

Readlyn Chronicle

Home of 857 Friendly People and One Old Grump

Volume 13, No. 6, Compiled by Readlyn Community Club — Designed/Printed by Horizon Publishing Co., Jesup, IA, June 24, 2020



Ruth and Mark Happel



This garden features the flag Mark's Grandma Diercks made.



The wreath was created by Ruth's sister-in-law Lisa Wittenburg.



Enjoy Readlyn's June and July Yards of the Month

June Yard of the Month

Ruth and Mark Happel, 246 Briggs Avenue, are this month's winners of Weeds on Fire's Yard of the Month award. This prestigious award is presented to one family each month for the months of June, July, August and September to thank Readlynites whose yards add beauty to

our town. Last year's winners were Abby, Rhino, and Tiptyn Cox, Craig and Janette Hesse, 230 West Clark; Marlys Wittenburg, 406 6th Street; and Ron and Louie Hartman, 246 West Clark.

Ruth and Mark moved to Readlyn from their farm February 2019 and are really enjoying town life. The pictures only show a portion of their gardens. Please take time

to drive by their house to enjoy their abundant gardens. You won't be disappointed.

July Yard of the Month

Connie and Gary Saurbrei, 407 Goodell, are the deserving winners of July's Yard of the Month. The themes of their gardens are "Bees, Birds, and Butterflies."

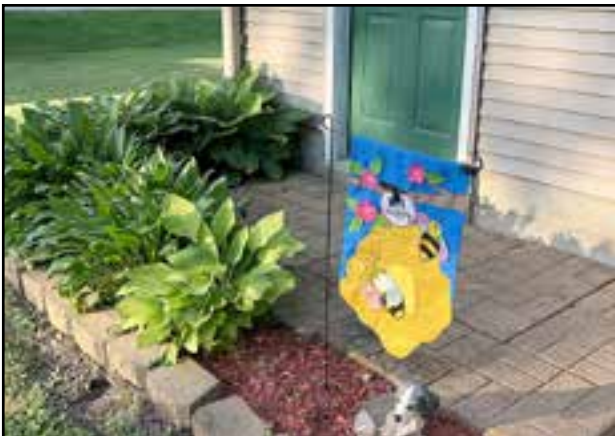
Bees are in honor of Connie's recently

deceased brother, Randy Castle; Birds and Butterflies honor Gary's late parents, Wes and Delores Sauerbrei. By adopting these themes in memory of their loved ones, they hope to honor them as well as provide a sanctuary for the bees, birds, and butterflies.

No doubt ... their yard deserves this esteemed award presented monthly by Weeds on Fire.



One of three ponds surrounded by flowers, bushes, and yard art decorating Gary and Connie's attractive yard.



Butterflies should love this newly planted bush.



Sauerbrei's attractive porch includes one of Gary's parents' bird feeders.



This inviting area includes coneflowers and a trumpet vine to attract butterflies and bees as well as a church bird feeder.





Volunteers helped place Avenue of Flags in the Readlyn City Park.



Wayne Teisinger VFW Post 5661 conducted Memorial Day services at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery. We were honored to have Edward Pavelec, grandson of Reinhart Pavelec, past Post member, give remarks. Also, we were honored to have Trystan Lampe and Tanner Sauerbrei help us with the firing squad and Sam Lundt played TAPs for us.

Miss Readlyn Comments



By Anna Richards

It's hard to believe that it has already been a year since I was crowned Miss Readlyn. I have had a lot of fun helping out at different events and getting to talk to community members. I was sad to learn that we would not be able to have Grump Days this year, but I know this will just encourage the community members to have an even better one next year.

I have been keeping very busy since the last article I wrote. I have been helping out with lots of farm work, I had commencement, went on a family camping trip with my dad's side of the family, started summer classes, am getting ready for my graduation party, and have been babysitting. This has kept me very busy making

the summer fly by already. I have to start working with calves soon to get ready for the fair both at Buchanan and Bremer. It will be much different this year, but I am just happy that we get to show. I am also looking forward to being able to go kayaking this summer.

I hope that everyone has a great summer and stays busy with things pretty much all opened back up. I'm hoping that this will help everyone to start getting back to some sort of normalcy. The summer is going to be over before we know it, so make the most of yours!

Also good luck to the softball and baseball teams as they start their games this week!



