagan Ralston
 3rd - Aley Corkery
- Age 7-8 Girls:**
 1st - Lola Destival
 2nd - Brinley Ralston
 3rd - Grace Harter
- Age 9-10 Girls:**
 1st - Kalle Voy
 2nd - Laney Ralston
- Age 0-4 Boys:**
 1st - Calvin Jones
 2nd - Dylan Corkery
 3rd - Ellis Ralston
- Age 5-6 Boys:**
 1st - Elliott Schmidtke
 2nd - Maddux Harter
- Age 7-8 Boys:**
 1st - Drake Forcier
 2nd - Oliver Tiedt
 3rd - Marshall Tiedt
- Age 9-10 Boys:**
 1st - Eli Forcier



Members served families at the annual Fairbank queen banquet.



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Wapsie Valley wrestling team participates in Luther's Camp

DECORAH, Iowa—The Wapsie Valley High School wrestling team participated in the 2018 Luther College Team Wrestling Camp in Decorah, Iowa.

The Luther wrestling camps, directed by Luther Head Wrestling Coach Dave Mitchell, have grown into some of the most recognized athletic camps in the Midwest. More than 1,000 wrestlers from 10-plus states will attend the 2018 Luther College Wrestling Camps throughout July, making the series of camps some of the biggest camps in the country.

Olympic silver medalist and recently retired University of Wisconsin Head Wrestling Coach Barry Davis, a three-time NCAA champion for the University of Iowa, and Jeff O'Gara, Luther assistant wrestling coach and NCAA champion, served as clinicians for Team Camp II.

Campers at the 2018 camps participated in team building activities, intensive "Train Like a Norseman" sessions, technique sessions and live wrestling sessions. The camp closed with an individual tournament.

Kaleb Krall and Cayle Huebner, members of the Warriors wrestling team, earned Wrestler of the Day honors from Luther camp coach Tyler Menegay.

Menegay served as the Wapsie Valley Camp Coach, providing guidance for wrestlers with quality feedback throughout the camp.

The Wapsie Valley wrestling team is coached by Danny Adams, Brian Krall and

Johnny Kleitsch. This is the ninth year the Warriors have attended Luther's Wrestling Camps. They placed fourth last year at the state dual tournament.

For more information about the Luther wrestling program, visit <http://sports.luther.edu/men/wrestling/index.html>, and for information on upcoming camps visit <http://www.luther.edu/sports/camps/>.

Thirteen national championships, twelve NCAA runner-up honors and 97 All-American honors have been earned by Luther student-wrestlers and one former Luther wrestler was also an Olympian. In addition, 68 student-wrestlers have earned Scholar All-American honors and three have received the distinguished NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship.

Luther competes in 10 men's and nine women's intercollegiate athletic programs as a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division and the Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. Since joining the Iowa Conference as a charter member in 1922, Luther has dominated the championship scene, winning an unmatched 246 IAC titles.

Twenty-nine national championships and 341 All-American honors have been earned by Luther student-athletes. Forty-two student-athletes have received the distinguished NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship and 70 student-athletes have been awarded a CoSIDA Academic All-America honor.



Warrior wrestlers who attended the Luther College Team Wrestling Camp are, first row, left to right: Ryan Adams, Cayle Huebner, Austin Sullivan, Spencer Adams. Second row: Counselor Tyler Menegay, Kaleb Krall, Skylar Plaster, Coach Danny Adams.

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Community Foundations award over \$152,000 in grants

The Bremer County Community Foundation, Readlyn Community Fund, and Waverly Community Fund held their annual grant awards ceremony in June, announcing the distribution of \$152,153 in grants to 45 community projects of area nonprofits and government agencies.

“The work these deserving organizations do to create a stronger county is critical to making our communities places where everyone can thrive,” said Ryan Tucker, Bremer County committee chair. “Our three organizations are proud to work together to help fund these projects that will create a better quality of life across Bremer County. We are also incredibly thankful for the generosity of community-minded people who make this impact possible.”

Grant recipients and the project the grant will fund are listed below by funding areas.

Art & Culture: City of Readlyn, Community Club - Freedom Rock Project

Wartburg Community Symphony Association, Wartburg Community Symphony Association (WCSA)

Waverly Chamber Music Series, 2018-19 Music Series

Community Betterment:
 Bremer County, Conservation Board - Park Playground Equipment
 Bremer County ISU Extension, Seeding the Tripoli Sweet Water Trail -- City of Tripoli
 City of Denver, Library - Public Computers and Projector
 City of Frederika, Emergency Standby Generator
 City of Janesville, Library - Color Printer

