

Paul and Marrillee Tiedt Going strong after 76 years of marriage

By Elizabeth Bingham

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It's a love story for the ages.

Literally. Paul Tiedt turned 100 years old in November. His wife, Marrillee, turned 92 in October. They have been married 76 years so far and still live together in their Readlyn home.

That eight-year age difference doesn't matter now, but back when their paths first crossed, Marrillee Nerge was 13 and Paul was 21. Marrillee first saw Paul at his parents' 25-year-anniversary dance in Denver, Iowa.

"She was there with her friend," Paul explained. "I didn't see her, but I was older, and I was going to be going to the military pretty soon. She seen me. And what did you say?"

He turned to Marrillee, sitting beside him in their immaculate living room. "Someday, I'm going to marry a man that looks just like that, but not him," she recalled telling her friend.

But that's not what happened. Instead, two years later, she went with the original and married Paul.



Marrillee and Paul Tiedt, aged 92 and 100, have been married for 76 years so far. They live in a tidy ranch house in Readlyn, where they moved when retiring from their farm near Klinger. In their retirement, they wrote poetry. Paul holds an early effort about the founding of Readlyn that was published in the Readlyn Library's cookbook. Elizabeth Bingham photo (Above right) Paul and Marrillee Tiedt married in 1948. He was 23. She was 16. This photo was taken at their 61-year wedding anniversary. They have since passed the 76-year mark.

Paul served 17 months in the Army and is a World War II vet.

"When I got back, I was single," he said, as was a neighbor boy, who was a friend.

Paul knew of Marrillee because his younger brother knew her older sister. "Boys talk, too, so I said to my buddy, do you think she'll go out with me? She's pretty young," Paul said. "She was more than ready, because she knew me. In five months, we were married."

They started dating in the summer of 1948, probably going to a movie in Sumner that first night. Paul lived in rural Readlyn west of the Wapsie. Marrillee lived closer to Sumner in Pinhook, which used to be a Pony Express postal stop.

She was 15. He was 23. They were conscious of their age gap and timed the announcement of their marriage license to minimize the difference, because in those days, the Waverly paper published the ages on the license.

Marrillee had a birthday in October. Paul's was in November. They aimed for the window in between and married Nov. 7, 1948.

"When we got our marriage license in the Waverly paper, she was 16 and a week, and I was 23 and 11 months," Paul said. "Instead of eight years apart, we were only seven years apart."

After his stint in the Army, Paul had moved to his parents' farm a mile south of Klinger (south of Readlyn, east of Den-

ver). It was his parents' second farm, because Paul's younger brother had chosen to farm the home place after he was married.

Paul, too, was going to be a farmer. "I really needed a farm girl," he said. Marrillee fit the bill. "She was a perfect farm girl. She was a hard worker and never, never complained. We worked together every day," he said.

The new couple lived on the farm with his parents for about six weeks, then his folks bought a house in Readlyn and moved there, leaving the farming duties to Paul and Marrillee.

"We farmed on half," Paul explained. "We done all the work. My parents were the owners of the land. That was our rent - half. We were very successful with it, because Marrillee helped a lot."

At the start, they had a team of horses for the fieldwork. They raised cows, pigs and chickens and had big gardens. They canned their own food and butchered their own meat. They didn't have any plumbing or heat in the house other than a wood stove.

It was hard work, but, "You don't get nothing without a little work," Marrillee observed.

They had their first three kids - Beverly, Michael and Dixie. Then there was a six-year gap before Alexis came along.

"Well, the reason we have more children," Paul explained - they have nine in all - was because he spent the slow time of the summer working as a carpenter in Dunkerton, and he had to have insurance for that. And the insurance helped pay for the births.

"So then we got on a roll, and then we had all these kids," he said. "That's really how it happened. Because we had no money. We started from zero, just like anybody else."

That led to David, Charles, Zita and Scott. The count stood at four girls and four boys.

According to Paul, Marrillee then said, "Should we decide who's going to have the most help, Mom or Dad?" and they had a tie-breaker child, Paulie.

The boys won.



Marrillee Tiedt's 1948 wedding dress hangs in the basement below a wedding photo with her husband, Paul. Paul figured that if he displayed his Army uniform there, Marrillee should display her wedding dress. Elizabeth Bingham photo



The basement of Paul and Marrillee's home in Readlyn is a tribute to their lives, mostly to their shared 76 years. Elizabeth Bingham photo

Easter Egg Hunt for your DOG!



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Time to register your golf cart!

The City of Readlyn will hold a golf cart registration/inspection at the new City Hall, 307 Main Street. Use the alley to pull up in back.

The event is planned for Saturday, April 5, from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. (weather permitting).

If you would like to register your golf cart now before April 5, you can contact Police Chief Steve Aiello and bring your cart to City Hall and have it registered anytime he's available.

-You need to show proof of insurance

-Have a slow-moving sign on the cart

-An orange safety flag 5 ft. or higher on the cart

-Adequate brakes and exhaust

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Registration stickers will be good for 2025 through 2027 at \$20 a year. Sixty dollars will need to be paid by check or with cash before registration sticker will be given to the owner.

Call or leave a message at the police department if you want to register your cart sooner or at a different time.

Chief Steve Aiello
Readlyn Police Department
319-279-3999
readlynpd@rtc279.com



Grump's Grumblings

By Bonnie Wittenburg, 2024 Grump

Today is a beautiful day. I walked around the house searching for GREEN. Found a couple of peekers. Spring always excites me a bit. I love to see spring flowers and light jacket weather.

Another Readlyn Community Club meeting completed this month. Time to get moving on Grump Days, of course. Gee, we need a new Grump and a new Queen. I am very sure if you ask the 2024 gals, they would tell you there is nothing to fear but more friends and more fun. I was concerned about my ability and my writing skills. Almost as easy as talking. Guess the key is just do you.

Was at line dancing the other night. It was fun to watch the dancer and see friends. There was too much talent out there for me to join in.

I am so happy to see the cold and flu season winding down. I feel like it affect-

ed me so much this year.

Did you receive your membership letter from the Readlyn Community Club for this year? If you have questions or concerns, you can ask any RCC officer. We would love to make our efforts to our community a great deal of fun and success — a happy place for our families to be.

Next month, on April 19, the Easter Bunny comes to town. He will be spreading eggs and looking for many little ones and many sponsors to create a successful event for us all. Keep watching the Readlyn Talk post and Facebook because we try to update you there between *Chronicle* publishings.

See you out in the sunshine soon. Remember, be kind. We all want the same things!

Grump Bonnie



Miss Readlyn Comments

By Jaylin May

Hi, Readlyn Community!!

Life has been pretty fun and productive as spring is arriving! The weather allows many opportunities to get outside and spend time enjoying the warm weather.

Senior track season has begun and it's been off to a great start! Preseason is rolling along as we have been doing many workouts that are making us stronger and faster. We've been outside a couple of times which is nice to get some fresh air while we're running. Our first meet is indoors on March 25 at Wartburg. I am really looking forward to it and it's always a fun meet every year. Following that, we have our first outdoor meet at Sumner-Fred. That meet is known to be very cold, rainy, and cloudy. So we'll see if that meet stays on the agenda.

Musical rehearsal has been going really well as we have completed Act 1 and are working through Act 2 of the show. We still have yet to get costumes, props, and paint the set pieces, but it's getting more exciting every day. It's hard to believe that this will be my final show after 5 years of being in musical theater. But, it

will be a great show to end on with such an amazing cast.

Our basketball season sadly ended on February 18 at MFL-MarMac where we lost 36-57. It's very sad that my career is over, but I'm glad that I got to spend it with the best teammates, coaches, and fans. It's crazy to think that after almost 10 years of playing basketball, it's over just like that. It was going to end at some point though, so I enjoyed it while it lasted. Thanks to everyone who supported this senior class of basketball and watched us grow up playing this sport. I look forward to coming back to watch the team play next season! On Friday, March 21 there is a NICL Senior All-Star game that I will be participating in at Gladbrook-Reinbeck. It will be fun to be able to play one more game with the other seniors in our conference!

I hope everyone is enjoying this lovely spring weather! Have a good St. Patrick's Day and see you at the Easter Egg Hunt around town on Saturday, April 19 at 10 a.m.!

-Jaylin May



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Deadline for the April 30 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., April 17 at 5 PM

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~College News~

554 Wartburg students named to Fall Term Dean's List

Waverly, IA -- Wartburg College has recognized 554 students who were named to the 2024 Fall Term Dean's List.

Those honored included Chloe Rehmer and Ella Weepie, both of Fairbank.

The list honors students who earned a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or above in at least four course credits during the term. Three of the four course credits have to be graded with a traditional letter grade.

Upper Iowa University announces Fall 2024 Dean's List

Fayette, IA -- Upper Iowa University has announced the Dean's List for the 2024 Fall Semester. To be honored, a student must have earned a minimum 3.50 grade point average and be enrolled as a full-time student.

Students from this area named to the list include:

Readlyn: Lydia Imbrogno, Clint Munk, Keisha Pullin, Dawson Schmit

Fairbank: Heather Sullivan

Hawkeye Community College Announces Fall 2024 Dean's List

Waterloo--Hawkeye Community College announces the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester. The Dean's List is an official recognition of outstanding academic accomplishment by full-time students. To make the Dean's List, an individual must be a full-time student and successfully complete 12 or more credits in the fall or spring semesters with a semester GPA of 3.50 or better for courses taken at Hawkeye.