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Joan Matthias

Joan Matthias to note 90th birthday

Joan Matthias will be celebrating her 90th birthday on July 7 with a card show-er.

Her family includes Dan and Deb Brunscheon, Jeff and Laurie Brunscheon and Ron Brunscheon all of Readlyn. She has five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

She retired from the U.S. Postal Service. Her address is P.O. Box 241, Readlyn, IA 50668.

Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 of Readlyn meets

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661 of Readlyn met May 19, 2020 at the home of Ellen Thies with 6 members present.

We practiced social distancing at the meeting, opening with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The March and April minutes and treasurer's report were read and accepted. A motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and

seconded by Darlene Peters to accept the April audit. Carried.

April and May General Orders and chairman reports were read and summarized. Old Business: Volunteer hours were turned in and 53 canceled stamps.

Nine letters were sent in and 2 e-mails to senators for a Veterans' bill.

New Business: Memorial Day will be observed with a short service at 9 AM

at Klinger Cemetery. All other activities were canceled. 16 letters were handed out to support H.R. 303, the Retired Pay Restoration Act. State Convention was canceled for the V.F.W. Auxiliary.

Installation of officers was held with Past President Marjorie Macken installing. We filled out installation report. We sang Happy Birthday to Luann Happel, which was today.

A motion was made by Wilda Albrecht and seconded by Ellen Thies to adjourn. Carried. Closed with prayer. Hostess was Ellen Thies.



Newly installed officers of Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary are, left to right, Luann Happel, Secretary; Ellen Thies, Treasurer; Verdeen Pavelec, President; Wilda Albrecht, Chaplain; Darlene Peters, Jr. Vice President; Marjorie Macken, Past President and installing officer; We wore masks because of the coronavirus pandemic.



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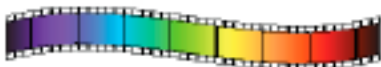
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Foot Clinics Are Back

The Bremer County Health Department holds foot clinics at the Readlyn Library on the 3rd Thursday of every month.



New DVDs



Just Mercy
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Baby's First Book

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

Hours:

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

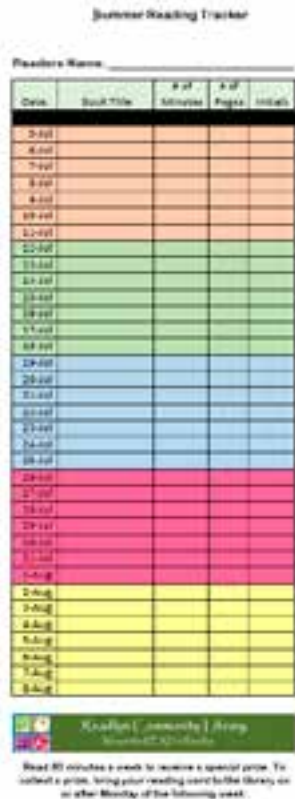
Summer Reading

Summer reading postponed but not forgotten.

Summer reading will officially kick-off on 5 July and run through 8 Aug. Unfortunately, due to social distancing guidelines our scheduled performers/events had to be canceled. So this year we are going to focus on what matters...

READING!

Reading trackers are available for pick at the library. Any school age readers that log just 60 minutes a week can return to the library with their tracker and receive a weekly prize. Younger readers can even be read to. Visit us soon to pick up your reading trackers!



Readlyn Reads - Book Talk

July's title: The Waiting by Cathy LaGrow

Pick up a copy at the library and join us for discussion on **July 30th**

Now with a new afterword! A five star-reviewed, unforgettable story that bestselling author Homer Hickam calls "one of the most eloquent, moving, irresistible true stories" he's ever read. The Waiting will touch your heart and make you believe in love's enduring legacy, as well as the power of prayer.



In 1928, 16-year-old Minka was on a picnic in the woods when she was assaulted and raped. And suddenly this innocent farm girl—who still thought the stork brought babies—was pregnant. The story that follows has been almost a hundred years in the making. After a lifetime of separation, Minka whispered an impossible prayer for the first time: Lord, I'd like to see Betty Jane before I die. What happened next was a miracle. Written by Cathy LaGrow (Minka's granddaughter), The Waiting brings three generations of this most unusual family together over the course of a century in a story of faith that triumphs, forgiveness that sets us free, and love that never forgets. (As seen on The Today Show.)

We are Empty Without You!

