

Assessment notices have been mailed

All property owners in Clark County have received the 2020 property assessment notices. The Clark County Director of Equalization, Jarvis Reidburn said, in a press release, that these assessments were mailed on Friday.

"These notices are intended to inform the property owners of the estimated market value of their property. The values should not be confused with taxable value or the tax bill," said Reidburn.

The press release continues: "Vanguard Appraisals, Inc. of Cedar Rapids, Iowa was awarded the contract to reappraise all property with any structure and bare lots, it excludes Ag ground in the county of Clark. Company representatives have measured and attempted to inspect all property over the last two years. A sales analysis and a review of the information collected were conducted before the values were finalized.

"Property owners will have an opportunity to meet with a representative of Vanguard Appraisals, Inc. beginning January 27, 2020 through January 31. These meet-

ings are an opportunity for the property owner to submit any information which may affect the estimate of market value of their property. Property owners who wish to meet with a representative of Vanguard must request an appointment prior to January 22 which is one week prior to the start of the informal hearings by calling the county Director of Equalization's office at 605-532-3751.

"The current reappraisal was conducted to equalize assessed values since not all properties have decreased or increased at the same rate. A Vanguard representative will not adjust the assessed values if the property owner objects to the new values based solely on the fact that there was an increase in assessed value. Property owners who disagree with the new values should be prepared to state their estimate of market value and present evidence to support that estimate."

Reidburn closed that property owners will also have an opportunity to protest the new assessed values to the Clark County Board of Review.

Skating rink is open daily - except Wednesdays

"They had all kinds of fun," stated Pam Ambrose of two youngsters who had never skated before and had their first experience at the Clark skating rink.

Ambrose is the skating attendant who oversees the skating rink warming house every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and on weekends. The rink is located one block south of the former Playhouse restaurant and is in fine shape with continuous maintenance by the city of Clark.

The new skaters as mentioned previously were surprised that the skating was free as well as the skate rental.

"The hot chocolate available is free, too," added Ambrose who arrives early each day to start the furnace and plug in the coffee pot of hot water for the hot chocolate mix. "It helps them warm up," she said.

Being a grandmother herself, she helps them to find the right size skate to wear. "I've gotten so I can just look at their feet and know what size they need," said the long-time rink attendant. She will also help them and show them how



With winter comes ice and snow, which is a good thing if one enjoys the sport of ice skating. And by the smiles on these young faces, the skating rink in Clark is a fun place to gather with friends after school. Above left to right, Alex Henrichs, Julian McElhone and Gio Ramirez Gonzales, ended their school week last Friday with an invigorating skate outdoors after school.

The rink is open until 7:00 p.m. every night it is open which is every day except Wednesday due to ongoing maintenance as well as respecting church activities. Weekdays, it opens at 4:00 and weekends skating begins at 1:00 p.m. Pam Ambrose is the skating rink attendant.

Skating (continued on page 3)

Municipal filings can begin Jan. 31

▲ Also for the Henry School Board

The municipal elections this year fall on Tuesday, April 14, 2020. Throughout the *Clark County Courier* this week and next, one will see 'Notice of Vacancy' for these respective municipal/Henry School positions.

2020 Municipal and Henry School Board openings include: Clark, Garden City, Bradley, Willow Lake and Henry School.

Petitions for any of these boards may be obtained from the town finance officer or in the case of the Henry School from the business manager at the school office.

Petitions may be circulated beginning Friday, January 31 and need to be filed by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Clark: Five council positions will become vacant in Clark due to the expiration of the present terms of office. In Ward I, there is one, one-year term open, currently held by Terry Schlagel. Also in Ward I, there is a three-year term open, currently held by Belinda Hanson. Ward II council position with incumbent being Harvey Spieker has a one-year term avail-

able and also in Ward II, there is a three-year term open, currently held by Kerry Kline. In Ward III with Dennis Larson being the incumbent there is a three-year term open. The position of mayor for a three-year term, currently held by John Pollock, is also open. The finance officer in Clark is Jackie Luttrell.