Students from this area named to the list include:

Fairbank: Bradley Gordon; Benton Hyde; Jack Jans; Gavin Leistikow; Madison Mullihan; Brielle Parkes; Noah Richards; Kate Risse; Kane Schmitz

Readlyn: Kallie Franzen; Drew Sauerbrei; Braden Strottmann

Kirkwood Community College announces Dean's List honors

Cedar Rapids, Iowa (February 13, 2025) - Kirkwood Community College has released its Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester. These students have achieved a 3.3 grade point average or higher after completing 12 or more credit hours at the college.

Among those named to the Dean's List was Austin Eldridge of Readlyn.

Grief workshop is April 26 in Waverly

LWML Westgate Zone Grief Committee invites and welcomes the public to attend a grief workshop to be held on Saturday, April 26, at St John Church, 415 4th St SW, Waverly, Iowa. Registration begins at 8:30 AM. A free-will donation will be collected.

"Unnatural Loss: How Christ is the Center of Hope as We Grieve" will be presented by Rev. Nathan Grewe from Lutheran Family Service at 9:00 AM. A free-will offering lunch will be served at 11:30 AM. Children are welcomed.

If possible, an RSVP by April 21 to Vera at 319-229-6859 is appreciated but not required.

Next Pepper Tourney is Saturday, April 5 at Grumpy's

The March pepper tournament was held at Grumpy's on March 1. The winners and their scores were:

1st: Suzy Heineman and Shirley Kuker - 177

2nd: Grace Kuethe and Barb Meyer - 173


3rd: Dave Schumacher and Don Childs - 160

4th: Joan Matthias and Judy Henn - 153

The next pepper tournament will be held on Saturday, April 5 at 1:00 p.m. at Grumpy's. Bring a partner! Entry fee is \$3.00. This will be the last tournament until October.

Thank You
 The family of Laurie Ann Brunscheon would like to thank everyone for the prayers, support, kind words, cards, and memorials, they gave us the greatest comfort during our sorrow. Thank You to Pastor Rabary for his visits, prayers, and support, and a beautiful funeral service. A special thank you to the Ruth Circle for their help in the kitchen and making delicious desserts at the luncheon. A sincere thanks to Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home and Cedar Valley Hospice for their help and service. God bless you all.

Happy Birthday!



I would like to wish Freddie Bast a very Happy 90th Birthday on April 15!

I am grateful to have met you and getting to know you has been an absolute pleasure!

Love, Leslie

Send ads and news to [Readlyn Chronicle at readlynchronicle@gmail.com](mailto:readlynchronicle@gmail.com)

Happy Easter!
 From The Readlyn Savings Bank



We will be closing early at 3pm on April 18th for Good Friday



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It's a Numbers Game: Football by Eric Zweig

My First Book of Football – by Beth Bugler and Mark Bechtel from 'the chain gang' - Joey, John, Mike, and Barney

Ten Beautiful Things – Molly Beth Griffin

The Yellow Bus – Loren Long – given by Dean and Lois Buhr

In Memory of Ron Kohagen

Classic Cars: the Definitive Visual History by DK Publishing

Car Science: An Under-the Hood, Behind-the-Dash Look at How Cars Work by Richard Hammond – given by Dan and Bev Huebner

The Readlyn Community Library is a drop-off location for the Readlyn Easter Egg Hunt, so feel free to drop off your donated baskets here!



Are you looking for a way to honor someone with a memorial or celebrate a life event? Consider donating a book to the library! We have a selection of children's books on display for purchase, or you can specify a topic and we can look into purchasing a book. Book costs are now \$25 per book, and the book will be added to the library collection with a bookplate inside the cover, published in the *Readlyn Chronicle* on the library's newsletter page, and an optional card noting your donation can be made out for you to mail or deliver to the recipient. For funerals taking place in Readlyn, we can usually arrange for the book to be on display at the visitation if we know ahead of time. Please stop in or call the library for more information!

HOURS

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Wed - 10am - 5pm
Thurs - 10am - 7pm
Fri - 10am - 5 pm
Sat - 9am - 12pm
Sun - Closed



The Bremer County Health Department holds Foot Clinics on the 3rd Thursday of every month. Call 319.352.0082 to make an appointment

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A Life Remembered memorial event at Kaiser-Corson

Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes, Inc. is hosting a memorial event to be held this spring for those in our community who have lost loved ones. Kaiser-Corson recognizes and appreciates the relationships that have formed between our staff and the surrounding communities.

"We welcome the opportunity to remember the families and friends who have lost loved ones and we are excited for our premier event," said Darren O'Donnell, licensed funeral director and co-owner of Kaiser-Corson Funeral Homes.

The event will be held on Saturday, April 12 from 1:45 until 3:30 p.m. at the Waverly location at 218 2nd St. SE. Pastor Mike Blair, chaplain at the Bartels Lutheran Retirement Community, will give a short message at 2:00 p.m. Following Pastor Blair's message, a Kaiser-Corson staff member will speak briefly. From 2:30 until 3:30 p.m., there will be time to visit with the staff and share conversations and memories of friends and loved ones.

Please RSVP by Friday, April 4 to waverly@kaisercorson.com or by calling (319) 352-1187.

Kaiser-Corson offers pre-need services and at-need services including funeral services, cremation, immediate burial, body donation, transfer and receiving services, and funeral related merchandise. We are always here to help, no matter where your need arises, no matter what your circumstances are. Our spring event will be a time to share our appreciation for the trust the community has put in us.

For more information, visit the Kaiser-Corson Facebook page or the Kaiser-Corson website at www.kaisercorson.com. You may also call Kaiser-Corson at 319-352-1187.



Susan Buhr in the 1950s

1950s: Readlyn's Susan Buhr Wins National Tumbling Championship

This clipping, which likely ran in The Tripoli Leader back in the 1950s, shows Susan Buhr, 8, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Buhr of Readlyn, winning first place in the Pee-Wee division of the National Novice Open Championship for Tumbling in Chicago. She represented the Waterloo YWCA at the competition, which was sponsored by the Midwest Gymnasts Association in cooperation with the University of Chicago. The clipping notes that Susan earned the championship medal she is pictured wearing.

Readlyn's Paul and Marrillee Tiedt note 76 years of marriage

Continued from Page 1

All the kids grew up helping on the farm but moved on with their lives and eventually lived as far afield as Texas, Oklahoma and Virginia, with three siblings settling in the Kansas City area. Three more still live in Iowa, including Readlyn.

The nine children led to 29 grandchildren, 56 great-grandchildren and five great-great-grandchildren, so far.

Paul and Marrillee started renting their farmland out over 30 years ago, and over 24 years ago they moved to the ranch house in Readlyn where they still live.

In their retirement, they made music, playing for churches, retirement homes, and for other occasions.

Paul played guitar and harmonica, while Marrillee played the tambourine. Together they sang their gospel, bluegrass and country favorites, with close to 200 songs in their repertoire.

"We don't do that anymore," Paul noted. "I can't sing anymore. We quit that six

years ago, when I was 94."

They also bowled and belonged to several card clubs for many years. Paul was an active member of the VFW; and, to coincide with that, Marrillee was active in the women's auxiliary.

The two of them also wrote many poems in their retirement, some separately but mostly together. One of their first efforts, "Memories of Readlyn," about the founding of the town, was published in the Readlyn library's cookbook.

The basement of their home is filled with memorabilia from their lives, from Paul's time in the Army through their life on the farm to their days in Readlyn. Paul's uniform and Marrillee's wedding dress hang on display. Their old wood stove stands in the corner, all cleaned and polished. Their poems - many of them odes Paul wrote to his beloved wife - are taped to the walls.

At their ages, they don't get downstairs to enjoy the memories there as much as they used to. A visiting nurse checks in

with them every weekday. These days their biggest joy is hearing from their children and family members through phone calls or visits.

Their daughter, Alexis, who was visiting during their interview with *Waverly Newspapers*, credits their long and healthy lives to clean living - no smoking, no drinking - as well as a forward-looking attitude.

"One thing they say is 'Never look back,'" she shared. "Yesterday you might have had a bad day or you might have had an argument, but don't look back. Never go to bed angry. Keep moving forward, one day at a time."

The Tiedts think their close relationship is what has most sustained them over the years.

"Love your wife or your partner," Paul advised.

"That's the main thing," Marrillee agreed.

Paul looked at her and smiled. "It all comes with love."



Readlyn High School Class of 1952 Gathers for 10-Year Reunion — A 1962 newspaper clipping from what is believed to be the *Tripoli Leader* reports on the 10-year reunion of the Readlyn High School Class of 1952, which took place with a potluck dinner at Readlyn Park. Seventeen of the 24 graduates attended the gathering, along with former teacher Walter Johnson of New Hampton. Shown above are: Back row, left to right: Walter Johnson, teacher, New Hampton; Robert Kimball, Clarksville; Donald Richmann, Waverly; Donald Koschmeder, Readlyn; Dale Kuethe, Readlyn; Erling Lohmann, Greely; Erwin Fortsch, Readlyn; Arlin Richmond, Denver. Front row, left to right: Mrs. Robert Wedemeier (Glennys Richmann), Sumner; Mrs. Roger Kohlman (Lorna Thoms), Bridgeton, Mo.; Mrs. Donald Lundt (Daphne Oltrogge), Fairbank; Mrs. Virgil Peters (Joyce Maurer), Readlyn; Mrs. Charles Buenzow (Doris Everding), Storm Lake; Mrs. Donald Newell (Diane Everding), Dubuque; Mrs. Edwin Milius (Darlys Poock), Denver; Mrs. Elton Schutte (Shirley Nolte), Waterloo; Mrs. Raymond Meyer (Marilyn Lau), Readlyn; Mrs. Ronald Wolff (Jeanette Otto), Fairbank. Photo contributed



St. Paul Lutheran Church

1959: St. Paul Lutheran Celebrates 50th Anniversary

This clipping, published on Friday, August 21, 1959, details the upcoming 50th anniversary celebration of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Readlyn, a congregation of the Missouri Synod. The church, founded on October 24, 1909, planned a full day of events for Sunday, including multiple services, a ham dinner, and a confirmation reunion.