Do you have any interesting hobbies or collections you would like to share? Please ask us about having a month long showcase in the library display. This is a great opportunity to share an interesting passion with the community.





Compiled by Bob Thran

Readlyn, Long Ago

Early Living: Horse Transportation

In 1903, the Chicago Great Western Railroad came through Readlyn. At that time, we had few, if any, automobiles, no electricity, and no indoor plumbing. This issue will feature our early citizens' use of horses for transportation. Later issues will cover the arrival of electricity and indoor plumbing.

In 1903, long-distance travel by rail was available throughout most of the United States. Horses were the only method of traveling locally by buggy or horseback for destinations not conveniently reachable by rail. For my great-grandparents' wedding in the late 1800s, people came from as far away as Dubuque traveling by horse and buggy.

As I was growing up in the thirties, about 40 percent of the older, two-story homes had horse barns that were later adapted to automobiles. We are fortunate that, for historical purposes, several of these barns are still in existence.

In visiting with older people years ago, I gleaned these facts about horses. The owners of horses were as proud of their horses as we, today, are proud of our automobiles. They strove to own a matched team of horses, in size, breed, color and markings. A matched team of horses would command a high price. These horses differed from bulky farm work animals and are similar to the horses used today by the Amish, lighter and more sleek, bred to be able to trot for miles.

Horses needed care. They had to be fed and watered, groomed and exercised. Owners of horses used the hand pumps from their outdoor wells, winter and summer, to water their horses. They had to climb up into the haymow to throw down hay and lastly, shovel out and dispose of the horse manure. Manure piles in town with their odor are now un-

imaginable. One advantage, at planting time a good supply of manure for gardens was available. To use horses for travel, owners had to harness the horses, get out the buggy or sleigh and hitch the horses to the buggy or sleigh. Upon returning home, the horses were unhitched from the wagon or sleigh, led into the stable in the barn, the harness removed and hung up, and the wagon or sleigh stored. Alleys served a purpose, allowing those in the middle of the block to access their barns.

A great danger, when horses were spooked a runaway might occur with horses galloping madly at full speed out of control, the driver helpless. Buggies would easily tip. Often riders or bystanders sustained injuries or lost their lives because of runaways. Hence, the custom arose, gentlemen were to walk next to the street to protect ladies from runaways. Now, the greatest danger might come from doorways, gentlemen walk on the inside.

Horse barns in Readlyn and Denver

There are at least four barns remaining in use in Readlyn and three or four in Denver. The barn I vividly remember in Readlyn is located on 4th Street 2 blocks east of Main Street. This was the last barn to stable horses in Readlyn. It is approximately 50% greater in size than the second barn pictured. In 1903, the Chicago Great Western Railroad hired a drayman, someone with a horse and wagon to distribute freight from the depot to those who placed the order. Frank Eichmann, in the late 1930s, was Readlyn's last drayman using horses. His barn is pictured. The lot east of the barn, vacant to this day, served as a small pasture.

In addition to Frank's drayman duty, which was meeting the freight train, circa 8:00 a.m. each day, Frank and his horses provided other services.

Readlyn had dirt streets, ruts formed in the street after rains. Frank's horses would pull a road grader throughout Readlyn to smooth the roads.

In the older two story houses part of Readlyn most homes were located on two lots, one complete lot devoted to a garden. Frank would be hired, with his one-horse walking plow to plow the garden for planting and to open a furrow for planting potatoes. He also used a one-horse cultivator to weed the gardens. Frank had one daughter, Florence, who married Arlen Detterding. They farmed a short distance east of Readlyn.

To accommodate horse travel, some stores had hitching posts in front. Still, in the 1930s, when every family had an automobile, farmers would come to town with horses to the mill and the creamery. A heavy chain strung north of the bank was available for hitching horses. The Klinger Lutheran Church constructed a long covered building consisting of 30 to 40 horse stalls to shelter the horses of those attending services and also for the horses of children attending parochial school. Duane Schlomann drove his horses to the Klinger school in the early '40s, unhitched and after school, hitched up and drove home. This long building, across the road from the church, remained unused for many years until torn down in the '60s.

When the horses dropped horse apples on Readlyn streets there was no one with a broom and shovel to clean up as they do now in parades. Even on Main Street the droppings were there until time and nature eliminated them. The whinnying of horses might be annoying, but they were not exposed to squealing tires and loud mufflers. I hope I have given you enough information for you to visualize the conditions our ancestors had to endure and also to appreciate the simplicity of pulling the car into the garage on a cold, wintry night and turning off the ignition.

