

## Corn harvest has begun in Clark County

▲ Soybeans are finishing up; yields at 40-60 bu per acre



The corn harvest has begun in Clark County with more corn coming out of the field each week. The fields of the Meier family were done in quick time last Friday along 413th Avenue in western Clark County.

With prices on the low side, it's estimated that many farmers may store their corn for a while. Waiting for the crop to dry down a little more is another reason the corn may stay in the fields a little longer this harvest season.

According to area elevator managers in Clark County, the soybean harvest is pretty much over with, being about 95% done it was estimated.

Last year at this time, the bean harvest was all done and the corn harvest was two-thirds to three-

fourths done the fourth week in October. With a dry and mild fall last year, producers finished up with harvest by the middle of November.

This year it's a different story with more producers feeling the effects of a dry summer with rains coming later in the season and hit

and miss depending on where one lives. Harvest dates are a little later this year.

David Karki, extension agronomist from the Watertown office reported that the soybean harvest is pretty much wrapped up in the area with average yields being in the 50 to 65, 67 range. "Rains were very sporadic in the fields this summer it

**Harvest**  
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WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Oct. 18.....	63	47	0
Oct. 19.....	47	39	0
Oct. 20.....	48	39	0
Oct. 21.....	60	36	0
Oct. 22.....	65	35	0
Oct. 23.....	51	33	0
Oct. 24.....	53	31	0
2016 precipitation to date	18.36		
2015 precipitation to date	20.23		

## Dr. Harvey Spieker has begun building a twin engine airplane



Long-time Clark dentist, Dr. Harvey Spieker, is now retired. His first project in retirement is to build this Velocity V-Twin airplane, from a custom built kit. He stands next to the fuselage of the plane he is building at his Clark County Airport hangar.

Dr. Harvey Spieker retired from the Clark Family Dental Center at the end of August and he had pre-meditated short term plans for his retirement.

"In June, I went to Florida and ordered this Velocity V-Twin airplane kit," said Dr. Spieker, and

if one is thinking model airplane, visually remove 'model' and think about creating the 'Real McCoy'.

That is exactly what Spieker will be doing for at least the next calendar year. "It took until mid-September for the airplane kit to arrive, so grandson Neil and I went down to

Florida and brought it back," he said.

What Spieker brought back to Clark was the fiberglass pieces of the fuselage, tail and wings, along with doors and windows. Harvey and Neil spent 10 days in Florida learning how to put the airplane together.

As aforementioned, this custom, fast build kit has all the pieces, the owner then puts them all together. "Yes, it will take me probably a good year to get this flying." Spieker then went on to explain that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires that after this aircraft is built, he needs to fly at least 40 hours within 10 miles of the Clark County Airport.

So, if this aircraft building project is going to take a year to complete and he is one month into it, he has just begun the process. "On average, it takes 800 hours to com-

**Spieker**  
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## Trick or Treat time is near!

▲ Halloween is next Monday

The children of Jay and Shannon Huber of Clark had a practice run with their Halloween costumes last week. From left to right are four-year-old Easton, one-year-old Nolan and seven-year old Grady.

Easton is going to be a modern day cowboy (cattle paddle not pictured), young Nolan is Superman this year and Grady is dressed up as a witch, complete

with her sparkley broom.

Behind them are their decorated pumpkins, some grown in their garden this year and painted in anticipation of Halloween. One may notice that Easton's vest is from the 'Broken Bones' rodeo association to go along with his livestock auction hat.



Could you imagine seeing these six cornpickers, led by a horse and buggy, coming down the road? You would think you are in a time warp of half a century ago.

The 5th Annual Cornpicking Bee, hosted by Kurt and Dory Gassman, was held last Sunday, Oct. 23, five miles north of Henry.

## Six Gassman brothers man the antique cornpickers

Sunday was a really big day at the Kurt and Dory Gassman farm. The Gassman farm is located five miles north of Henry and it hosted the 5th Annual Cornpicking Bee on Sunday afternoon.

Many people know that one of Kurt's bucket list wishes was to have all his brothers picking corn, all at the same time, all with old cornpickers. The six cornpickers were manned by Dave, Tom, Mike, Kurt, Dennis and Rich Gassman.

Dave, Tom, Mike and Dennis all live near Canova and Rich lives at Flandreau.

"My little brother (Rich) told me that I'd die before I would have six cornpickers running at the same time. He referenced how hard it was for our dad just to keep one running," said Kurt Gassman as he spent hours upon hours working hard to get these pickers operating.

Over 83 friends and family signed the guest book Sunday, October 23

Kurt and his five brothers manned the old cornpickers and as they head to the cornfield, it is quite an impressive parade.

Around 90 friends and family showed up Sunday at the Gassman Cornpicking Bee.

at the 5th Annual Cornpicking Bee. The cornpickers aged from somewhere around 40 years old all the way up to over 60 years old. The one Kurt was driving was the oldest, being built sometime in the 1950s he thought.

Gassman's Cornpicking Bee idea sprouted five years ago, as he watched another cornpicker being cut-up and hauled off for salvage. "I remembered the fond memories I had as a child. I will never forget

my little brother and I riding in the wagons as our father picked corn," said Gassman.

He wanted to carry this tradition on. "I immediately thought how cool it would be if my children, nieces and nephews could experience this also." At that time he made up his mind that the next old picker he saw laying in a tree grove would not be going to salvage, but going to his

**Gassman**  
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## Clark Area Snow Queen Festival is November 5

The 48th annual Clark County Snow Queen Festival will be held Saturday, November 5, 2016, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Clark High School gym. Eight girls from the Clark County area will be vying for a chance to be named Miss Clark County Snow Queen 2017. Five girls will be competing for the Junior Snow Queen title.

Winners of the 48th annual Clark County Area Snow Queen Festival will go on to the State Snow Queen Contest in Aberdeen in January.

Snow Queen Kathryn Paulson and Junior Snow Queen Tavie Guzman will make their final walks

across the stage as reigning royalty and will speak on the last year's ex-

**Snow Queen**

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**Mystery Snowman Clue**  
48th Annual  
Snow Queen Festival  
Mystery Snowperson Contest

Love My Family  
Love My Country  
Love My Cars

Send guesses to Janene Gehrke,  
209 1st Ave. W.,  
Clark, SD 57225.

## TRICKS & TREATS FOR HALLOWEEN

Halloween falls on a Monday this year and so far - so good with no snow on the ground yet and pleasant temperatures forecast.

Willow Lake will again have their Halloween Carnival at the high school gym on Friday, October 28 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. with the costume parade starting at 6:30 p.m.

At the Bryant Parkview campus, residents and staff look forward to their young dressed up visitors from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Monday, October 31.



In Bradley, spooksters will come dressed up for the party at the Bradley Community Center on Saturday evening at 5:00 p.m. Food, fun and prizes will continue until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 29.

In Clark, the Golden Living Center welcomes their Halloween guests from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. that day.

Residents at the Fay Wookey Memorial Assisted Living Center will

**Halloween**  
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