



## Monson is Girls State Governor

"Don't Dilly Dally - Vote for Ally!" was the rallying cry behind Allyson (Ally) Monson being elected the 69th South Dakota Girls State Governor.

Monson, the daughter of Jerry and Brenda Monson, Clark, took the oath of office Friday at the American Legion Auxiliary sponsored Girls State, in Vermillion.

A local homecoming celebration was held in Monson's honor Sunday at the Clark American Legion Hall.

Auxiliary president Peggy Brekke of American Legion Cagley-Smith Unit Number 60 opened the Clark festivities by expressing the community pride in Monson.

Brekke then introduced all of the 2015 Clark High School Girls and Boys Staters in attendance and brought them to the stage and asked them each to introduce themselves and give their impressions and thoughts of Girls State and Boys State. The 10 Girls and Boys Staters at the homecoming, excluding Monson, included: Lauren Fjelland, Jasmine Foster, Elyse Helkenn, who attended Journalism City, Emily Binger and Kathryn Paulson, Braxton Hartley, Hudson Steffen, Cooper Hartley, Rory Forest and Noah Huber.

All 'staters' had positive comments about their respective experiences last week, with the boys' giving special emphasis to the city from which they belonged and the girls gave special allegiance to the new Girls State Governor.

As Monson took the podium one could see she was as comfortable in front of a crowd as she is in a one-on-one conversation. Her speaking ability is a true gift, showing poise and presence beyond her 17 years. She used words like 'phenomenal', 'awesome' and 'amazing' in describing her successful run for the mythical governorship. Those words also could be used to describe her speaking ability.

"My mom asked me on the way down to Vermillion if I had any desire to run for governor and rather than answer, I turned the radio up," said Monson and she said that early on in the campaign her strategy was to take it 'piece by piece'. "I think my mom knew when I got out of the car that I was thinking about this political office," she said in an interview, prior to her speech.

Earlier in the Girls State week Monson had been elected the Mayor of Seattle, as well as a senator. "I gave up my senatorial position when I received the Federalist Party nod for governor.

"I think my strategy of "find your voice" and having a great personal connection with 'Don't Dilly Dally - Vote for Ally' along with 'this is not about me, it's about all of us' showed me what political aspirations and success is all about," said Monson, about her successful run to the governorship. Rebekah Tuchscherer of Milbank was Monson's running mate, as lieutenant governor. Monson, who was sponsored by the Clark American Legion Auxiliary, expressed special praise to her fellow Girls and Boys Staters from Clark High School. During her year as governor-elect, Monson will speak at the American Legion State Convention, ride in parades and meet with Gov. Dennis Daugaard. Also in the crowd was S. D. American Legion District 5 Auxiliary president Elvira Moen, of Watertown. "It is a pleasure to congratulate Ally and we are really happy to have a governor from District 5," she said. "It is an honor."

She returns next year to Girls State as acting governor and will be in charge of all the assemblies. Monson also has served as South Dakota FCCLA state officer and is running for national office this summer in Washington, D. C.

Monson represents the second individual from Clark to win a governor's position at Girls State. Tamara (Tammy Ulyot) Baker was the Girls State Governor in 1957, the same year Tom Brokaw was the Boys State Governor.



Allyson (Ally) Monson, the 69th Girls State Governor, spoke Sunday afternoon to those gathered at the Clark American Legion Hall. She expressed appreciation to the community, her family and Clark County fellow Girls and Boys Staters. Monson explained that it was a great opportunity to become involved in the political process.

Mara Larson was elected lieutenant governor of Girls State in 1978 and was also a Girls Nation representative. Chris Desnoyers was lieutenant governor in 1991. Desnoyers was also named outstanding citizen that year.

On the Boys State side, Clark has had three governors, Bob Brekke in 1942, Mike Neal in 1973 and Hugh Weber in 1995.

Ally's grandparents are Ronnie and Patti Lamb and LeRoy and Peggy Monson.

## Clark Area Relay for Life set for June 12

"Relay through the decades" is the theme of the 2015 Clark County Relay for Life. This 19th annual event will be held this Friday, June 12 beginning with the Opening Ceremony at 6:00 p.m.

The Relay for Life site will again be on Main (Commercial) Street in Clark and at the American Legion



building.

The luminaria "Remember" ceremony begins at 9:30 p.m. This ceremony is very symbolic of the hope for recovery by victims. Each luminaria is sponsored by a family member or loved one in the name of a cancer victim or survivor. The "Fight Back" ceremony begins at 10:30 p.m.

