

September looks to be average, temperature-wise

El Nino will continue to play a significant role in North America's climate for the next several months, according to the latest temperature and precipitation outlooks, released by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on August 20.

"The current El Nino is forecast to increase in intensity through the winter season," said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist.

"As a result, this fall we will continue to see the impacts of the warm tropical Pacific Ocean on our climate in the U.S.," she said.

"NOAA's Climate Prediction Center's outlook for September and the season ahead indicate a typical El Nino pattern, with warmer than average conditions expected in the west and southeast," explained Edwards.

For South Dakota, Edwards said that this should mean near average temperatures throughout the month of September. "An area south of South Dakota - expanding

from the Four Corners to the Great Lakes - is forecast to be cooler than average in September. This region just touches southern South Dakota in the updated maps."

Due to the projected El Nino, Dennis Today, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist, said a large area of the Nation is leaning towards wetter than average conditions in September, with the highest like-

September
(continued on page 2)

WEATHER				
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
Aug. 18.....	55	48	2.65	
Aug. 19.....	66	49	0	
Aug. 20.....	73	51	0	
Aug. 21.....	77	58	0	
Aug. 22.....	74	49	tr	
Aug. 23.....	64	46	0	
Aug. 24.....	66	44	0	
2015 precipitation to date	18.25"			
2014 precipitation to date	13.89"			

New signs are going up on Clark County, city and township roads

This fall one will see many new signs in Clark County. These new signs were mandated by the federal government and the new signage is federally funded through a grant.

Clark County highway superintendent Ryan Eggleston explained that a decade ago, the federal government told South Dakota counties, cities and townships, that their signs were not up to (national) code.

The federal government was willing to upgrade signage, paying for new reflective signs, with break-away posts, for all counties, cities and townships and a sign-up took place.

"We were the fourteenth county in the state of South Dakota to sign up and it was deemed that 2015 would be our year," said Eggleston.

Four counties are done each year and if there are 66 counties in the state, Clark County must have been one of the first to sign up.

The engineer who had the honors of driving each road in the county, must have taken a while, as Clark County is 42 miles long, 24 miles wide, with 27 townships. Only two townships didn't sign up for this

project (of free signage).

The engineering design took two years, as all federal guidelines had to be followed. The entire signage project sits in Eggleston's office, on the second floor of the Clark County Courthouse. Eggleston and highway deputy administrative assistant Alissa Reidburn remind all township officials that they can pick up their signing specs and maps at the highway superintendent's office.

Hamm Contracting of Ironton, Minn. is putting up the 8,000 sign posts in Clark County. The 10-man crew started the last week in July and looks to be done sometime around the middle of October.

The total grant of this county-wide project is \$1.47 million. It will take approximately 7,000 man hours to do this sign project. Eggleston anticipated that work will start in the city of Clark in the next few weeks.

"All these new signs, seeing more signs than there were, will be overwhelming at first," said Eggleston. The respective state highways have had reflective signs and break-away

A dozen new faces greet students at Clark School



Desiree Glanzer



Ryan Larsen



Kay Whalen



Betsy Kolden



Nancy Bell



Cindy Maffei



Brenda Yost



Nancy Steffen



Donald Epps



Dan Whalen



Laura McNally



Coral Berg

With the last week of August comes the start of another school year and second year Clark School superintendent Luanne Warren summed it up nicely, commenting,

"Cooler nights...cars around the school houses...football practices... these are just a few of the signals that the school year has started. I'm excited to welcome students,

parents and patrons of the Clark School District to the 2015-2016 school year. Our new and returning staff members have been busy preparing for the upcoming school year

by working with and updating new and previous curriculum that will impact student learning to a greater

Clark School
(continued on page 3)

"It was an amazing trip," says ShyAnn Springer of her 4-H exchange venture to Japan

ShyAnn Springer recently discovered that the best way to learn a foreign language is to go to the country that speaks it.

Through South Dakota's 4-H International Exchange program, Springer experienced four weeks in Tokyo with the Makoto and Sakae Watanabe family from July 8 to August 6, 2015.

To her knowledge, she is the first 4-H student from Clark County to experience the international exchange program. She is a member of the Clever Clovers 4-H club, in her 10th year as a 4-H member.

The daughter of Roger and Lorie Springer and an upcoming senior at Clark High School, ShyAnn is contemplating learning the Japanese and Korean language to possibly become an English teacher in those countries that speak these respective languages.

"This trip was my deciding factor," said Springer of her wanting to become an English major. "I'd never been on an airplane before and didn't know if I was cut out for this stuff. We took five different flights to get to Tokyo, Japan. I wasn't sure of what to expect in Tokyo, but found out I really liked it there."

She continued talking about the Japanese language, "I knew some words and sayings and how to count to 10 before I got there. As time went on we became progressively better at speaking the language."

Springer and a fellow 4-H male from Sioux Falls were the only ones from South Dakota on this trip. They met with representatives from other states and Canada however once they got there.

Springer
(continued on page 6)



ShyAnn Springer of Bradley returned earlier this month from a 4-H International Exchange program trip to Tokyo, Japan. Springer is shown above on the right in her traditional 'Yukata' dress with an 'Obi' band worn at festivals. Her exchange sister on the left is Megumi Watanabe whose family were hosts to Springer introducing her to rice mold and sweet eggs among other traditional food favorites and local destinations.



Class of 2028 starts kindergarten

School started on Monday at the Clark School. As kindergartner Jorja Wagner began her first day, her family escorted her into the classroom to meet her teacher, Mrs. Kay Whalen. Shown above with Jorja at her desk are, left to right, Jada Wagner, Nicole Wagner behind Jorja Wagner and Corbin Wagner. The daughter of Nicole and Justin Wagner of Clark,

Jorja is the youngest in the family and also has an older sister Reagan who's entering seventh grade this fall. Jada enters fourth and Corbin enters second grade.

Jorja is one of 15 students in Mrs. Whalen's class and 17 kindergarten students entered Mrs. Stephanie Hagstrom's class on Monday.

Three new staff members at Henry School

Henry School started last Wednesday, August 19 with three new staff members for the 2015-2016 school year. New at Henry this year are:

Tyler Thue
Tyler Thue will be teaching high school social studies and coaching junior high football and basketball. He is originally from Watertown and graduated from Castlewood High School in 2010. He attended South Dakota State University in Brookings from 2010 to 2015 and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in history-education. This is his first teaching job after graduating from college.

Thue is single and he lives in Watertown.

Kiersten Thompson
Kiersten Thompson will be the physical education/health teacher at Henry School. She will also be



Tyler Thue



Kiersten Thompson



Vikki Larson

the varsity volleyball coach. Her hometown is Watertown and she graduated from Watertown High School in 1994. She has a B.S. degree in physical education from Northern State University and earned an M.S. degree in sports management from the United States Sports Academy in 2011.

Previously Thompson taught at Lusher Charter High School in New Orleans, La. from 2008 to 2015 and at James Irwin Charter Schools in Colorado Springs, Colo. from 2003 to 2007.

She is single and lives in Watertown with her children, Alexis, age 12 and Jalen, age 11.

Henry School
(continued on page 2)