The main anniversary service at 9:30 a.m. was set to feature Rev. Alfred Ernst of Lincoln, Nebraska, a former pastor. Another former pastor, Rev. Theodore Freese of Sumner, was scheduled to conduct a German anniversary service. The confirmation reunion service at 2:30 p.m. was to include a guest sermon by Rev. William F. Reddel of Dubuque, followed by a luncheon.

The article highlights the church's history, noting that its first members quickly decided to construct a building, laying the cornerstone on May 22, 1910. Before the church

was built, services were led by Rev. R. Piehler of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Klinger. The first resident pastor, Rev. Herman Maas, served from 1912 to 1926. Other pastors included Rev. Theodore Freese (1926-1942), Rev. Mark Steege (1942-1946), Rev. George Koch (1946-1947), Rev. Alfred Ernst (1948-1953), and Rev. J.L. Strelow (1954-1956). The current pastor in 1959, Rev. W.A. Ave-Lallemant, had been serving since 1957.

At the time of the anniversary, the church had 380 baptized members, 276 communicants, 104 children, and 72 voting members. The congregation had also adopted a budget of \$13,333 for home purposes and \$5,000 for synod mission work for the fiscal year.

The clipping also notes that four charter members of the congregation were still living in Readlyn: J.W. Kehe, C.W. Dieckman, William Klempe, and Fred Strumpel.

Reprinted from **The Newsletter: The Paper With the Local News** March 30, 1968

Covering the areas of Dunkerton, Fairbank, Readlyn, Denver, Oran, Klinger, Dewar and north rural Waterloo



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church of Readlyn will observe its 90th anniversary this year and plans to have its new entrance completed before June 23, the date for the anniversary observance.

The picture above shows their first church, which was used for ten years. When the first addition of the present church was built, in 1910, the pastor was Rev. Max Jahr. Those pictured are, or were, area residents who attended the parochial school.

First row: Wm. Maurer, -?-, Louie Tiedt, Albert Ganske, Herman Kimball, Louie Rathe, Sophie (Stoffregen) Winning, Viola (Kursatz) Heyne, Sophie Rathe, Marie (Stoffregen) Henn, Martha (Meyerhoff) Kimball, Amanda Peters, Wm. Boevers, Frank Bruncheon, Paul Strottmann and Ernest Oltrogge.

Second row: George Schmidt, Walter Hay, Emil Tiedt, Louie Blasberg, -?-, Art Schroeder, Elmer Sassmann, Anna (Tiedt) Kimball, Malinda Tonne, Lizzie Rathe, Fred Koschmeder, Laurena (Hay) Platte, Irene (Strottmann) Wonn, Anita (Boevers) Knief, -?-, Bertha (Buhr) Graham,

Elsa (Warneke) Krueger, Rosetta (Sell) Huebsch, Linda (Peters) Westendorf, Eldora (Niedert) Schellhorn, Louie Everding.

Third row: Louie Koschmeder, Arthur Klemp, Pastor Max Jahr, Henry Schroeder and Herman Meihost.

The picture and information were contributed by Rev. Erich J. Dornbusch, pastor of St. Matthew's.

READLYN

Captain Jerold R. Meier of Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, spent Friday visiting in the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Meier.

Mr. and Mrs. Herman Krief visited Saturday, March 16, in the home of Mrs. Sophia Wolf. Sunday visitors in the Wolf home were Mr. and Mrs. Orville Huebner of Denver.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Ganske and Julie. Mr. and Mrs. Rudolf Busch Jr. of Denver. Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Tiedt Jr. and family of Cedar Rapids. Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Westendorf and family of near Oran. Sandra Ganske, Dale Thurb, Mrs. Adella Buhton and Miss Hulda Kasemeier of Sumner were Sunday dinner guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ganske in observance of Mrs. Ganske's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Kimball and family of Natchua were Sunday dinner guests in the home of his mother Mrs. Minnie Kimball in Readlyn.

Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Platte were among others who were dinner guests Sunday in the home

of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mathias in Cedar Falls in observance of Mrs. Mathias's birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chris Petersen Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Buhr, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Sausman, and Mrs. Ella Strottmann spent Saturday evening in the home of Mrs. Mary Detterding.

Mary Jo Rommel and roommate of Omaha, Nebraska, spent the weekend visiting in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Rommel.

Mr. and Mrs. Arnold C. Meyethoff visited Sunday in the home of their son and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. James Meyerhoff in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Mrs. Henry Otto, Mrs. Elmer Kuesthe and Mrs. Milton Stokles attended a Foodorama at the Electric Park Ballroom, Waterloo, on Saturday, March 23, sponsored by the Martin Bros. Distributing Co.



HOW DO YOU COPE WITH THE RED CHINESE? MAKE THEM GREEN WITH ENVY.

Breath of Spring?

Common measles virus will probably be one of the ingredients in the fresh spring air your child is breathing. The playmate with a runny nose, red and watery eyes, and a cough may not have a cold as his mother thinks but the early signs of measles.

If that's the case, after 10 or 12 days, unless your child has had common measles or a measles vaccination he or she will probably "come down" with the disease.

In addition to lost school days, a week or more in bed with a high fever and general discomfort and inconvenience for both child and parent, there can be serious aftereffects from measles.

Mental retardation, pneumonia, hearing loss or deafness, bronchitis, and other serious medical complications can occur in as many as 2 of every 15 cases. Deaths from measles in the United States for many years averaged 400 to 500. In 1966 an all-time low of 250 measles deaths was recorded.

Although measles vaccines had been available for three years, vaccinations did not spurt until 1966 when a new one-shot vaccine became available. This live measles virus, the Schwarz strain, sharply reduced reactions with great safety and gave long-lasting protection.

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Readlyn Senior Citizens gather for Valentine Party and meeting

Eighteen members attended the 11:30 a.m. Senior Citizen's Valentine Party lunch and meeting at the Tripoli Bowling Alley in Tripoli, IA on Feb. 19, 2025.

The meeting was called to order by Ron Leistikow, our president, before our meal.

The birthdays celebrated for the month of February were Vicki Pavelec and Janet Ladage. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to them. There were two anniversaries celebrated for the month of February, Larry and Janet Ladage and Rick and Lois Thacher. We all sang "Happy Anniversary" to the two couples.

Treasurer's report was read by Charlie Albrecht. The balance in the account after expenses was \$79.00.

Secretary's report for January 15, 2025 was read by Lois Thacher. Ron Leistikow thought that the year 2024 was included in the previous notes for the January meeting notes of 2025. After review, the year 2024 that was used was for the December notes that were read at the previous January meeting. No correction needed. Lois Thacher made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and the secretary's report and Wilda Albrecht seconded it. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

In December 2024, 105 items of knitted scarves, mittens, and hats were delivered to the Corporate Special Olympics Office in Grimes, IA. The Readlyn Novel Knitters meet at the Readlyn library every Monday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. to work on the items again that they will be delivering next December for the Special Olympics. Everyone is welcome to join others at the Readlyn Library weekly.

Bobbins and Boards had a retreat at 226



Readlyn Senior Citizens met for lunch on Feb. 19, enjoying their time together with cake, cookies, party favors and Bingo. From left to right are Larry and Vicki Pavelec, Marylou and Don Billhorn, Roland Schmidt, Larry Ladage, Joyce Heineman, Wilda Albrecht, Judy Leistikow, Charlie Albrecht, Rick and Lois Thacher, Don Heineman, Wayne Kuethe, Judy Henn, Doris Hagenow, Millie Crawford, and Ron Leistikow. Not pictured: Janet Ladage.

Main Street, Readlyn, IA on February 21-22, 2025. Cost was \$75.00 plus tax to stay Friday and Saturday night. Everyone was asked to bring their sewing projects to work on for the weekend. You could also stop by at 9:00 a.m. each morning and not elect to stay overnight. The cost then was \$15.00 plus tax per day.

Plan to attend on February 26, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. the "Lost History of Bremer County" program at the Readlyn Library. Historian and author Linda McCann will be presenting the program on lost towns, railroads, and some prohibition history of Bremer County. The Readlyn Museum will

be open after the event for persons that want to walk through the Museum.

March 2 will be the Firemen's Breakfast at Grumpy's Event Center.

The Easter Egg Hunt in Readlyn will be April 19 at the Readlyn Park. More details to come.

The next Senior Citizen's meeting will be March 19, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. at the Panther

Lanes in Tripoli, IA. Doris Hagenow made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Larry Ladage seconded it.

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

Lois Thacher Secretary

After our meeting and lunch we played Bingo and had Valentine treats made by Mary Chapin and Judy Leistikow. Fun was had by all! Come join the fun.

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How to get involved:

- Sponsor an event
- Volunteer to help at events
- Attend meetings (Announced in the minutes in the Chronicle.)

The mission of the Readlyn Community Club is to provide a variety of events to enhance the lives of our residents. We welcome you to be a part of the RCC.

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What's Cooking?

A recipe to share can be sent to billhorn@rtc279.com

Cream Puff Coffee Cake

Part 1

- 1 C. flour
- 1/2 C. butter
- 2 1/2 T. water

Mix like pie crust with a pastry blender. Pat unto an ungreased cookie sheet in two long strips 3 inches wide.