## Clark's blood drive is Tuesday, June 23

The summer blood drive in Clark, sponsored by the Clark Lions and Lionesses will be Tuesday, June 23, at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, from 2:15 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Joyce Helkenn is the coordinator of the drive, and one can make an appointment to donate blood by calling Joyce at 532-3808. Volunteer blood donors must be at least

16, weigh at least 110 pounds and in good health. Additional height/weight requirements apply to donors 22 and younger, and donors who are 16 must have signed permission from a parent or guardian.

"Every two to three seconds someone in this country is in need of a blood transfusion and Clark community blood donors will make a difference," said Helkenn.

## "If Quilts Could Talk" highlights Heritage Day

Heritage Day is this Sunday, June 14, at the Beauvais Heritage Museum Complex. Grounds and all buildings will be open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., with the opening ceremony slated for 1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Clark County Historical Society, Heritage Day annually kicks off the opening of the museum for the year. Society members are hoping for a good turnout with activities planned for a variety of interests.

"Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the opening ceremonies and the Flag Retirement presentation under the big tent," remarked Historical Society president Greg Furness. This year's theme is "Signature Quilts". Furness stated that the Historical



Ruby and Louise

Society has several of these signature quilts that have been donated

Heritage Day (continued on page 3)

## May was wet, June could be "a mixed bag"

Moisture during the month of May rapidly transitioned the state out of drought conditions.

"Preliminary data indicate that at least eight climate stations reported their wettest May on record, with more reports yet to come in," said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist.

The north central and southwest regions were among the wettest areas of the state. The north central region weather stations recorded their second wettest May since 1895 with a regional average of 6.22 inches; the other wettest was recorded in 1906 when the region-wide average was 6.73 inches.

Records were also set at individual weather stations; Moberg recorded not only its wettest May, but

May 2015 is documented in the record books as the wettest month in the location's recorded history with 9.32 inches of precipitation. This exceeds the previous record of 8.85 inches in June 1915.

Edwards added that the southwest region of the state had many climate stations that measured two to three times their average May precipitation. "As a region, the southwest also had its second wettest May on record, with an average of 7.29 inches," Edwards said. She said the wettest May for this region occurred in 1982, with a region-wide average of 7.34 inches.

Transition out of drought Following the driest January through April period on record for

South Dakota, the May 5, 2015 U.S. Drought Monitor had 78 percent of the state in moderate to severe drought (in D1 and D2 designations.) By May 26, 2015 only 9 percent of the state was in drought, focused on the southeastern region.

The May statewide average precipitation was 5.88 inches, according to preliminary data. Monthly precipitation ranged from less than three inches to over 10 inches.

Snow was a contributor to May's moisture levels, with many western South Dakota areas, including Bison, Martin and Interior, which reported more than 10 inches of snowfall on May 10 and 11, setting several new snowfall records for the month of May.

### Climate outlook

National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) released the June 2015 Climate Outlook which Edwards calls "a mixed bag." "The month appears to start off warmer than average, but temperatures could turn towards average or below average by the end of the month," she said. "Overall, NOAA's Climate Prediction Center has indicated equal chances of below, above

### May was wet (continued on page 3)

Clark County Rainfall 6/2 - 6/8	
*Bradley .70"	
*Crocker .61"	
*Raymond .48"	Garden City .10"
*Clark .60"	Henry .12"
	Vienna .35"
*Carpenter .90"	Willow Lake 1.20"

## Fireworks can now be sold in Clark city limits

A special Clark city council meeting was held Monday, at 12:30 p.m. The reason for the meeting was threefold: 1) approve claims; 2) approve ordinance #530 and 3) hire a golf clubhouse manager.

The claims were numerous as the June regular meeting was held on the first day of the month and many

claims had yet to be received. Ordinance #530 deals with the shooting and purchase of fireworks. (See the ordinance in this week's edition.)

Kim Winter is the new Clark Municipal Golf Clubhouse manager, at a salary of \$26,000/year.

WEATHER				
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
June 2	80	58	tr	
June 3	71	53	.10	
June 4	69	54	.05	
June 5	73	57	0	
June 6	79	57	.30	
June 7	75	55	.15	
June 8	81	55	0	
2015 precipitation to date	7.25"			
2014 precipitation to date	7.15"			

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