City of Plainfield, Library - Technology for Public Computers and Updates

City of Readlyn, Library - Computer Replacement

City of Sumner, Library - Energy Efficient LED Lighting Replacement

City of Tripoli, Library - New Vertical Blinds and Cricut Cutting Machine

City of Waverly, Little League - Pitchers Screen

City of Waverly, Waverly Rail Trail Trailhead Enhancements

Vineyard Community Church, Revive 2018

Wapsie Valley Community Schools, Jr./Sr. High School Gym Floor Complete Resurfacing

Education: Community Lutheran School, Improved Security Measures

Health: Boy Scouts of America - Win-

nebago Council, Ingawanis Adventure Base Health and Safety

Bremer County, Health Department - Foot Clinics for Plainfield and Tripoli

City of Denver, Ambulance Association - Power Load System

City of Plainfield, First Responders - New Member Start Up Kit

St. John Buck Creek Lutheran Church, AED Purchase

Sumner Emergency Medical Services (SEMS), Refurbished Infusion Medication Pumps

Waverly-Shell Rock Go-Hawk Booster Club, Go-Hawk Performance Enhancement Center (GPEC) Fundraiser

Human Service: Allison Area Foster Parents Support, Training and Support for Foster Parents

ASPIRE-TRP, Wings on Eagles

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northeast Iowa, One-to-One Mentoring in Bremer County

Cedar Valley Friends of the Family, Safe Shelter & Housing Stability

City of Plainfield, Fire Department - Pagers

City of Readlyn, Police Department - Panasonic Toughbook CF-33

City of Tripoli, Fire Department - Defibrillators, SCBA Batteries, and Flashlights

Denver Sunset Home, Replacement of the Heat/AC in Resident Rooms

Hillcrest Home, Replacement Clavino-va

Iowa Radio Reading Information Service for the Blind, IRIS 2018

Lutheran Services in Iowa, Families Together II in Bremer County

North Star Community Services, Waverly Center Support Project

Northeast Iowa Food Bank, Waverly & Tripoli Mobile Food Pantry Distribution

Peace United Church of Christ, Peace Community Meal

Rally Point Cedar Valley Veterans, Rally Point Cedar Valley Veterans

Readlyn EMS Association, Lucas CPR Device

Readlyn Volunteer Fire Department, Breathing Air System Upgrade (Compressor and Storage)

Senior Citizen's Group of Waverly, Waverly Senior Center Facility Sound System

St. Mary Church - Waverly, Saints Cafe

The Larrabee Center, Community Based Services - Transportation Support

Tripoli Nursing and Rehab, Air Conditioning - West End

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Pearls of Wisdom

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

Let My People Think

The story is told of a medical doctor who went to court to get his little boy back. Somebody in his neighborhood had the doctor on video shaking and yelling at his boy. That person turned it in to the DHS that came and took the boy away.

The case was widely covered by the local TV station. During the court proceeding, the doctor took his own defense and told the judge what happened before the “seemingly yelling and shaking.”

“Your honor, my son and his friends were kicking a soccer ball on our yard. When the ball bounced toward the street, my son ran after it right away. A car almost hit him. Thank goodness that the driver had a good reflex. That part was not recorded on the video accusing me of child abuse.”

One old lady who lives in the neighborhood that witnessed the whole incident stood up for the doctor and confirmed his story. As a result, the judge issued a non-guilty verdict and reprimanded the young boy for not listening to his dad at his own peril.

We live in a digital world with a 24/7 news cycle. There are lots of technologies out there that can record our actions in public without our knowledge. Parents, be wise when you discipline your unruly children in public. Sometimes, kids throw their mad fit in public. We are exposed to video clips that are aimed at tapping to our emotion. For instance: we see children in detention centers at the southern border or malnourished children from developing countries.

Those are hard to watch videos that trigger our anger, pity, and compassion. If we let our feelings cloud our view, we cannot have an objective approach. We need to

step back and asked what took place before, like the case of the doctor accused of child abuse.

Laying aside the blame game, labeling, and partisan politics, compassionate Christians need to approach a given situation objectively with logical reasoning. Video clips are factual; yet, they do not tell the whole story and are not immune from hidden agendas.

Jesus told his followers: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength” (Mark 12:30). My emphasis here is on loving God “with all your mind,” that is, assessing a given situation objectively exploring the basic assumption and potential ramification with clear logical reasoning.





If I were to apply that to the children in detention centers at the southern border, I would explore the following questions:

- How did these children get there in the first place?
- Where are the parents?
- What is the law of the land that regulates those cases?
- How can Christians show compassion within the confine of the existing law?

Those are not exhaustive but sample exploratory questions that may shed some light to the issue at hand. One necessary condition is the return to civility in the public square.

We all need to step back, take a deep breath, and try to solve issues objectively with cool-headed, logical reasoning. Let my people think, sayeth the Lord. For it is written, “Without [wise] counsel plans fail, but with many advisers they succeed” (Proverbs 15:22).

Pastor Jean Rabary

	<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church 2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Pastor Philip Giradin 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 Pastor Philip Giradin 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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