Part 2

- 1 C. water
- 1/2 C. butter
- 1 C. flour
- 3 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Heat water and butter to boiling until the butter is melted. Add flour all at once. Remove from heat and beat until shiny. Immediately add one egg at a time. Beat after each addition until smooth and shiny. Add vanilla and spread on top of strips. Bake 50-60 min. at 375. When cool, frost and sprinkle with sliced almonds.

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The Contest ~ Harvest 2024

On Thursday, February 27, 2025, at Maple Hills Country Club, Tripoli, the awards banquet was held for the 34th Annual Readlyn Savings Bank & American Savings Bank Bremer County Master Corn & Soybean Growers' Yield Contest: a.k.a. "The Contest." Years ago, there were several such county yield contests but today "The Contest" is the only one of its kind in Bremer County – and perhaps the entire state of Iowa.

Sponsored by Readlyn Savings Bank, The Contest is a friendly competition between area farmers. The Contest Banquet provides Bremer County area farmers with an evening of camaraderie and celebration of the previous year's harvest: Harvest 2024. The Banquet, held annually before spring, was graciously hosted by Maple Hills bar staff with Frederika Locker providing a superb prime rib buffet dinner and dessert.

Traditionally, to help kick things off, the first award of the night is always the Spirit of the Contest Award. This year was special since the award was renamed to the Albrecht/Tonne Spirit of the Contest Award, honoring longtime checkers Charlie and Wilda Albrecht. The Award annually honors the long-time, enthusiastic and good-natured participation of the Master Grower who exemplifies The Spirit of the Contest. This year the award went to S & M Farms, which includes Steve and Mitchell Boevers, the duo has been participating for many years. The Spirit Award recognizes S & M Farm's enthusiasm for The Contest as well as their passion for farming and commitment to one another through their Partnership.

Following dinner, the bank heard from agronomist Levi Bergmann with the Readlyn/Shell Rock COOP and Beth Albrecht and Torrey Martin from POET Bioprocessing. Bergmann provided an update on where the fertilizer market was at, while Albrecht and Martin provided a brief update on the local corn market.

To wrap up the evening, ag lenders; Dustin Gaede, and Cody Funk presented the Harvest 2024 awards. The Bank was also represented by Dani Sauerbrei, Mackenzie Joerger, Cassie Munson, Kim Alcantara, Ashley Christensen along with President

Doug Sheppard and CEO Andy Sexton.

Harvest 2024 consisted of a total of 20+ different farmers conducting 40 yield checks in the 4 Contest Divisions: 17-conventional corn, 4-no-till corn, 11-conventional beans and 8-no-till beans. The Contest's yield checkers, Doug Sheppard, Dustin Gaede, Andy Sexton and Cody Funk, certify each yield entry. They collect data on such variables as seed company brand and hybrid number, traits, dates of planting and harvesting, row spacing, population, as well as applications of fertilizers, herbicides, and fungicides. But ultimately, the determining factor to winning The Contest is bushels per acre.

Highlights from the results include David O'Brien winning top honors in Conventional Beans with a yield of 94.22 bushels per acre. This category also had 4 checks that were over the 90 mark this year as well! The Grand Champion in No-Till Beans was Jason Moellers with a yield of 79.56 bushels per acre. Meanwhile, history was made with corn yields breaking the mark of 300 bushels per acre again. In fact, 5 yield checks broke 300 bushels! (Please see below for Top 3 yields in each of the 4 divisions.) Grand Champion Conventional Corn was Jason Moellers with a massive record-breaking yield of 329.68 bushels per acre. Grand Champion No-Till Corn was Jeremy Ebaugh with another impressive yield of 299.38 bushels per acre.

In closing remarks, the Bank's representatives congratulated the winners, thanked all the farmers who entered The Contest, and thanked everyone who helped make the evening possible.

Readlyn Savings Bank (including American Savings Bank in Tripoli, a branch of Readlyn Savings Bank) specializes in agricultural lending, as well as commercial, consumer, and real estate loans. The local, independent Bank is dedicated to the communities they serve and is proud to keep the tradition of the Contest going. Anyone interested in more information about The Contest may contact Doug Sheppard or Dustin Gaede at Readlyn Savings Bank at 319-279-3321 or Andy Sexton or Cody Funk at American Savings Bank at 319-882-4279.

The Top-3 yields and average yield in each Division of The Contest for Harvest 2024:

Conventional Beans				No Till Bean			
Contestant	Town	Yield	Variety	Contestant	Town	Yield	Variety
David O'Brien	Sumner	94.22	Pioneer 26A20 - Non GMO	Jason Moellers	West Union	79.56	Stine 23EH92
Klinger Cattle	Readlyn	93.87	Asgro-AG23XF3	Wapsie Farms	Readlyn	78.51	Asgrow AG25XF5
David O'Brien	Sumner	92.26	Pioneer 26A20 - Non GMO	Jeremy Ebaugh	Waverly	75.92	Channel 2312
Contest Average 11 Farmers		84.64		Contest Average 8 Farmers		71.91	
Conventional Corn				No Till Corn			
Contestant	Town	Yield	Variety	Contestant	Town	Yield	Variety
Jason Moellers	West Union	329.68	NuTech-68C1V	Jason Moellers	West Union	283.03	Stine
Jamison Steege	Fredericksburg	309.39	Wytells 7876	Spring Center Farm-			
John Moellers	West Union	307.34	NuTech-63A7V	Dean Buhr	Sumner	266.52	Pioneer P0859AM
Contest Average 17 Farmers		275.81		Contest Average 4 Farmers		267.54	



Conventional Beans - Left to right, Doug Sheppard, Klinger Cattle (John Schutte) 93.87 bu./ac., 2nd place, and Andy Sexton. Not pictured: David O'Brien, 1st and 3rd place.



No-Till Corn - Left to right, Andy Sexton, Jason Moellers, 2nd place, 283.03 bu./ac., Dean Buhr-Spring Center Farms, 3rd place, 366.52 bu./ac., Jeremy Ebaugh, 1st place, 299.38 bu./ac. and Doug Sheppard.



Conventional Corn - Left to right, Doug Sheppard, Jason Moellers, 1st place, 329.68 bu./ac., Jamison Steege, 2nd place, 309.39 bu./ac., Beth Moellers accepting for 3rd place (John Moellers) 308.34 bu./ac. and Andy Sexton.



No-Till Beans - Left to right, Doug Sheppard, Jason Moellers, 1st place, 79.6 bu./ac., Jeremy Ebaugh, 3rd, 75.92 bu./ac., Wapsie Farms Partnership, 2nd, 78.51 bu./ac., and Andy Sexton.



Spirit of the Contest - Steve and Mitchell Boevers, Albrecht/Tonne Spirit of the Contest award winners are shown with RSB representatives Andy Sexton and Doug Sheppard, at left, and Dustin Gaede and Cody Funk, at right.



Albrecht/Tonne Spirit of the Contest Award Winners - S&M Farms (Steve and Mitchell Boevers) pictured for Any Sexton, RSB CEO, Charlie and Wilda Albrecht, and Doug Sheppard, RSB President.



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RCC is seeking a theme for the June 13-15 Grump Days celebration

RCC Meeting

3-4-2025, 6:00 p.m., library

Present: Louie and Ron Hartman, Tiffany Matthias, Bonnie Wittenburg, John Galyean, Kira Stover, Marge Quigley, and Pat Wehr

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Louie.

Secretary's report was emailed to members Sunday, March 2, 2025. Moved by Tiffany and seconded by John to accept the minutes; passed unanimously.

Treasurer's report was presented. Moved by Kira and seconded by Tiffany to approve the report; passed unanimously.

Old Business:

- Cans are slowing down, but we are still in good shape.
- o We'll mark bags so that the redeemer knows which ones are ours.
- o Louie is sending in the fireworks contract for Grump Days.
- Membership renewal
- o We folded the letters during the meeting, so they are ready to go.
- o Louie will mail them tomorrow.
- o They can be dropped off at the bank, library, or given to a Board member.

Grump Days June 13-15, 2025

- We need a theme for this year; Tiffany will post it on Facebook
- o Happy Kids = Happy Readlyn
- o Good vibes in 2025
- o People can add ideas.
- Grumpy's is on board for this year's event, but needs to add it to his calendar.
- Lynn has been sending vendor \$.
- Flying Gorilla will be playing 7:00-10:00 p.m. when the fireworks start.
- Adult whack-a-mole; Louie will try to enlist help.
- Kira Stover - Kids in the Park 11:30

a.m.-2:30 p.m.

o Kira is communicating with H&H Rides regarding inflatables; supervision is a separate fee @ \$35 per hour per operator. She is waiting to hear from the second inflatable company. Second try; still waiting.

o Kira will try JD Party Rentals, too.

o Bonnie and Marge will check with relatives regarding animals for a petting zoo.

o Pinko – will ask Jaci Hogan.

o Will check with Celebration about ring toss and spinning wheel

o Bottle flip, Connect Four, and carnival signs are in the shed.

o Cake walk

o Wristbands \$10.

• Ron will contact a donor about water.

• Ron arranged the planks from Sumner Building Center.

• Triathlon – Friday night

o Jeremiah from Grumpy's thought it sounded good.

o Louie is looking for a member to help.

• Miss Readlyn

o Jim is unable to do the luncheon.

o Secretary Linda was contacted to obtain a list of possible candidates.

o Ms. Willey will provide FFA escorts.