Willow Lake: Three positions will become vacant in Willow Lake. The present terms of office for council members that will expire are: Ward I - a two-year term held by Matt Kadinger and in Ward II - a two-year term currently held by Steven Johnson. The two-year term of mayor currently held by Delwin Bratland will also become vacant. Heidi Madsen is the Willow Lake city finance officer.

Henry School: Henry School District #14-2 holds their election the same time as city elections. Two three-year terms are open with the incumbents being Adam Hartley and Paula Blue. Gail

Municipal filings (continued on page 3)

Clark School Board hears proposal of FFA year-round greenhouse

▲ Wrestling room discussion continues

Two proposed building conversations highlighted the public portion of the January Clark School Board meeting.

The board also met in executive session for two hours and 45 minutes to evaluate superintendent/high school principal Luanne Warren. The board decided as the meeting started that a decision would not be made on this matter until the February board meeting.

Wrestling room

Regarding building, Kyle Gaikowski was the first to speak. For three consecutive monthly board meetings, the board has been interested in building an addition, presumably north of the current Field House, for a practice wrestling room.

The first cost estimate came in quite high and Gaikowski attended the December board meeting to find

a workable construction cost number to make this project work.

Monday, Gaikowski handed out a follow up plan, instead of an 'L' shaped extension, it would be a square and rather than a capacity for two wrestling mats, it would have space available for a mat and a half.

"This would cut the cost down by \$45,000," said Gaikowski, putting the price tag at roughly \$407,000.

The board and Gaikowski visited about several options including making the north parking lot larger and keeping the exercise room where it is currently.

The school board, superintendent and Gaikowski will stay in communication, as the board has this item on the preliminary 2020-21 school capital outlay budget.

School board (continued on page 3)

2019 will long be remembered for record setting moisture

Thirty-eight point twenty seven inches (38.27) is what the city of Clark received for moisture in 2019, which is one of the wettest years we've had for a long, long time.

Going back 10 years, according to the *Clark County Courier* records and official weather observers, Barb Desnoyers, Ryan Eggleston and Robert Cole, the totals in 2010 were 29.50 inches which is the next highest total in the last decade.

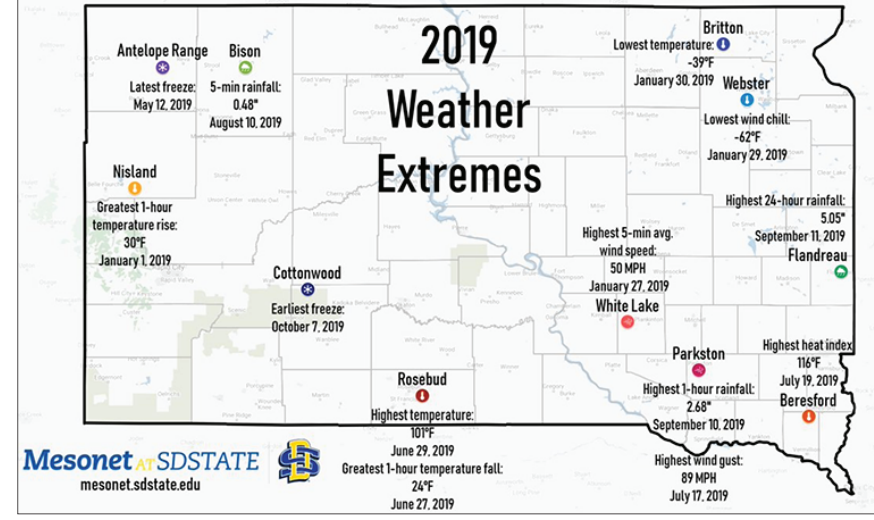
Year end totals for years going back in comparison are: 2018 - 19.00"; 2017 - 23.13"; 2016 - 21.93"; 2015 - 22.50"; 2014 - 16.17"; 2013 - 25.81"; 2012 - 18.59"; 2011 - 21.82";

2010 - 29.50" and 2009 - 28.68".

The year 2019 was a very wet and cold year across central and northeast South Dakota and west central Minnesota. There were very little dry periods to be had throughout 2019.