Including Denver History

Subscribers to the *Denver Forum* also receive the *Readlyn Chronicle*. I have received positive feedback from Denver from these articles. Denver also has its history with no one to report it. When I left Readlyn in 1959 Readlyn and Denver were sister cities. They have grown apart.

When possible, I will include Denver in my articles. I owe Denver, for three of my main sources of information are from Denver: Art Kuhrt, Duane Schlomann and Marg Wittenburg Degelau. Also Patent Bill Schumacher's historic photos are always available.

Incidentally, the young man who robbed the Readlyn Bank was from Denver.



Frank Eichmann barn, later owned by Dick Lehmkuhl and Les Becker.



Barn, the outside almost all original, located 2-1/2 blocks east of Main Street.



Barn in Denver.



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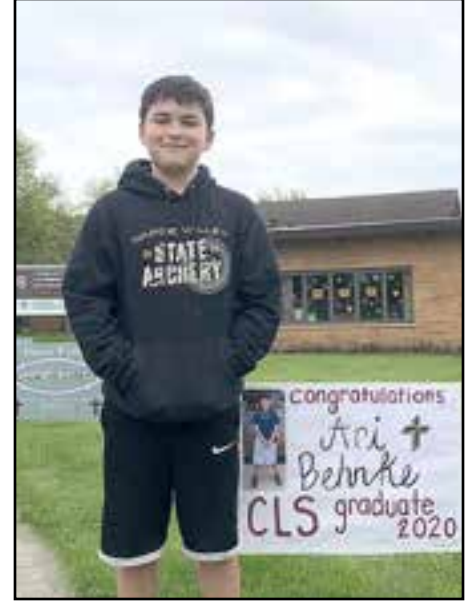


News from Community Lutheran School


Our 2019-2020 school year concluded with a Wave Celebration drive-through! Diplomas, awards, and summer goodies were handed out to all of the students. We had a phenomenal turn out and we LOVED being able to see all of the students and families one more time to wrap up the school year!



God's blessings to our two sixth grade graduates and all of our students! Have a safe and fun summer! Kylie Strottmann, above, and Ari Behnke, below.



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Off to kindergarten! Congratulations to all of our 4-year-old preschool graduates!

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How to qualify for a Lifeline Program discount

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- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance

- Veterans Pension and Survivors Benefit programs

- Head Start (only households meeting the income qualifying standards)

If you believe you may be eligible, please contact us at 319-279-3375 or email us at readlyn@netins.net.

**Some restrictions and conditions apply. Does not include taxes and surcharges. Go to lifelinesupport.org for information on getting started with Lifeline. Lifeline is a government benefit program. Consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine, imprisonment or can be barred from the program. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the program; documentation is necessary for enrollment; and the program is limited to one benefit per household.*

Auxiliary meets; includes Memorial Day service, potluck

The Wayne Teisinger V.F.W. Auxiliary #5661, Readlyn met at the home of Luann Happel with 6 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. Volunteer hours were turned in. 16 letters and 2 e-mails were sent to congressman for Veterans Bills.

Memorial Day was observed with a service at Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Klinger, with about 50 people in attendance including 9 post and 4 Auxiliary members. Speaker was Staff Sergeant Ed Pavelec.

About 20 people attended the Potluck at Charlie and Wilda Albrecht's barn.

A thank you was read from Corlyn Freitag for card & Kwik Trip gift card. A card and Kwik Trip gift card were sent to Jackie Clemon following surgery.

A motion was made by Darlene Peters and seconded by Betty Power to adjourn. Carried. Closed with prayer. Hostess was Betty Power.

Obituaries and local fundraising events submitted for publication in the *Chronicle* are free of charge.

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David Wittenburg explains how to start the first rock layer of the bike trail gazebo to Micki Thurm, Ruth Wittenburg, Gene Thurm, Craig Hesse and Bonnie Erickson.



Tom Hart helps power wash one of the loads of rocks. This load of rocks was donated by Virgil Pries and collected by Deb Sauerbrei, Cannon Joerger, Pat Wehr, and, of course, Ruth and David Wittenburg.



The first rock layer nears completion.



