



Ash trees in county towns are being marked

The Clark County Conservation District spent last week marking the Ash trees in the parks and ballfields of Bradley, Garden City and Willow Lake. This week Clark and Raymond were completed. These Ash trees are identified by orange or yellow ribbons.

According to Clark County Conservation District supervisor Darin Lewis, this marking of Ash trees is to help residents understand the impact of how many trees will be affected when the Emerald Ash Borer arrives in this area.

"Once the Emerald Ash Borer arrives all infected Ash trees will have to be taken down and disposed of. It is important that the towns are proactive in a phased Ash trees removal plan," said Lewis. "We encourage citizens to become familiar in identifying Ash trees and identifying the Ash trees on their property."

Forester Dr. John Ball of South Ash trees

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Sass, Kuno reign over Clark High School Homecoming week

A nice Homecoming Coronation crowd gathered in the Clark High School gym on Monday night. The highlight of the evening is always the crowning of the Homecoming Royalty. Chosen as 2019 Marshal is Zachary Kuno and 2019 Queen is Olivia Sass. The two will reign over the rest of this week's homecoming festivities.

The other candidates nominated to succeed 2018 Marshal Travis O'Neill and Queen Janae Kolden were Madilyn Steen, Saylor Hallstrom, Amanda Reff, Matthew Streff, Dakota Lilly and Charlie Spieker.

The volleyball team hosts Grotton on Thursday. Friday evening at 7:00 p.m., the football team will go up against Waverly-South Shore during Clark's Homecoming game at the Clark High School Sports Complex.

The weather forecast for Friday calls for partly cloudy skies with the temperature around 50° at game time.

Parade entries are asked to assemble on Idaho Street, starting at the Catholic Church and north past the elementary school playground. Starting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, the parade route will be south past the St. Michael's Catholic Church to Highway 212, east to Commercial Street, then north to the nursing home. Entries may return on Idaho Street. Floats



The 2019 Clark High School Royalty were chosen on Monday night at the Clark High School gym. Queen Olivia Sass and Marshal Zachary Kuno will reign over this week's Homecoming festivities.

should be dismantled following the parade.

The theme this year is 'Candy' and the entries will be divided into three categories - A: Elementary school walking; B: Elementary and middle school floats and C:

High school class and organization floats. Commercial floats will be judged separately. Winners will be announced at half-time of the football game.

Bring on October, autumn and the hunting seasons

This is a great time of year, as fishing poles and golf clubs are being replaced with shotguns and rakes and snow could be right around the corner, usually not waiting for winter to arrive.

What makes 2019 a little more unique, is all of the moisture received throughout the entire summer, in abnormally frequent and substantial amounts, giving Clark County a greenness, arguably unequaled in a lifetime. Things are very green in Clark County heading into October.

The official rain report in Clark for September was 4.86", bringing the yearly moisture total to 31.84". That means that the city is up about 12 inches above normal - January through September and about 10 inches more than what the area usually receives in a year.

Concerning crops and frost predictions in the county, much is on the line regarding row crops and the results this month. Tonight's projected low temperature of 37° is the lowest temperature this fall and could cause some frost in low-lying areas, but not overall frost damage. This is a fall when a late frost date will help especially the bean crop achieve maturity. Some soybean harvest is being seen in the area and the most important factor of mature or not, is when was the crop planted. Earlier planted crops are in better shape at this time compared to those crops that didn't get into the ground until later in the season.

Many producers have come out saying that it will be a late year getting the corn out of the field and it will be interesting to see how late the corn dries in the field and how much snow falls and how early the county sees snow.

Hunting

What makes Clark County stand alone, in a positive way, is all of the hunting and fishing opportunities the county boasts. This time of year the county is a virtual hunting paradise. From ducks and geese to pheasants to deer, wild game abound. The duck and goose seasons have opened in the county and go into the early part of December.

"We have plenty of ducks to shoot at in the county," said Clark

County Game, Fish and Parks Conservation officer Zach Thomsen. "The ducks are spread out, seeing a lot of ducks. The ducks that are here currently will be here awhile."

Weather conditions have been cool and cloudy this past week and windy and that is beneficial to the duck hunter. Teals have already disappeared, but there is a plethora of ducks residing in the county, including puddle, divers and mallards. Make sure you

retrieve the game you shoot, said Thomsen, as ducks often land in cattails, but need to be retrieved.