• Schafskopf – Scott Matthias accepted being in charge.

• Pepper Tournament: Judy Henn and Shirley Kuker will once again run it.

• Pedal Pull – Ms. Willey has a conflict but will enlist parents to oversee the event.

Bonnie moved and Marge seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Passed unanimously.

Next meeting is April 8, 2025, at 6 p.m., at the library.

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Wehr, secretary

Obituary

Donald Wayne Richmann

Donald Wayne Richmann, 91, of Waverly, Iowa, passed away peacefully on Friday night, March 7, 2025 at the Waverly Health Center.



Don was born on September 2, 1933, in Klinger (Bremer County), Iowa, the son of Otto and Martha (Hesse) Richmann. He attended Immanuel Lutheran Grade School in Klinger and then Readlyn High School, graduating in 1952. In 1951, Don met the love of his life, Joan "Jo" Elaine Goodspeed, on a blind date. The couple were married on January 24, 1954. For many years, Don was in the automotive field prior to joining the maintenance department at Wartburg College.

Don was an avid NASCAR fan and attended many races in several states over the years. The final race he attended was at the Iowa Speedway in Newton just last summer. He also enjoyed riding his John Deere lawn tractor mowing his property, vintage cars, word puzzles, jigsaw puzzles, black licorice

and chocolate chip cookies. Don was a giving person; his final gift was through the Iowa Donor Network. He also had a sense of humor that will be missed by all who knew him.

Don is survived by his wife of over 71 years, Jo; four children, Gregory (Becky Street) Richmann of Shoreview, Minnesota, Lynn (Russell) Lahr of Waverly, Iowa, Laurie (Terry) Edison of Council Bluffs, Iowa, and Scott (Bobbie Jo) Richmann of Urbandale, Iowa; 13 grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, Melvin and Eldon "Joe," two sisters, Dorothy Shaner and Gertrude Dettmering; three brothers-in-law, Donald Dettmering, Lowell Shaner and Paul Leggee; and two sisters-in-law, LaValle and Mildred Richmann.

Memorial services will be at 11:00 a.m. on March 25, 2025, at Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly with Pastor Vicki Reece presiding. Visitation will be one hour prior to the 12:00 p.m. service at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Don's family and online condolences may be left at www.kaisercorson.com. Kaiser-Corson Funeral Home in Waverly is assisting Don's family, 319-352-1187.

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News from **Community Lutheran School**

Our National Lutheran Schools Week highlights!

Our daily themes helped us to:

1. focus on God's Word helps us to avoid worldly distractions,
2. maintain Jesus as the focal point of our lives,
3. reflect on Christ's suffering and sacrifice for our salvation,
4. celebrate the joy and hope we have in Jesus Christ, and
5. encourage perseverance in the Christian faith.

National Lutheran Schools Week provides more than 1,800 pre-schools, elementary schools and high schools with the public opportunity to proclaim and celebrate God's work among us in schools of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod.

We thank God for the opportunity to provide excellent academic preparation for the children we serve. We are most grateful for the opportunity to share Jesus' amazing love with children and their families.

National Lutheran Schools Week gives us an opportunity to proclaim these great blessings within the communities we serve.

Our schools are amazing incubators for faithful witness of God's love for us through Christ by teachers and students alike.

What a blessing it is to learn and grow with Christ as the foundation of all that we do at Community Lutheran School! Thanks to everyone who supports our students, families, teachers, and community!



NEWS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost finished. Time flies and this year has been no exception. Spring activities are getting started and I can't wait to see our students out competing once again.

April is the month when the school district finalizes its budget for the next school year. This month I wanted to provide some general information on taxes and tax rates. Thank you for your support and Go Warriors!

Budgeting: Each year, the district creates a budget that includes costs for staff, facilities, transportation, curriculum, extracurricular activities, and other operational expenses. The budget is submitted to the state for approval.

Funding Source: Iowa schools are primarily funded through local property taxes, state aid, and federal funding. The amount of funding the school district needs to operate and provide services determines the tax rate.

Levy: Once the budget is set, the school district determines the amount of money it needs to raise through local property taxes. This amount is known as the "levy." The levy is divided into different categories for specific funding purposes, such as General fund, Physical Plant & Equipment, Management fund, and Debt service.

Taxable Value of Property: The amount of property taxes you pay is based on the taxable value of your property. The county assessor determines the value of all properties within the school district. Some properties may have exemptions, such as for certain types of agricultural land or for homesteads.

State Support: In addition to local property taxes, Iowa provides state funding to ensure a more equitable distribution of resources among school districts, particularly to help lower-wealth dis-

tricts.

Changes to the Tax Rate: The school tax rate can vary from year-to-year based on changes in the district's budget, property values, and state funding. If the district needs more money for a specific purpose, such as new construction or increased operational costs, the levy could increase, which could result in a higher tax rate.

We strive to keep taxes as low as possible while ensuring that our schools have the necessary resources to provide quality education to all students. As always, if you have any questions please reach out. Happy spring!

Chris Hoover
Wapsie Valley Superintendent

CITY CLERK POSITION

THE CITY OF READLYN is accepting applications for the position of City Clerk. This position reports to the Mayor and City Council. The applicant must be self-motivated and able to work independently. Responsible for all financial activities of the City, including but not limited to: accounts payable, accounts receivable, utility billing, all financial reports, governmental accounting, state and federal reports, council meeting agendas and minutes, resolutions, ordinances, budget preparation, human resources and general office management. Must be able to work well with the public. Computer skills are necessary. Preference will be given to applicants with current IMFOA certification or to those with strong accounting and budgeting skills and/or previous municipal experience. Must possess and maintain a valid Iowa driver's license. Must also be able to obtain municipal clerk's certification and notary public within two years, along with the continuing education necessary for this position. Salary dependent on qualifications. Resumes may be dropped off at City Hall or mailed to the City of Readlyn, PO Box 70, Readlyn, IA 50668. Call 319-269-6753 for additional information. **The deadline for submitting applications is April 15, 2025.**

The City of Readlyn is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

COMING SOON!

THANK YOU READLYN COMMUNITY CLUB FOR COORDINATING THIS WONDERFUL EVENT!

READLYN'S EASTER EGG HUNT

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AGES:
0-3
4-5
6-7
8-9

In case of inclement weather, back up location will be at the Fire Station.

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“Financial Fitness”

WITH ASHLEA (KLEITSCH) JONES

The other side of the table...

What do clients want to know when they think about hiring an advisor?

To some, returns are the biggest priority.

Some will prioritize an easy-to-use software interface.

Some want to preserve capital.

Some want to know you'll include their children in legacy planning.

To some, their trust / relationship with their advisor is more important than anything else.

No one size fits all and no two clients are the same.

On my side of the table, getting to know a new client is my biggest priority. Sometimes, prospects come in with folders and boxes of statements... they want to get right to business and have expectations laid out (sometimes literally) on the table during meeting #1.

Others come in with no agenda at all. They would rather just listen to us present before “showing their hand”. They do not want to open up until they have a level of confidence in us. Are we knowledgeable? Are we trustworthy? Are we fiduciaries?

Either of these “first dates” works well for us. We call them “Discovery Meetings” because we’re both trying to get a feel for expectations and long-term fit. It does us no good to force a relationship or a pace that doesn’t work for either party. For us, it is completely normal to have 2, 3, 4 or even more meetings to keep getting to know each other and decide whether or not to enter a professional relationship. No matter how smart, competent, or capable an advisor is, if you feel excommunicated or like your goals are on the backburner you deserve more.

Like any long-term relationship, it is better to take your time, be transparent, ask good questions (Google is your friend if you need a starter list!), and above all: TRUST YOUR GUT!!!



A few ideas to get you going:

1. On the day of the meeting, bring a pen and paper to take notes and keep your thoughts on track.
2. Allow plenty of time for elaboration and Q&A.
3. Don't be afraid to ask the advisor(s) to repeat or further explain anything that isn't clear.
4. It is 100% FAIR (and in your best interest) to ask how the advisor is being compensated.
5. Ask about the onboarding process while becoming a client.
6. Ask about what it looks like after you become a client.
 - a. i.e. Review cadence? Account viewability? Communication expectations? Etc.

It is OK to be disorganized. It is OK to be curious. It is OK if you don't have every statement or detail. It's even OK if we meet a few times and decide we're not the best fit for each other. It is OK!!

It is OUR JOB to make this easy on you and we LOVE to do it!

Ashlea (Kleitsch) Jones

Financial Advisor
Prime Capital Financial
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
pciacedarrapids.com
(319) 269-7143

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'Let's Talk Roses' on Monday, April 21

Bremer County Master Gardeners and Friends extends an invitation to the public to join them on Monday, April 21, 2025, 6:00 p.m. at the Bremer County Extension Office, 720 7th Ave. SW, Tripoli. "Let's Talk Roses" will be presented by Master Gardener Pauline Bravener.

Included will be "How to Care and Prune" demonstrations. All are welcome to stay and join in the 7:00 p.m. April meeting. Bring a friend!

Find and join us on Facebook at "Master Gardeners and Friends."

To learn more about the Bremer County Master Gardener Program, contact Ron Lenth, Director at ISU, rlenth@iastate.edu or 319-882-4275.

Mackenzie Snyder commits to Women's Soccer at Hawkeye

READLYN – Mackenzie Snyder will be committing to Hawkeye C.C. to further continue her athletic and academic careers.

Snyder is a seasoned veteran on the pitch, having played the sport since 2nd grade. She's an all-around asset on the pitch, but her main position is midfield.

