

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880

Non-resident
Pheasant Season
Opens Saturday, October 15



Wednesday, October 12, 2016

Vol. 136, No. 15

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

\$1.00

The hometown newspaper of Robin (Neal) Branhan, Mankato, MN

Roof over locker room area to be redone in 2017

The October meeting of the Clark School Board, Monday, was quite routine in nature and lasted only 40 minutes.

Following the public portion of the meeting, an hour and 25 minute closed session was held. After the executive session, the school board voted to deny the open enrollment request at this time. Voting to deny the request were Robert Steffen, Todd Fjelland and Shannon Huber. Trudi Gaikowski voted in opposition to this denial request. Board member Nathan Luvaas was absent.

During the open portion of the meeting, the main discussion dealt with roofing needs. The roofing project, if agreed upon, would not begin immediately, but the price would be guaranteed for next spring with Protec Roofing, Watertown.

Superintendent Luanne Warren led this discussion, showing the five options, at the high school, which needed attention and the Protec quote.

Warren's recommendation, the top area of concern, is the locker room area. The cost, including insulation, will be \$40,650. There is \$40,000 in the budget for this project and the board voted to approve.

Clark police chief Jeremy Wellnitz was in attendance at the Oc-

tober meeting and during the superintendent's report, Warren went over a meeting she recently attended involving invader/shooting drills and procedures.

"It is hitting a little too close to home for comfort," she said, and she and Wellnitz talked about lockdown procedures with a full scale drill coming in the future.

"Doors need to be locked in the morning and we will be organizing, collectively, what we can improve and what we can work on," said Warren.

In other business:

▲ Greg Marx was to be on the

School board
(continued on page 3)

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Oct. 4.....	60	41	1.01
Oct. 5.....	60	37	0
Oct. 6.....	41	32	.06
Oct. 7.....	46	27	0
Oct. 8.....	50	32	0
Oct. 9.....	64	33	0
Oct. 10.....	69	47	0
2016 precipitation to date	18.36		
2015 precipitation to date	18.86		



This corn pile is early and massive

With the 2016 non-resident pheasant season opener this weekend, one common question is: "Will the corn crop still be in the field". And the answer is: "It might and it might not".

The vast majority of soybeans are harvested and now producers are looking at taking out the corn. It should be a busy next three weeks. But that will be dependent upon how quickly the corn dries. Currently many corn fields have 'wet corn'.

The 'wet corn' brings us to the photo, above. At the Wulf Cattle lot, 10 miles west and six miles south of Clark, (formerly Riverview Dairy) is this pile of 500,000 bushels of corn.

According to Wulf Cattle representative Sonny Nickeson, (on the tractor), "We feed a little different. We want a higher grain ration, so we decided to go with high moisture corn, in the 25% to 34% range."

Wulf Cattle, at this location, is in the finisher stage and the next stop is

Tyson Meats, at Lexington, Neb.

This feed lot used to be a dairy system, a heifer location and now so that the heifer system is exclusively located in one site, it is located in Arizona.

Nickeson explained that the Wulf Cattle feedlot will end up with 637,000 bushels of high moisture corn. "Twenty-eight to 30% is optimal and we get 80% of our corn from 14 neighbor farmers," said Nickeson. "The neighbors really like this because they don't have far to go and they can harvest two to three weeks early," he said of the Clark location.

Nickeson continued how this feed system works, as it is run through a roller mill and an inoculant spray is then given the corn.

Much corn will remain in the field by this weekend for the pheasant opener.



Clark County game warden Kyle Lenzner stands next to a "No Shooting" Safety Zone near livestock or buildings sign on land north of Clark on Monday.

Pheasant season opens at noon this coming Sat-

urday and Lenzner encourages all landowners who need signs to get one from him.

"Safety is our number one priority," said Lenzner of the upcoming pheasant season.

Pheasant season opener is Saturday

The 98th South Dakota annual pheasant season is as early as it could possibly be. Held the third Saturday of October, the opener is slated for Oct. 15.

Weather always plays a significant role on opening weekend and the weather forecast is pretty nice for the third weekend of October, maybe too nice, highs in the lower 60's, lows in upper 40's and dry.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (G,F&P) has completed the annual pheasant brood survey and the results show that numbers are pretty close to a year ago in this area. "I think that is a safe assumption," said Clark County G,F&P conservation officer Kyle Lenzner.

"I expect hunting to be similar to the last couple years," said Lenzner, and he noted that pheasant numbers are down according to G,F&P surveys.

The 2016 statewide PPM index of 3.05 is down from 3.80 last year and up from 1.52 in 2013. In the Watertown area, that Clark County is in the PPM survey for 2016 shows 1.78, last year it was 2.01 and the 10 year average is 3.73.

"The resident-only opener was last weekend and quite a few birds were seen Saturday, but hunters were having trouble getting birds," he said.

As it has been in the past, the far western lands have more pheasants. "There are some pockets nearer Clark, but our surveys show more birds the farther west one goes," Lenzner said.