Chris Davis got his very first hole in one Thursday, June 11 at Maple Hills Golf Course in Tripoli. He was on hole #3, and used his 6 iron. Helping him celebrate are his golfing friends: Bruce Huebner, Dan Boehme, Larry Hagenow, Dan Brunscheon, Larry Sauerbrei, Rex Blaylock and Gary Matthias. Chris is pictured in the middle front.

Esther Wittenburg streams a promotion ceremony

Using a computer app called Zoom, Esther Wittenburg, a 111-year-old Readlyn resident, had an opportunity to stream a promotion ceremony held 800 miles away at Ft. Carson, CO.

On June 4, 2020 her step-great-grandson, Dr. Peter Marlin, was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army Medical Corps.

Col. Marlin received his medical training and degree in psychiatry from Creighton University. Following graduation, he entered the U.S. Army Medical Corps and has served at various military hospitals in the U.S. and in Germany.

Col. Marlin is the son of Dr. Wayne and Candace (Westendorf) Marlin of Williamsburg, IA. His late grandparents, Andrew and Phyllis (Wittenburg) Westendorf of Albia, IA, were Readlyn High School graduates; his late great-grandfather, Herbert Wittenburg, was a long-time Readlyn businessman.

Col. Marlin, his wife, Kim, and daughters, Julia, Gabrielie and Madelyn look forward to their next visit with family and friends in Iowa.



Esther Wittenburg

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By: Eric Johnston

“A Tough Start”

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It’s hard to believe we are already through the month of June, time seems to be flying by! My tournament season started on May 31 and the season did not start for me as planned. This month I’ll break down how the first tournament of the season went.

May 31 was stop one for me in Harpers Ferry, Iowa, Bass World Sports Tournament Association tournament one of six. Anticipation was high for me all spring as many early tournaments had canceled due to a virus I won’t give the satisfaction to say its name. I had decided to fish the series of Bass World Sports Series out of Harpers Ferry along with long-time friend and tournament partner Adam Farmer. We had taken a year off together fishing tournaments the year prior, so we were ready to get back at it!

I had Friday, May 29 off work to get some practice in on the river before the Sunday tournament. Adam was not able to get off work Friday, so my dad came up with me to help me find some fish. The week leading up to the weekend was warm and sunny and the fishing was fantastic on the Mississippi River. But, as I’ve always said, if you want bad weather, just schedule a bass tournament.

Thursday evening a huge cold front moved through and, with the lower air temperature, the water began to drop in temp quickly. Nothing shuts the fishing down quicker than rapidly falling water temperature in the spring. Couple that with falling river levels, and you have a recipe for a tough bite.

As Dad and I started out Friday morning, we were still optimistic that we could get on some nice bass. The first couple spots only produced a couple small fish. The river has been very different for me this spring from what I’m used to fishing. The last couple years it’s been extremely high each spring and I’ve grown accustomed to the high water and where to find them. The many years prior to that, we had many low water springs and I still remember where to find them in the lower water as well, but this year it’s been somewhere in between all spring. To be honest, it’s had me scratching my head.

That Friday, after the first two spots we checked, I decided to check a high water spot I’m very fond of through the month of May. As I drove my Ranger boat up to



the area, I quickly realized there was not nearly enough water for the area to be any good. I fished through the area, and told Dad we need to look for something else. I put the trolling motor on high to get out of the very shallow area before starting my Mercury outboard. As I made my way out of the area, “BOOM!!!!” I nearly was knocked out of the boat. I had run into something hard with the trolling motor and when I lifted it into the stow position I quickly realized we were done for the moment. I had sheared one of the blades right off the prop.

I was very angry with myself — not over hitting something, that happens, but the fact that I didn’t have a spare prop in the boat. I always carry two of everything and I failed here. We were still in very shallow water, so I started the Mercury and tilted it very high and tried to motor us off of the shallow flat and into deeper water. A whole two minutes after I broke the trolling motor, I hit a stump with the big motor and it stalled. I tilted the motor all the way up to discover I had a tree root ball wedged between the prop and the cav-

itation plate. We were adrift with neither motor working!

I struggled hard to release the root from the motor, hanging off the back of the boat in three foot waves at the bottom of pool 9. I realized I was not going to get it loose by hand and grabbed a wrench out of my tool kit. A lot of pounding and it finally came loose. I was relieved to be back running. We headed for the boat ramp and the rest of the day was spent doing a rebuild on my trolling motor.