Snyder plans to study liberal arts and biology here at Hawkeye. Snyder has attended Wapsie Valley High School for academics but has competed for the Denver High School soccer team.

"I am excited to continue my academic and soccer career at Hawkeye Community College," says Snyder. "I've been competing since second grade with a 2nd-team All-Conference. Thank you to my family and to everyone who's supported me."

NEI3A offering Healthy Steps for Older Adults in Waverly

(Waverly, Iowa) – Each year, millions of people over age 65 fall. In fact, 1 out of 4 people over 65 fall each year. These falls can make it hard for an older individual to get around, do everyday activities, or live independently. Northeast Iowa Area Agency on Aging (NEI3A) is hosting Healthy Steps for Older Adults (HSOA) classes in Waverly. HSOA is an evidence-based fall risk screening and education class for adults aged 50 and over focusing on fall prevention, covering topics such as proper footwear, safety at home, good nutrition for bone health, and the importance of exercise. Participants will also learn at-home exercises to improve strength and balance.

By participating in the Healthy Steps for Older Adults program, you can equip yourself with the knowledge and skills to lead a full and active life, free from the fear of falling. The class is scheduled for Thursday, April 24, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Waverly Public Library, 1500 W. Bremer Avenue in Waverly, IA 50677.

Lunch will be provided, and each participant will receive a comprehensive program handbook filled with valuable information. The classes are available with a suggested voluntary contribution of \$25. Scholarships are available for those who request financial assistance. To secure your spot, please contact Missy Anders at 319-874-6893 or email manders@nei3a.org.

Page 4 of the Readlyn Chronicle from 1936

Pages from the 1936 Readlyn Chronicle, entitled the "Campaign Issue," were found in the time capsule at the Bremer County Courthouse recently.

The front page was in the Dec. 25 issue, page 2 was in the Jan. 29 issue and page 3 was in the Feb. 26 issue of the Chronicle. Page 4 is shown below.

The Chronicle will continue to publish more pages in upcoming months.

VOL. III NO. 30 READLYN, IOWA, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29 1936 \$1.00 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE

Kept all Presidents. During his four years as chief executive of Kansas, Governor Alf Landon, held every campaign promise he made, and made good on every plank in the party's state platform.

Collier Exports Down. Exports of American cotton the first three years of the New Deal decreased 25 per cent.

Landon "In," Polls Show; Has 301 Electoral Votes
CHICAGO.—A consensus of all Presidential polls being conducted in the United States now shows that Gov. Alf M. Landon has 301 votes in the electoral college. It was announced at Republican National committee headquarters here, only 284 are necessary to election.

Should Gov. Landon carry all the states which the Literary Digest poll shows him leading, he would have 370 electoral votes. The Digest poll on Oct. 27 gave Landon 2,504,036 votes and President Roosevelt 735,092.

Indications are that President Roosevelt will poll fewer votes in November than he did in 1932 in every state, the committee said.

Vote for
 H. C. FRESE
Republican Candidate for
Bremer County Auditor

Courteous Competent Economic Impartial.

Political Advertisement

VOTE FOR
C.
COLFAX SMITH
Republican Candidate for
STATE SENATOR
Bremer and Butler Counties.

A man of understanding in public affairs--Expert in law. Served two years as Butler County's Representative. Qualified for the position he seeks. Worthy of the Support of All Voters.

Political Advertisement

WPA Runs School for Radicalism in Pittsburgh
PITTSBURGH, PA.—The Roosevelt administration is training the country's bright youth in the fine art of radical propaganda which says that religion "is a tool of the capitalist system which has run its course and is no longer of importance to the worker," the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette charged.

The "educational" center for this new culture is in "institutions" conducted by the Works Progress administration, says the paper. It adds that the students as well as their instructors are paid \$25.00 a week while they learn how to spread the doctrine of Socialism through the nation.

Faculty members of the school, which was conducted in the East Liberty Y. M. C. A., instruct the youths to write for "helpful" literature to the Soviet embassy at Washington and to the Socialist party. The Post-Gazette claims to have affidavits that the institute teach that the Constitution must not be amended, but completely abolished, and that the justices of the Supreme Court are habitually referred to as "wise headed gentlemen."

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JOE SNELLING
QUALIFIED HONEST EFFICIENT COURTEOUS CAPABLE
Republican Candidate for
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
of Bremer County

Mr. Snelling is well qualified for the office he seeks. 25 years a farmer in Fremont Township, Fremont Township Clerk for eight years, Secretary of Fremont Creamery Company for 16 years, Secretary of Fremont Township School District for eight years.

Has a high school and business college education. To Assure Bremer County of Good Representation in The Legislature--VOTE FOR SNELLING

This advertisement sponsored by friends of Mr. Snelling.

Political Advertisement.

Bumper Argentine Corn
Crop Hits U. S. Market
BUFFALO, N. Y. — Grain and elevator interests estimate that from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 bushels of Argentine corn will come through this port from Montreal elevators before the navigation season closes.

Argentine, with its third largest corn crop on record, 382,000,000 bushels, is in excellent position to take advantage of the Roosevelt administration's policy of scarcity, to the sacrifice of the American farmer's profit.

Despite the fact that there is a 25-cent-a-bushel tariff, the corn easily jumps the barrier. It can be bought for 35 cents in Buenos Aires for about 35 cents a bushel. It costs 12 to 14 cents to get it to Montreal, and about 2 and one-half cents from there to Buffalo. It is offered in Buffalo at from \$1.00 to \$1.15 a bushel, or from 1 and one-half to 3 cents less than the comparable American grade.

Colder Weather is Here

And it is time to get your car ready for winter driving. Come in and let us fix it up for you.



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READLYN IOWA
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RE-ELECT
J. F. TRELOAR
Republican Candidate
for
SUPERVISOR
Of The Third District
Your vote and Influence Appreciated

Political Advertisement.

Henry Ford Endorses
Landon for Presidency
DETROIT, MICH.—Henry Ford, vigorously endorsing Gov. Alf M. Landon for election, said that when he visited the Republican candidate in Topeka recently, he gained three distinct impressions.

"First, he is exceptionally well informed and has had experience along many lines; second, he is able to speak his mind in the frankest possible way; he is open and honest in his opinions; third, he knows where he stands because he has thought things through." Mr. Ford said. "He sits out of a dinner bucket for years and he still thinks along with the men who carry dinner buckets."

FOR SALE

Small stock of General Merchandise, located in good little Iowa town of about 100 people. Good place for a hustler. For location of owner call at this office.

218 acre farm, good buildings, good soil, land lays very good, just the right distance from town at \$15,000.00 Good terms on this farm. See us for name of owner.

The Readlyn Chronicle

VOTE FOR
SCHOOOF
CLERK OF COURT
BREMER COUNTY



Farmers Notice!

The Adams Rendering Works
Under New Management
CHARLES GRAY, Manager

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We pay all Phone charges.

All calls will receive prompt and courteous service.

TELEPHONES
Adams Rendering Works, Readlyn No. 91
Adams Rendering Works, Fairbank No. 706
Adams Rendering Works, Dunkerton No. 2020

Deadline for the April 30 Readlyn Chronicle is Thurs., April 17 at 5 PM - Send news to ReadlynChronicle@gmail.com



State AAU Wrestling was held March 1 and 2 at the Wells Fargo Arena in Des Moines. Competing from Wapsie Valley were, left to right: Jackson Brunscheon of Readlyn, son of Keith & Tanya Brunscheon; Evan Kleitsch of Readlyn, son of John & Spencer Kleitsch; Jace Klendworth of Fairbank, son of Mac & Rachael Klendworth; Ray Murphy of Fairbank, son of TJ & Beth Murphy, and Calvin Jones of Fairbank, son of Cody & Ashlea Jones. Evan Kleitsch took first place for his second year of back-to-back wins. The rest of the boys each had at least one win but did not place. Photo submitted by Ashlea Jones



Royalty - Left to right are Ella Schares, Addison Buseman, and Ashlyn Strottmann.

Wapsie Valley School Board - Feb. 17, 2025

Wapsie Valley CSD
Public Hearing, & Regular Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2025

Pledge of Allegiance

1. President Wolfe called the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 School Calendar to order at 6:30 PM. Roll call-Aiello, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Motion carried 3-0

A. Directors: Aiello, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Auel & Kaufman (excused)

B. Secretary Arndt & Principals Forsyth, Murphy, & Myers. Supt. Hoover (excused)

C. Vaughn Gross, Robotics student team, Heather Robinson, Readlyn Lighthouse student team & John Kleitsch.

2. No public comment on the 2025-2026 School Calendar

3. Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to close the Public Hearing and adjourn at 6:33 PM Roll call-Aiello, Sauerbrei, & Wolfe. Motion carried 3-0

1. President Wolfe called the Regular Meeting of the Board to order at 6:33 PM.

2. No changes to the agenda

3. Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 3-0

4. Spotlight on Education: Readlyn student Lighthouse team presented the process of WIG Math & Reading goal setting sessions. The students joined the team to achieve goals, have a say in decisions, help other students, & keep everyone involved. The Robotics team presented two robots that were built and their capabilities.

5. Public comment: Vaughn Gross-discussed grant applications for supplemental supplies for science curriculum, Robotics being in legislation to become a part of CTSO, FCS microwaves and ventilation.

6. Consent Items: Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the consent items including the bills that were reviewed by Steve Aiello and Open enrollments-Micayla & Josh Farley request to open enroll their 9th-grade daughter to WV from Independence and Morgan Reinking request to open enroll her son to WV the 25-26 school year from WC as presented. Motion carried 3-0

7. Superintendent: Report includes HVAC project, & board meeting date changes.

District-PK-12 Principals: Report included professional development updates, & virtual snow days, WE time intervention, Anxious Generation, & activity updates.