Survey results indicate that pheasant numbers will again be highest along the Missouri River corridor in the broad regions around

Winner, Chamberlain, Pierre and Mobridge. Great pheasant abun-

Pheasant opener
(continued on page 3)



Clark wins State FFA Range Judging event

The Clark FFA Range Judging team captured the state championship recently, at Webster. Winning first in the state earns them the opportunity to compete the first week in May at the National FFA event in Oklahoma City, Okla.

Shown above, left to right, is the state Range Judging championship team consisting of Olivia Sass, Caleb Orris, Bret Lehna and Grayson Florey. The group had to evaluate rangeland, identify plants and their characteristics and manage in theory how livestock grazing and wildlife needs can be best met together.

"Great grazing land for cattle isn't necessarily the best for wildlife and vice versa. One needs to find a happy medium for both," stated FFA advisor Greg Janisch.

Wookey Assisted Living celebrates 20 years

"Every day here is so rewarding. Not a day goes by that we don't laugh," says Gayle Wookey, administrator of the Fay Wookey Memorial Assisted Living and Independent Living Center which celebrated 20 years in operation last Friday.

The center was the first assisted living center in Clark back on October 7, 1996. "Our grandma Fay would have loved it, if she could've been in a place like this, but there were no places like this back then in Clark, when she would have needed it."

After Fay's death in 1995, the grandchildren through her sons Lyman and Dale which were Frank, Debbie, John, Susan, Tom and Gayle Wookey all came together to build something in memory of their beloved grandmother.

They bought land in the north part of Clark which was pretty much just trees and began construction that fall in 1995. Terrill and Peggy Wheeler were also brought on board in the beginning with the project investment.

Fay and Frank Wookey raised four children, Kendall, Lyman, Dale and Anna Marie on their farm east and south of Clark. Frank died when only 44 years old after which Fay stayed on the farm and continued raising her family.

"She was a great cook and gardener and a very welcoming lady," recalls Gayle Wookey. "She babysat me when my mom worked for a time." She had a twin sister named Fern who lived just down the road. She'd married Frank Wookey's brother Ralph Wookey so the twins were also sisters-in-law. Ralph died in 1937 and Frank died in 1944.

"Grandma Fay's was a place where everyone congregated at noon time for dinner. She was the center of our family and filled it with love and laughter," continued Wookey.

On the center's brochure it states: *Grandma Wookey was the beautiful rose in the lives of her family - And that rose still grows as we continue to honor and remember her contribution to our lives.*

A rose with a 'W' is the Wookey Center's logo.

Fay's grandchildren through her daughter Anna Marie Knopf opened the first assisted living center in Sioux Falls (and in the state) about five years previous to the Wookey Center opening.

All five children, Pat, Mike, Candy, Jeff and Pam Knopf invested in that first assisted living center. Pat Knopf also helped in overseeing the Wookey construction along with the Knopf boys.



"Our grandma Fay would have loved to have been in an assisted living center in her later years, but there were none back then," noted Gayle Wookey - present day administrator of the Fay Wookey Memorial Assisted Living and Independent Living Center in Clark. The center celebrated its 20 year anniversary last Friday.

Gayle is shown above by an oil painting of Fay, her grandmother. The Wookey Assisted Living Center is named in Fay's honor.

The center opened with 24 rooms in October of 1996.

In 1998, six independent living apartments were added and eight more assisted living rooms.

Construction in 2002 added on two more independent living apartments with two being converted from a two bedroom to a one bedroom.

In total, the Wookey Center has four two bedroom and four one bedroom apartments and is licensed for 30 residents in the assisted living part.

"Assisted living' helps with all the activities of daily living such as bathing, dressing, personal hygiene, transferring from chair to bed and with medications.

"If you need the assistance of two people, you need to go to a nursing home," advised Wookey.

Wookey was the resident registered nurse for the first 14 years followed by Karen Gruenwald, Michelle Flatten and currently Marlis Benson. Connie Rossow is her licensed practical nurse in residence.

Before the Wookey Center opened, Gayle was the director of nursing at the nursing home in Clark. She also worked being an inspector for the Department of Health at nursing homes and the assisted livings that had just started to open. "Gayle, you should run this" was the consensus of her cousins in the beginning.

Wookey enjoys her job and also enjoys having her own mother Joy Wookey as one of the residents. Joy and husband Dale moved into an apartment in 2004. After Dale died in 2006, Joy remained in the apartment.

"I appreciate our community support," says Gayle Wookey. "We have lots of 4-H groups, craft sessions, Bible study, exercise class, bingo and the senior citizens who visit twice a month to play cards." The Lions Club, local piano players and singing groups also entertain on a regular basis.

The center also provides Meals on Wheels for the community the last four years, relying on local volunteers. "We're always looking for more volunteers," noted Wookey on the service they provide to area residents.

A lot of the work staff at the center have 15+ years under their belt, some as fill-ins. Dala Albright has been in maintenance since 1999. Cindy Silkman, Sue Foster, Diane Grismer, Sandy Orris, Bonnie Friese, Charlene Hamann, Renae Mudgett and Janie DesLauriers are some of the long-time dedicated workers.

"We have a great staff here," notes Wookey. "We try to make it as home-like as we can," ends Wookey. "It's like we have 31 grandmas and grandpas around here to enjoy."