



Pheasant hunting season begins on Saturday

Pheasant season opener is Saturday

This is the 100th year of pheasant hunting in South Dakota! The third Saturday in October is pretty much an unofficial state holiday, but to many, the day that is looked forward to the entire year.

"It's looking good in Clark County," said Game, Fish & Parks Conservation Officer Zach Thomsen of the upcoming non-resident pheasant season opener. "I'm seeing a good amount of birds from just having color to fully colored," he said and added that when crops come out of the field hunting will get even better.

"As crops come out of the fields, we should have a good season. Most birds are in the middle part and southern part of the county and more birds are on the west side than on the east," said the conservation officer.

Thomsen, who came to Clark County from Philip, in May, wasn't around last pheasant season, but brood route results are up quite a bit from over a year ago.

"Pheasant hunting is a South Dakota tradition and we are really looking forward to this year's hunt. Driving around I'm seeing a positive number of birds," he repeated.

Weather will play an important role and as of Tuesday the forecast is for dry conditions and cool, with highs on both Saturday and Sunday slated for the low 50's. "The moisture has been good for birds, but not necessarily for crop harvest. Duck spots and sloughs have benefited from the moisture," said Thomsen.

Hunters from all across the United States come to South Dakota to hunt that elusive Ringneck Pheasant and Thomsen emphasizes practicing safe hunting and following the laws and regulations associated

with the sport.

The biggest priority of course is safety," said Thomsen. Plus, it's ultra important to respect land owners and respect the land.

Season dates

In most of South Dakota the season runs from October 20 through January 6, 2019.

Shooting hours

From October 20 through October 26, the shooting hours are noon Central Daylight Time to sunset. For the rest of the season, shooting hours are 10:00 a.m. Central Time to sunset. Central Time is used statewide for opening shooting hours. "Early in the season, late afternoon/evenings will be the best hunting," the G, F & P officer said.

Daily/possession limits

The daily limit is three rooster pheasants. The possession limit is 15 pheasants taken according to the daily limit. An individual hunter can possess no more than three pheasants on the Saturday of opening weekend and up to six on Sunday. To possess another hunter's birds, a free transportation permit must be obtained from a G, F & P conservation officer. Arranging for this permit should be handled well in advance of opening day. Transportation permits are not issued as a means of allowing the daily/possession limits to be exceeded.

License/I.D.

Hunters must possess, while hunting, a valid S.D. hunting license and the proper form of identification. That I.D. may be a valid state-issued driver's license or a state-issued and expiration-dated identification card. Hunters un-

Pheasant
(continued on page 4)



Clark County Game, Fish & Parks Conservation Officer Zach Thomsen along with his dog Bailey, stand next to a 'State Game Production Area' sign south of Clark. This will be Thomsen's first pheasant opener in Clark County as he has spent the last five years in Haakon County as the game warden, at Philip.

This 721 acre GPA, known as Stair's Slough, was planted with brassica, a cover crop, to prepare CRP in future years. This is the 100th year of the non-resident pheasant season opener, which opens this Saturday, at noon.

Clark Chamber of Commerce busy with fall promotions

The Clark Chamber of Commerce has two promotions this fall for promoting Clark businesses and individuals.

With the opening of Pheasant Season 2018, the Chamber is sponsoring Rooster Rush.

The challenge is on for one and all to decorate your business, lawn or area in a hunting theme.

On this Saturday, Oct. 20, Chamber board member Nichole DesLauriers and her team will be doing the judging. This contest amongst businesses and individual houses will see who can be the most creative when it comes to a Rooster Rush/hunting theme. Prizes will be awarded in Clark Bucks.

Said DesLauriers, "This costs nothing to enter and there are no strings attached. With pheasant season this weekend we're looking forward to some good fun and friendly competition."

With hunters coming to the area 'Let's Paint This Town Orange!'

The following Saturday, Oct. 27, the Clark Chamber of Commerce hosts 'Eat, Drink and Be Scary'.

This is an adult social event starting at local businesses, to promote our local businesses. It begins at 4:00 p.m. and will conclude at the Clark Golf Club with prizes and Karaoke. Board members DesLauriers and Cassi Kottke are in charge of this event.

That same weekend, on Friday and Saturday, the FCCLA/FFA is sponsoring a Haunted House. Check out the ad on page 3 for more information. Bradley is having their Halloween Party on Saturday, Oct. 20.

On Sunday, Oct. 28, a Fall Fun Day will benefit ICAP. The Saint

Michael Church youth will be Trick or Treating the night of Halloween for canned goods to benefit ICAP.

Check out the various Clark County Courier church supper, poultry party and pancake breakfast ads. Each event is important and worth your time and effort.

In this week's Courier, with Pheasant Season upon us, these promotions include St. John's Lutheran WELCA soup and supper and bazaar, the Clark United Methodist Turkey Supper, the St. Henry Catholic Church Hunter's Dinner, the St. Paul Lutheran Lutefisk Supper, the Saint Michael Catholic Church Roast Beef Supper, the Turton Fire Department Gun Raffle, Oak Tree Pheasant Hunt Special, Bradley Poultry Party, Vienna Fire Department Poultry Party and Gun Give-Away, Willow Lake Lions Pancake Breakfast and Carpenter United Methodist Church Bazaar.

It is impossible to have a 'story listing' each week but these events are so important to a vibrant, vital community area - and newspaper!