8. Personnel-Resignation: Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to approve the resignations of Brianna Decker-Paraprofessional-effective 2-19-25, & Beth Fagerlind-Custodian-effective 5-31-25 and thank them for their service to the students and staff of WV as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Contracts: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve contracts for Davie, Justin-\$3,588.00-Head Boys Track-Base 5/Year 21, Kleitsch, Ethan-\$2,190.00-Asst Boys Track-Base 2/Year 7, Bergman, Brett-\$2,335.00-Asst High School Track-Base 3/Year 10, Foster, Duane-\$3,298.00-Head Girls Track-Base 3/Year 12, Zane Stittig-\$2,045.00-Asst Girls Track-Base 1/Year 0, Cushion, Cain-\$2,095.00-JH Boys Track-Base 3/Year 11, Roberts, Brenda-\$3,588.00-Co-Girls Head Golf-Base 5/ Year 24, Blayde Bellis-\$3,008.00-Varsity Baseball-Base 1/Year 0, Collin Bergmann-\$2,190.00-Assistant Baseball-Base 2/Year 6, Beesecker, Kaci-\$2,045.00-Asst Softball-Base 1/Year 3 Logan Flack-\$1,805.00-JH Baseball-Base 1/Year 1, Tiffany Beyer-\$1,805.00-JH Softball-Base 1/Year 2, Jeanes, Austin-\$1,950.00-JH Girls Track-Base 2/ Year 6, & \$3,008.00-Varsity Softball-Base 1/Year 3 as presented. Motion carried 3-0

9. New Business: Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to increase the Preschool Tuition from \$375 to \$400 per month effective the 25-26 school year as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve publication of the property tax statement tax rate at a maximum rate of \$14.65 and setting the public hearing date for March 20, 2025 as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve Ella Morarend as a early 2026 graduate pending all requirements are met as presented. Motion carried 3-0

Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to table hiring Assistant Baseball Coach due to lack of current need as presented. Motion carried 3-0.

HVAC/Music office room project-died due to lack of motion.

Moved by Sauerbrei, Seconded by Aiello to approve the 28E Agreement with Jesup, CF, Hudson, & Sumner-Fred for the 25-26 year for CAPS Director (\$22,676.55) as presented. Motion carried 3-0

10. Board Talking Points-None

11. Moved by Aiello, Seconded by Sauerbrei to adjourn at 8:20 PM. Motion carried 3-0

AGVANTAGE FS 14513.04 AHLERS & COONEY, P.C. 27.50 ALLIANT ENERGY 382.55 Amazon 189.54 ARNOLD MOTOR 306.50 AUDIBLE 8.51 BEACHY, RACHEL 76.51 BLACK HILLS ENERGY 492.26 BUTLER COUNTY REC 942.58 BUZYNSKI, AMY 55.96 CAM CSD 4320.78 CASEY'S 174.00 CENTRAL IA DISTRIB 2724.00 CHEMSEARCH 221.65 CITY LAUNDRY 1405.01 CITY OF FAIRBANK 3894.96 CITY OF READLYN 4139.48 CLARKSVILLE CSD 340.00 COLUMN SOFTWARE 163.61 CONTINENTAL RESEARCH 113.36 DENVER CSD 37899.60 DON'S TRUCK 140.80 DUNKERTON CSD 37631.34 EAST-CENTRAL IA REC 449.23 EDGETON HARDWARE 206.00 Employee Benefit Systems 81183.59 FAREWAY 192.88 FERGUSON 306.97 Flinn Scientific 144.78 GREAT RIVER LRNG 70.00 Hawkeye Alarm & Signal 525.00 HERSHBERGER, MARY BETH 80.75 HILLYARD 3150.27 IA REGIONAL UTILITIES 361.11 ISFIS 300.00 JESUP CSD 78780.89 JOHNSTONE SUPPLY 764.20 Kluesner Construction 640.00 LARRY'S SRVC & REPAIR 271.93 LITTLE WAPSIE COMM 175.08 LOCKSPERTS 34.80 MARTIN BROS. 310.54 MEDICAL ENTERPRISES 41.00 Menards 318.89 MENZEL, EMMA 149.94 MODERN BUILDING 244.44 Northeast IACommunity College 278.69 OELWEIN CSD 42272.46 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE 161.00 PRIMARY SYSTEMS 1385.99 RABER, EDNA 42.50 RAISA A HALLELUJAH 1400.00 READLYN TELEPHONE 193.58 REYNOLDS, SYDNEY 2270.00 SCHOOL BUS SALES 212.30 SUMNER-FREDERICKSBURG CSD 129.31 TAYLOR PHYSICAL THERAPY 3199.38 TEAM LABORATORY 651.50 TIMBERLINE 441.80 U.S. POST OFFICE 15.95 UBIQUITI STORE 12.00 UNI 75.00 UNI 2933.00 VITALSOURCE 170.00 WEST CENTRAL CSD 8362.52 WILSON RESTAURANT 56.75 WITTENBURG TRUCKING 20.00 GENERAL TOTAL 343149.56 Employee Benefit Systems 5442.40 MANAGEMENT TOTAL 5442.40 BLUUM OF MINNESOTA 1803.61 MARTIN GARDNER 14888.27 SAV TOTAL 16691.88 ACCESS SYSTEMS 1663.30 Central Rivers AEA 2945.61 Hawkeye Alarm & Signal 405.00 ORAN MUTUAL TELEPHONE 100.00 SHAWVER WELL 20840.00 WILSON RESTAURANT 457.58 XELLO 2800.00 YOUNG PLUMBING & HEATING 12254.47 PPEL TOTAL 41465.96 Amazon 74.89 Walmart 65.82 WARRIOR CAFÉ TOTAL 140.71 DES MOINES PERFORMING ARTS 105.00 ECS PUBLISHING GROUP 12.95 WARTBURG COLLEGE 45.00 WEST MUSIC 1734.89 GALLUP TRUST TOTAL 1897.84 Ace Fundraising 520.00 Amazon 136.28 ANAMOSA CSD 120.00 COCA-COLA 433.77 BSN SPORTS 120.00 Byerly, Brianne 150.00 CAMP, BOB 140.00 CASEY'S 155.04 CR KENNEDY WRESTLING 350.00 CHAMPIONSHIP PRODUCTIONS 360.00 CONCORD THEATRICALS CORP 1740.94 DEUTMEYER, DEAN 95.00 EDDY, JACK 180.00 ELITE SPORTS 2328.00 FCCLA 14.00 FORMSITE.COM -74.15 FORTSYTH, BRADY 150.00 FRIESEMANN, COLLIN 140.00 GIPPER MEDIA 450.00 GLEN SNYDER 190.00 GRUETZMACHER, MICHAEL 300.00 HOLTHAUS, KELLY 150.00 HOME DEPOT 246.92 HUHOT 311.77 INVENTABLES 54.48 IA EVENTS CENTER 525.00 IA FCCLA 39.00 IA SPORTS SUPPLY 1271.75 JACOBSON, ANDY 140.00 JACOBSON, MIKE 290.00 JOHANSEN, LANE 290.00 JONES SCHOOL SUPPLY 69.70 Keleher, Jerry 140.00 KOBER, ROBERT 140.00 KOLDER, ROD 150.00 KUETHE, TIM 140.00 LEBER, BRANDON 150.00 Menards 393.41 MFL CSD 100.00 MILLER, JESSICA 93.75 MILLER, JOHN 140.00 MILLER, JOHN 95.00 NATIONAL FFA ORG 952.00 NIEHAUS, JEFF 140.00 Nuehring, Caleb 140.00 OAKES, CODY 140.00 OELWEIN CSD 875.00 PAYNE, DAYN 180.00 PROUTY, JIM 140.00 Ratchford, Rob 150.00 SAHR, NATHAN 150.00 SAM'S CLUB 139.20 SCHMIDT, MICHAEL 150.00 Schofield, Dan 140.00 SICKLES, DAN 140.00 SMITH, ROBERT 150.00 Teachers Pay Teachers 8.89 TRIPOLI COMM. SCHOOL 125.00 TURNER, CAM 150.00 VANARSDALE, STACEY 150.00 VARNER, RODNEY 140.00 Walmart 134.68 Waskow, Dave 380.00 WEST DELAWARE SCHOOLS 120.00 YESSAK, JORDAN 140.00 ACTIVITY TOTAL 17864.43 COCA-COLA 877.49 COFFIN, KAREN 24.50 EMS DETERGENT 200.70 KWIK TRIP 41.25 MARTIN BROS. 17646.63 PRAIRIE FARMS 3064.62 LUNCH TOTAL 21855.19

Bremer County Cattlemen's royalty announced at annual banquet

The Bremer County Cattlemen's Association held their annual banquet on Saturday, March 1 and the 2025 Beef Royalty were crowned.

Congratulations to Ella Schares on being crowned Queen, Addison Buseman on being crowned Princess, and Ashlyn

Strottmann on being crowned Junior Princess! The Cattlemen look forward to having these ladies represent the beef industry for Bremer County. The Cattlemen would also like to thank all the candidates and their families for supporting the Bremer County Cattlemen's Association.

