

NEWS RELEASE

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The Rembrandt Booster Newspaper - Read It Again

The first issue of *The Rembrandt Booster* was published in 1939, and the last issue of this weekly newspaper was published on August 13, 1964. You can now read the *Booster* issues that are known to exist, on the Sioux Rapids Public Library website (<http://siouxrapids.advantage-preservation.com>).

The Rembrandt Booster was founded by Bill and Opal Lyons when they moved to Rembrandt in 1939. Together, they published it by themselves for 25 years, setting all the type by hand. For many of those years, they lived above the newspaper office. When they retired in 1964, one subscriber said it was "like losing a friend who called regularly and brought the news of church, school, parties, deaths, and other news. It's been a tie that helped bind this community together. Bill and Opal Lyons have been in touch with the hearts of all these people for a quarter of a century." They retired to Linn Grove, where Opal was from.

Preserving these historic *Rembrandt Booster* newspapers and making them more available to the public has been a long-term effort by many in the Rembrandt community. Many original issues have been in the Rembrandt Library for more than 50 years.

Efforts to collect Rembrandt old and new "history" continue. Anyone having school and community items (pictures, newspaper articles, personal experiences, memorabilia) from before the town was incorporated (1901) through today is encouraged to contact the RHS website (rembrandt.school@aol.com) or the Rembrandt Librarian (joleenj@rembrandt.lib.ia.us) about sharing and preserving these pieces of history. Also, locating missing issues of *The Rembrandt Booster* would be a real treasure find.

Much more about Rembrandt's history can be found on www.rembrandtschool.com.