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Oct. 9.....	42	32	.98
Oct. 10.....	35	28	.21
Oct. 11.....	37	27	0
Oct. 12.....	44	30	0
Oct. 13.....	50	27	0
Oct. 14.....	33	19	0
Oct. 15.....	48	19	0
2018 precipitation to date	16.96		
2017 precipitation to date	22.71		



Ron Gubin is the new location manager for Agtegra Cooperative in Willow Lake and started in this position in July, taking over for retiring manager Duane Poppen. He reported that 100,000 bushels worth of beans and 30,000 worth of corn came in before recent rains and even snow in the northern part of the county brought harvest to a halt in the area.

Gubin is the new Agtegra - Willow Lake manager

Regarding the corn and bean harvest so far at the Willow Lake Agtegra Cooperative elevator, their new location manager - Ron Gubin - (pronounced ga-bean) stated that the farmers were fairly happy with the yields and quality so far with corn and beans.

"There's quite a variety coming in," noted Gubin. "West of here it is drier. There's not enough in to speculate. The beans were dry before the recent rains.

"We were just shy of two inches of rain the last two days," reported Gubin last Thursday when visiting with the Clark County Courier.

The spring wheat this year was 'less than spectacular', he noted and added that they didn't dump any winter wheat at all at the Willow Lake location.

"The soybean tariffs have thrown a wrench in the system," continued Gubin. "It is going to affect the co-op's ability to handle the soybean crop. Traditionally Agtegra ships at harvest time. This year we may be holding 80% of the beans across the system. There will be a definite cost in that. With a wet year, it's tougher to hold the beans.

"There's a lot of instability right now in the farming industry, due to

the tariffs."

Gubin, a 1982 graduate of Warner High School, grew up on a farm in the Aberdeen and Stratford area. He is the son of Jack and Marge Gubin.

Ron Gubin farmed for 17 years and following that has worked within the Wheat Growers system for 18 years. Previous to his Willow Lake position, he managed the Andover Wheat Growers and also worked for a co-op in Nebraska.

Mr. Gubin is married to Meredith and they are the parents of four children together - Darin, Hunter, Zara and Oliver. The family currently lives in Watertown although Gubin added they are looking at a future move. In his spare time Gubin stated that he loves pheasant hunting in the fall.

His future plans for the Agtegra - Willow Lake location are to see some growth in business and some revitalization.

Working on equipment and getting their grain bags ready for storage of the corn this fall, (as the beans will be taking up more bin space) is keeping the crew busy as they wait for this year's harvest to finish up at Agtegra in Willow Lake.

Dias is a senior at Willow Lake High School staying with the Rory and Renae Burke family

With his whole family working in the tourism business, Filipe Dias from Brazil is hoping his foreign exchange experience will improve his language skills as well as his knowledge of the United States when he returns home to work in the family business.

Dias lives in one of the five largest cities in Brazil - Belo Horizonte and was working on finishing up his senior year of high school before he came to Willow Lake. In the senior class at Willow Lake High School, he's hoping this year will help him in his testing to conclude his senior year back in Brazil, maybe only having to take a couple months worth of school to finish. "I'd like to take business in college," stated Dias. "So it will help me in our family business or maybe I can run my own business someday."

His grandfather Fernando, his father Felipe and uncle Daniel and his mother Renata all work in the business - Master Turismo. Dias has one younger brother João Lucas who is four years old. Their tourism company helps with travel destinations, various tours and the logistics in travel for their customers. Dias' father was once an exchange student in Tucson, Ariz. and his grandfather from Portugal married a foreign exchange student from Brazil. The marriage is what brought his grandfather to Brazil years ago. Family and friends both encouraged Dias in his decision to become an exchange student.

"It's good for me to grow here in a lot of different ways," he continued. "I'm experiencing a different country and culture and definitely different weather. Where I live, there is no snow and 59° is our coldest weather in our winter. Our seasons are the opposite of yours, our winter is in June and July and our Christmas time is always hot. In February and March, it can get up to 104°."

Christmas time is an important family time to gather and exchange gifts with each other in his coun-



Filipe Delpino Chisté Dias from Belo Horizonte, Brazil is spending the 2018/2019 school term at the Willow Lake School. The foreign exchange student is staying with the Rory and Renae Burke family. Above he is pictured with, from left to right, sophomore Morgan Burke, in her Hobo Day garb for homecoming week, senior Dias, freshman Gage Burke and senior Mason Burke who are his local siblings in his exchange experience.

try. Carnaval is a week long celebration before the Lenten season in Brazil. "What would be similar to a week-long 'Fat Tuesday' celebration in New Orleans. "No one goes to work that week and there is a lot of gathering and celebrating in the streets."

Not being allowed to drive before age 18, Dias walks or takes a bus to most places in his town of four million people. To the gym to practice boxing is almost a daily routine for him. "You decide which sport you want to do outside of school and improve it," he stated. "We don't have every day practice like you do here. You are hard into sports. We have

four less sports in our school. We grew up playing a lot of soccer and we have basketball. Your school has more entertainment too, like theatre (plays), band and choirs.

"I would like to try wrestling this year and golf. My grandfather plays a lot of golf so I'd like to learn more and maybe show him some things I learned."

Food wise, Dias has noticed that we love to fry things in the United States. In Brazil, they eat more of a greens and basic foods diet. "We have the same foods, but how we eat them is different."

Potatoes versus French fries is an example. Rice and beans is a fa-

vorite of his at home and here corn dogs, American tacos and nachos with vegetables and Doritos have topped his list. "Eating in balance is important," he stated.

He doesn't watch much TV here says but he enjoys watching movies and playing video games and seeing how the much younger Burke children know how to drive already.

"And I know about combining now," ended Dias with a smile. "I'm learning a lot here. It's a good learning experience for me in a lot of ways."