Readlyn City Council - Feb. 10, 2025

The Readlyn City Council met in open session on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 6:45 PM for the Finance Committee to review bills and at 7:00 PM for the regular meeting. Meeting was called to order by Mayor Wedemeier. The following named council members were present: Rocco Imbrogno, Jason Franck, Joey Jones, Keith Brunscheon. Absent: Nicole Barnes. Others in attendance: Barney Wiersma, Steve Aiello.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Franck to approve minutes from the January 13 & 27, 2025 council meetings. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to approve bills for payment. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to approve clerk and treasurer's reports. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Jones to approve budget and library reports. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Franck to approve police report. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to approve agenda as printed. All said yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Franck to approve Class B Retail Alcohol License (LG) and Sunday Sales for Kwik Trip, dba Kwik Star #708. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to introduce Resolution No.2025-01 entitled "A RESOLUTION SETTING THE SALARIES FOR APPOINTED OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF READLYN FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024/2025 UPDATED". Roll call vote.

AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Whereupon the mayor declared Resolution No 2025-01 duly adopted.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to approve Bernard Wiersma attend the IAWWA meeting. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Jones and seconded by Brunscheon to approve city clerk to attend spring IMFOA conference. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones to introduce Ordinance No. 363 entitled "CHANGE ALLEY

TRAFFIC" for its second reading. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Franck. NAYS: None. Whereupon the Mayor declared the second reading of Ordinance No. 363 duly adopted.

Motion by Brunscheon and seconded by Franck to introduce Resolution No. 2025-02 entitled "RESOLUTION TO UPDATE ENERGY COST ADJUSTMENT". Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. "Whereupon the Mayor declared Resolution No. 2025-02 duly adopted.

Bids were opened for the sale of the 2006 Chevrolet Silverado K3500. Motion Jones and seconded by Imbrogno to approve high bid of \$6,505.00 from Mason Menuey. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Bids were opened for the sale of the 2010 Chevy Service truck. Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Franck to approve high bid of \$18,500.00 from Schuldt Repair LLC. Roll call vote. AYES: Franck, Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Council received an update on the recent Tripoli-Readlyn Sanitation board meeting. Council received an update on the recent EBRRA board meeting.

FY25/26 budget discussion. Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Brunscheon to approve changing the regular March council meeting to March 3, 2025 at 7:00PM. Roll call vote. AYES: Brunscheon, Jones, Imbrogno, Franck. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Imbrogno and seconded by Jones setting March 24, 2025 at 6:00P M as the date and time for the FY25/26 Proposed Tax Levy public hearing, special meeting. Second special meeting will follow at 6:30 PM on March 24, 2025. Roll call vote. AYES: Jones, Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to table item #13 on the agenda accepting the Readlyn Main Street Reconstruction Project to a future city council meeting. Roll call vote. AYES: Imbrogno, Franck, Brunscheon, Jones. NAYS: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Franck and seconded by Brunscheon to adjourn. All said yes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:55PM.

Dan Wedemeier, Mayor

ATTEST: Lois J Buhr, City Clerk

Wapsie Valley School Board - Feb. 21, 2025

Special Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2025

The February 21, 2025 special board meeting of the Wapsie Valley School board was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Board President Wolfe.

Those present were: Directors: Wolfe, Auel, Aiello, Sauerbrei, Kaufman, and Supt Hoover.

Absent: Secretary Arndt (excused)

Approval of the agenda: Motion by Sauerbrei and second by Kaufman to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval of bid letting and public hearing for the FCS, Art, Auditorium, and Music room/offices HVAC project. Public hearing to be held on Thursday, March 27, 2025: Motion by Aiello and second by Auel to approve bid letting and public hearing for the FCS, Art,

Auditorium, and Music room/offices. This project will not include FCS hoods. Motion carried 5-0.

Approval to amend the December 16, 2024 board minutes: Motion by Auel and second by Kaufman to amend the December 16, 2024 board minutes that approved the SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for At Risk /Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$114,832 for the 2024-25 school year. The minutes shall be amended to approve the SBRC Modified Supplemental Amount for At Risk/ Dropout Prevention in the amount of \$114,832 for the 2025-26 school year. Motion carried 5-0.

Adjourn: Motion by Sauerbrei and second by Kaufman to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0. Meeting was adjourned at 7:31 a.m.



“Farming For Wildlife”

By: Eric Johnston

Ejohnston@mossyoakprostaff.com

“You can’t buy happiness, but you can buy dirt.” – Luke Bryan

Farming For Wildlife.... Most all of us know farming for grain and farming for livestock, but in this month’s column I’m going to talk about my style of farming, “Farming For Wildlife.”

To start, let’s talk about what Farming for Wildlife actually means. To farm for wildlife is to practice projects on the land to improve wildlife habitat, food, and overall health in your farm. Farming For Wildlife has become my greatest passion as of late and, after 5 years of practicing this, I’m starting to see the fruits of all my labor. In this column, I’m going to take you through my five-year journey.

In early 2020, I was given access to start my plan among two farms adding up to approximately 100 acres or so of wildlife habitat and another 100 acres of crop fields. In 2020, we didn’t do much in the way of changing the landscape and didn’t add any food. I added cameras throughout the farms and bowhunted that fall, all the while taking notes and studying what needed to be changed with habitat, food, access, and overall wildlife populations. Throughout 2020, I quickly realized I had nearly a blank slate to start with. What I mean by that is wildlife populations were very low through years of heavy hunting pressure - the crop fields and one

food plot was their main food source, and the habitat overall was fairly open.

In 2021, with help of the two family farm landowners, I started to put together my plan. We added one small food plot in the center of the farm. While not a drastic change in the landscape, it made an immediate impact attracting more wildlife to the properties and made for more deer and turkey sightings throughout bow season and I managed to harvest a nice 9-point buck that season. The landowners decided to limit the hunting of the gun seasons in the farm that fall and the plans kicked in 100% going into 2022.

Over the winter of 2022, I added multiple wood duck nesting boxes throughout the farms and started to plan tree planting areas that needed help. In the spring of 2022, we planted our first 250 trees throughout both farms - mixes of oak, dogwood, chestnut, maple and screening and habitat trees like wild plum and chokecherry began getting planted in strategic areas of the farm for wildlife bedding and cover and forage from the oaks and chestnut. Each year now, since spring of 2022, we’ve added at minimum 300 trees each year.

As we rolled into 2023, we added two more food plots and started to add more variety to them. The first couple years we planted Mossy Oak BioLogic clover and chicory and that’s a great base crop to start with, and we’ve added crops of turnips, radishes, and sorghum in the following years. The sorghum, I’ve found, is a great carbohydrate source for the deer, but also amazing food for pheasants and turkeys. In 2023, we really noticed a boom in pheasant population thanks to the added food on the farm. Speaking of food, in winter of 2023, I started supplemental feeding the wildlife as well. I started very primitive with a sled full of corn I’d place in a few spots throughout the farms. As time progressed, I added three Moultrie feeders throughout the farms that I run from January 10 to April each year with a mix of 16% protein feed and corn. While it can get a bit expensive especially in sub-zero temps, it’s worth it in the long run to know the wildlife have plenty of food throughout their toughest time of year. I’ve evolved from manually dragging a sled around to purchasing a Polaris Ranger to haul the feed and the machine is an overall necessary tool for farming for wildlife. Also in the winter of 2023, I started focusing on the existing habitat in the farms and how I could change things for better habitat. I began opening some areas to get more sunlight to the ground and allowing new undergrowth to



Photo courtesy Charlie Albrecht

grow creating thick cover and new browse for deer. Eighty percent of a whitetail deer’s diet is browse throughout the habitat so with new browse your farm becomes more attractive. I also added some hinge cuts. A hinge cut is a cut in a tree just enough to get the tree to lean on its side, not killing the tree and, while on its side, it will grow vertical shoots off the main trunk creating great side cover. Among those hinge cuts I’ve seeded a mix of switchgrass, reed canary grass and Egyptian wheat to add dense cover with the hinge cuts creating fantastic bedding cover for the whitetails and an added bonus of hinge cuts is the new shoots create browse and, with the tree on its side, it opens sunlight to the soil and new growth bursts forth. During the fall of 2023, the transformation produced a very nice 10-point whitetail for me and my daughter’s first deer in

2022 and 2023.

Each year now, I add small projects to continue adding value to the farms for the wildlife and, in 2024, my daughter harvested her biggest buck ever. While this may sound like A LOT of work.... and I’ll be honest, it is, I absolutely love every minute of it, and working with the landowners and my daughter on these projects create smiles and great friendships and bonds that last. I find myself losing all track of time working in the land - it’s so much fun. I can’t thank the landowners enough for the opportunity to build this dream.

The transformation over five years has been nothing short of amazing from where we started in 2020 when I first walked the properties hardly finding a deer track. If you have the opportunity to work a piece of land for wildlife, I highly recommend Farming For Wildlife. You can see most of these projects on our YouTube Channel “The EDJ Whitetails” by searching our name at YouTube.

Until next month, GET OUTDOORS!!



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News from Wapsie Valley-Readlyn Elementary



February FF45 Assembly
(Friday Fun for 45 Minutes!)



6th grade students started their 10-week D.A.R.E. program with Officer Shores (photos above and at left).



TK and PK students celebrated the 100th day of school (photos below).



4th grade ELP students took a field trip to the Grout Museum, Planetarium, and Imaginarium.

Upcoming Events in April:

Sunday, April 6, Father-Daughter Dance. 4:00-6:00 p.m. Multiple Purpose Room at Wapsie Valley High School. Free-will donation. PK-6th grade students

April 7-22, Leader in Me-Edgewood Locker Fundraiser

Wednesday, April 30, Leader Night in the Valley, 4:30-6:00 p.m. Readlyn Elementary. Free-will donation meal



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