As Saturday morning rolled around, it was still very chilly and Dad and I ran through many areas where we are normally catching fish in the spring with very few fish and bites. It was also very windy that day and many areas I wanted to try were too windblown to fish. As we headed back to the cabin that afternoon, I told Dad my plan was to lock through into pool 9 and fish all the areas we weren’t able to check in the wind as the forecast called for very light winds throughout Sunday.

When we arrived back at the cabin, Adam and his son were waiting for us. They had spent the day searching for fish on pool 10. Adam was smiling as I walked up to him. “I found us some nice fish,” Adam said excitedly. He relayed what he had found and it was an area I knew very well and the plan was set. The next morning, we excitedly made our way from Prairie Du Chien to Harpers Ferry with high

anticipation. We arrived in the parking lot and checked in with the tournament officials and waited for take-off at 5:30 am. We were boat number two to take off and were on our way. It was a short boat ride to the area Adam had found. We pulled up to some flooded trees where he had gotten bites the day before.

My first cast yielded a bite and I missed the fish. Adam soon set the hook and just as quickly the fish got off. Then a very long time passed without a bite. Around eight I got a bite and yielded a solid 16-inch bass. Little did we know this would be our only keeper of the day. Soon after I caught that fish, the water quickly started to muddy up from Thursday’s rains finally making its way down the river. We spent the rest of the day scrambling to find something but never put it together. We weighed one fish at weigh-in and finished dead last in the field. Not the way I had envisioned the start of our season.

I’m one to try to pull the positives out of things and at least we received points for weighing a fish and I got to spend two days on the water with my dad and fish the tournament with my best bud since 6th grade, Adam Farmer. What more could a guy ask for? While we were dejected, we both were on the same page that we got to have some fun together, and that’s what it’s all about!! Until next month, GET OUTDOORS!!

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In the event that businesses are asked to close again, the meeting will be canceled. Here's hoping for the best! Anyone interested in joining this group is welcome.



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FROM 8AM -5:00 PM**

Please drop off your registration and \$5.00 in care of Dani at the Readlyn Savings Bank drive-up window or the night drop box by Monday, July 20. We'll place the ads in newspapers—you provide your yard signs. Maps of listings will be on readlyn.lib.ia.us, and can be picked up at the Kwik Star at noon on Thursday, July 23.

Readlyn City Wide Garage Sales Sign-up Sheet

Cost: \$5.00

Thursday, July 23 4 – 8 pm

Friday, July 24 8 am – 5 pm

Name: _____

Address of Sale: _____

Items you want mentioned:

Please turn in your listing and money to the Readlyn Savings Bank night drop box or drive-up window by Monday, July 20. If your sale will run different hours than those listed, please indicate and feel free to do your own ad. The list will be on the library website by noon Thursday. We are planning on the Goodwill truck to be parked behind the library from Wednesday, July 22 – Monday, July 27. Goodwill accepts: books, furniture, computers, clothing, shoes, baby clothes, small working appliances, vases, pots, toys, VHS & DVD movies, frames. Goodwill CANNOT ACCEPT: large appliances, TVs, hide-a-beds, beds & mattresses, construction materials, chemicals, tires and live plants.

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Deadline for the July 29 issue is Thursday, July 16, 5 PM


Send news of your club, organization or church to the *Readlyn Chronicle*:
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	<p>Immanuel Lutheran Church 2683 Quail Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3977 Pastor Philip Giradin Sunday School 9 am Divine Service 10 a.m.</p>
	<p>St. Matthew Lutheran Church Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor 2649 230th Street Readlyn, IA 319-279-3758 Divine Parish Worship at St. Matthews, 9:00 a.m. Mid-week Service at Zion, Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Martha Circle, 1st Wednesday of month Women of Life, 3rd Tues. of month, 7 PM</p>
	<p>St. Paul Lutheran Church 120 West 4th Street Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3961 Pastor Philip Giradin Worship 8:30 AM</p>
	<p>Zion Lutheran Church 240 Elmer Avenue Readlyn, IA 50668 (319) 279-3643 Rev. Dr. Jean Rabary, Pastor Sunday Divine Worship Service 8:00 a.m. Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays Mid-week Service Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. Ruth Circle 1st Thursday 1:30 p.m. Evening Circle 1st Thursday 6 p.m.</p>

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