The wet year affected everyone with extensive flooding on rivers, roads and agricultural land bringing widespread damage in the millions of dollars to crops and property. Farmers had a hard time getting their crops in, in a timely manner dealing with muddy conditions.

2019 moisture (continued on page 3)



The last 10 years have been a banner decade for Cyclone boys basketball



Intensity, chemistry, attention to details and execution are variables that go along with winning high school basketball games. In the last decade the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone boys basketball, under the direction of coach Jerome Nesheim, has a 190-45 record.

During the Cyclones versus Hamlin game, coach Nesheim is shown 'coaching up' the defense. Varsity players on the bench include, left to right, Tate Burke, Mitchell Larson, Hunter Bratland and Wyatt Anderson.

SUCCESS - That's the way you spell success - SUCCESS - Go, Fight - Win!

As a new decade begins, many stories of the year or of the decade are being printed and the Clark-Willow Lake high school boys basketball deserves recognition.

During the last decade, the Cyclones, under the guidance of head basketball coach Jerome Nesheim, have won nine conference titles, have been to the SoDak 16 nine times, have qualified for the state tournament five times, have been the Class B state runner-up and last year won it all as the South Dakota Class B State Champions.

That's pretty impressive for a small school cooperative going head-to-head with the likes of Milbank, Sisseton, Aberdeen Roncalli, Redfield, Webster, Deuel, Hamlin, Tiospa Zina, Groton and Britton-Hecla in the Northeast Conference, year in and year out.

It is hard enough for a high school basketball team to put a winning streak together, much less go 10 consecutive seasons without a losing season. Clark-Willow Lake is 190-45 over the last decade.

The team records over the last 10 years are: 2009-10: 17-6; 2010-11: 13-8; 2011-12: 17-8; 2012-13: 23-1; 2013-14: 19-3; 2014-15: 20-5; 2015-16: 19-3; 2016-17: 19-3; 2017-18: 20-6 and 2018-19: 23-2.

It should be noted that the pre-

vious 10 years prior to the last decade, the first 10 years of the new millennium are also very impressive with very impressive results, this story was limited to this last decade, 2010-2019.

"Winning basketball is a tradition that just continues on, gets handed down and is always there," said coach Nesheim. "It's the ability to handle the ball, adhere to defensive principles, not making the same mistakes; being basketball smart. Basketball changes ever so slightly.

"The key is being blessed with kids who will buy-in to your program and also have those same parents buy-in," continued Nesheim.

Coach Nesheim is quick to admit that he is hard on players. "Experience has taught me my limits individually and kids are willing to change if they know I am honest with them. The player is held accountable to get to where they want to be, both individually and collectively.

"I'm the most un-original coach around," said Nesheim. "Everything we do is either begged, borrowed or stolen from someone else," he stated humbly.

Defense is one area where the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones can 'hang their hat'. A Jerome Nesheim coached defense knows how to stop the opposing team. In-game defensive adjustments have meant the

difference between wins and losses. Defensive mistakes are quickly corrected.

Nesheim came to Clark in 1996 and he will be the first to admit that he has had a bevy of very competent assistant coaches who have all been head coaches at one time in their careers.

Assistant coaches the last 10 years have been John Brown, Jerry Hartley, Mark Prouty, Chris Lee, Eric Stevens and Butch Brenden. "When I came to Clark, I had no idea or goal to stay. As one year turned into the next, it quickly became our mantra, that when people talked about basketball around the state, Clark and later Clark-Willow Lake would be part of the conversation," said the coach.

A remarkable winning record wouldn't or couldn't happen without remarkable dedicated players. Many talented excellent players have come through the Cyclone system. It is impossible to name all the good players. All-Staters the last decade include: Micah Burke, Jacob Prouty (2), Bradyn Rusher, Noah Huber (2), Tyson Jenkins (2), Skyler Flatten (2) and Derek Brown (3). [The number after the name means multiple year selections.]

Clark-Willow Lake definitely is in the conversation of elite programs in South Dakota. Quite an honor and quite a decade of success!