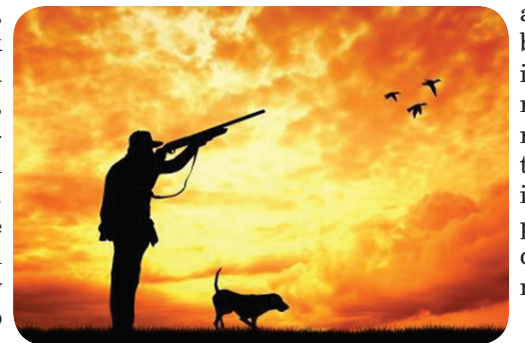
As far as geese are concerned, it still may be a little early for the mass migration, but that will be coming sooner rather than later, as fall-like temperatures are eminent in October.

"It's always interesting," said Thomsen of what the goose migration will look like, "and as usual, it will be dependent upon weather conditions. If it gets cold by degrees, not all at once, more waterfowl will stop during the migration to feed and rest. If everything freezes at once, the waterfowl go over the top. So hunting success definitely depends on weather conditions."

Every year waterfowl hunters need to remember to not have a gun capable of holding more than three shells and they must have a federal and state stamp in their possession. "Also, make sure you identify your ducks before you shoot," Thomsen said. "Especially with brown ducks, it is difficult to distinguish between hens and drakes."

Concerning pheasants, each Saturday in October begins a new season. The first Saturday and Sunday is Youth Pheasant Season, the following Saturday and Sunday is residents only and the 2019 Pheasant season officially begins Saturday, Oct. 19.

Archery deer season has opened in the state and county and Thomsen said it has been slow going with the archery season because of warm weather and mosquitoes. "We're starting to see a lot of deer movement during daylight hours. As crops come out we will see more deer activity," closed Thomsen.



Visiting fourth graders at the FFA Petting Zoo last Friday had fun wondering if and when Lloyd the llama would maybe 'spit' as they had heard some llamas do. "He's never spit at anybody - but there could be a first time," stated Clark FFA and Ag instructor Matti Boomgaarden. "Be quiet and move slow when petting the animals," she advised as the whole

school was invited for their petting zoo followed by hand sanitizer and the traditional FFA popcorn.

Lloyd's thick coat was pretty good at adhering to the wood shavings/bedding as the animals were set up outside north of the school as well as a few inside the ag shop, like the chickens and kittens.

Lloyd the Llama - a big hit at FFA Petting Zoo

Last Friday, it was 'a day at the farm' for the city kids and country kids alike as various animals were brought in for the Clark FFA Petting Zoo.

Usually held during FFA week in the dead of winter it was decided this year to hold the petting zoo earlier. "Putting together and hauling pens and animals in five

feet of snow last year wasn't good so we thought we'd have it earlier this year," stated FFA advisor and ag teacher Matti Boomgaarden.

Fall temps and little wind made for a pleasant experience for man and beast alike as the Clark Elementary and the Clark Middle and High School classes all took their turns at farm animal 101 and some

FFA popcorn. Hand sanitizer for all preceded the popcorn as it was in fact - a petting 'zoo'.

FFA members took turns educating the public and holding on to the leashed dogs - Jet a lab mix and Sophie the Weiner dog. The dogs were courtesy of Lydia Reidburn.

Two kittens Milo and Spot, owned by Olivia Sass were described as

'loving to play with dogs' and 'like to go exploring'.

Maggie and Dory - the miniature donkey's love to eat cookies and play with Lloyd the llama'.

Lloyd the llama 'likes to go for a walk and play with his friends Maggie and Dory'. All three were

Petting zoo (continued on page 10)

Clark County commissioners discuss requests for livestock CAFO's and wind towers

At the September 24 meeting of the Clark County Board of Commissioners, first readings were given to ordinances regarding Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) Control requirements and also regarding Wind Energy Systems requirements.

The CAFO joint public hearing was the first of these two on the agenda and discussion lasted a little over half an hour.

First Planning associate director Luke Muller, Watertown, was the presenter in the CAFO discussion.

The commissioners unanimously approved Ordinance 1-19, which updates and adjusts setbacks from adjoining residences for all livestock.

With over 20 producers in atten-

dance at this planning commission, it looked as if all in attendance were satisfied with this proposed ordinance, moving forward. As is a well known fact: Clark County is an agriculture-based county and the future is ag.

Prior to the CAFO control requirements joint public hearing, the hearing for the Taylon LaMont's 720 animal unit CAFO hog facility was held.

No opposition appeared for this hearing and all in attendance were positive in their comments.

Marshall Edleman spoke on how he's excited about the younger generation coming back to the area. "Attendance in the school is going

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