

Clark Community Oil has new pumps and new offices



Clark Community Oil Company general manager Troy Grensberg is shown by the new diesel pumps on US Highway 212, in Clark. This renovation should be completed in the near future, allowing semi-trucks the

Clark Community Oil's new satellite diesel pumps are being built directly to the east of the main station on land recently purchased from the city.

at the former Pletan building are two big renovations currently being done by Clark Community Oil. When the cement is dry enough to drive on, they'll be open for business, hopefully by mid October, according to Clark Community Oil general manager, Troy Grensberg. Semi-trucks will be able to pull in off of U.S. Highway 212 and drive right on through and come out on North Kansas Street when the ce-

ment driveway is completed. "And when filling up, they will be able to fill tanks on both sides of the semi at the same time with the newer satellite pumps," said Grensberg. "The reason we're expanding is to make it more convenient for semis. At the Gas Plus, part of Clark Community Oil, with the traffic and tighter space it was harder for them to maneuver. With more and more semis on the road now, we wanted to do this for our customers," said Grensberg.

The large 14,000 gallon double walled tank to the east of the pumps will supply premium and number two diesel. Number two will switch over to number one in the winter time, for a winter blend. The double walled tank is made for safety reasons and makes for its own containment should a leak occur.

Each of the main pumps in the center has two hoses, so there are four dispensers for diesel and all can be used with a card trol card 24.7.

There are no immediate plans to change the set-up at Gas Plus with the exception of Terri Severson moving her office over to the former Pletan building.

Marissa Jensen will be joining the agronomy team at Community Oil and will be in charge of the precision ag program. She will work

Community Oil
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Police officer Jeremy Wellnitz started Monday, October 1, as the Clark Police Chief. Wellnitz was a police officer in Clark from 2001 to 2006.

Police officer Wellnitz on duty in the city of Clark

Clark Police Chief Jeremy Wellnitz, 32, began his Clark law enforcement duties Monday, Oct. 1.

The Clark City Council hired Wellnitz at the August council meeting to be in charge of the city's law enforcement.

"Obviously, the duty of the chief of police is to serve and protect the city of Clark and its visitors," said officer Wellnitz of his role as the police officer. "There are many other duties that go with law enforcement, including traffic enforcement and codified law enforcement, including abandoned vehicles, property upkeep, dogs at large, etc."

Law enforcement in Clark is nothing new to Wellnitz, as the Mil-

bank native was a police officer in Clark from 2001 to 2006. During the next six years he worked for the Watertown Police Department and the Codington County Sheriff's Department, respectively.

Wellnitz is the father of two; Ella, age six and Griffin, who will be two in February.

"I'm very excited to be back," said the new police chief. "When I left, I missed the community and the people." Wellnitz' office will be at city hall in the Ulyot Building, and can be reached at 532-3112. When he's not in the office, calls will be forwarded to the Huron law enforcement dispatch, just like calls to the Clark County Sheriff's office.

AdvancED accreditation, formerly North Central Accreditation, begins with a survey process

Every seven years all North Central Association accreditation schools are evaluated. Clark High School is due for AdvancED accreditation (formerly known as North Central Accreditation), in 2013. "Accreditation is a voluntary method of quality assurance developed more than 100 years ago by American universities and secondary schools and designed primarily to distinguish schools adhering to a set of educational standards," said Tammie Paulson, lead teacher coordinator for Clark School in the accreditation process.

The accreditation process is also known in terms of its ability to effectively drive student performance and continuous improvement in education. "Clark High School is

an accredited high school in South Dakota and our goal is to continue with this endorsement," said Paulson. A team of five educators from surrounding schools will come into the Clark School sometime in March and they will be evaluating and observing the educational practices at the school.

Paulson added, "The AdvancED accreditation is an outside perspective on what we need to work on improving. The whole purpose of belonging is that you have a set time frame for improving."

In order to prepare for the upcoming accreditation review, parent surveys will be launched October 15. "We are asking parents of students in grades 5-12 to take approximately 15 minutes and give

input into your child's education," said Paulson. The survey will have a link on the Clark School web page (clark.k12.sd.us), the web address will be in the daily bulletin and parents will also have an opportunity to complete the survey the night of Parent-Teacher Conferences.

While accreditation is a set of rigorous protocols and research based processes for evaluating an institution's organizational effectiveness, it is far more than that. Today accreditation examines the whole institution, the programs, the cultural context and the community of stakeholders to determine how well the parts work together to meet the needs of students. "Continuing to be an accredited school is very important to Clark educators and ad-

ministrators and speaks volumes for our educational system," stated Paulson.

This evaluation will take place in March but the survey is important to this accreditation process, ended Paulson.

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Sept. 25	67	40	0
Sept. 26	66	38	0
Sept. 27	73	40	0
Sept. 28	76	46	0
Sept. 29	80	47	0
Sept. 30	80	48	0
Oct. 1	64	39	0
2012 precipitation to date	14.44"		
2011 precipitation to date	20.77"		

Clark School Board public auction will not take place Oct. 8

The Clark School Board meets for their October meeting this Monday, in the high school library.

The Clark School District had originally scheduled October 8, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. as the date and time of the public auction for the land the school district declared surplus at the September 10, 2012 school board meeting. According to Clark superintendent Brian Heupel, "The law requires the school district have a legal description of the land being auctioned. To ac-

complish this, an engineering firm needed to plot the land and this was not able to be completed in time to have two legal notices in the paper prior to the scheduled October 8 public auction. For this reason the public auction will not take place at 6:00 p.m. on October 8 as originally planned. The school board will set a new date for the public auction at their monthly meeting on Monday, October 8."

The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Rural post offices will see a change in hours

Changes are coming to rural South Dakota and Clark County post offices in the near future as a cost cutting effort by the U.S. Postal Service (USPS).

"With the decline in mail volumes since 2006, we have no choice but to examine every aspect of our operations and look for ways to save," said Peter Nowacki, a Minneapolis based regional representative for the USPS.

In South Dakota, 222 post offices face planned reductions in hours. The changes are expected to be phases in over the next two years and will be fully implemented by September 2014.

The process will begin with the first community meetings scheduled for sometime in October. Changes will start at offices with current vacancies in the postmaster position, according to Nowacki.

More than 13,000 post offices nationwide will be reduced to six, four or two hours per workday. Those in the "most remote and isolated locations" will remain open at least six hours per week. In total, hours will be "realigned" at about 17,700

of the more than 32,000 postal retail locations, said the Postal Regulation Commission.

Post office hours will be scaled back to six, four or two hours on open days, based on an assessment of office workload such as the number of customer visits, postal office boxes rented and retail revenue figures. Offices will continue to be reviewed annually.

"Only window hours will be impacted," Nowacki said. "P.O. box access and route delivery will remain the same."

Communities in the area targeted for the cuts include: Bradley, Bryant, Carpenter, Conde, Doland, Florence, Garden City, Hazel, Henry, Raymond, Turton and Willow Lake.

"We view this as an excellent alternative to closing post offices in smaller communities," Nowacki said. "It allows us to continue to meet the needs of these towns while helping us achieve significant savings."

Meetings should begin in October and change will occur following 90 days after the meeting.



Lines are occurring at area grain elevators

October traditionally is that time of year when one thinks of the row crop harvest. Sometimes it is later than October, but this year it is earlier than usual and things are really busy at local elevators. Semi-trucks are lined up at both the Clark County Farmers Elevator on the left and at Wheat Growers - Willow Lake on the right. It also is one of those years where yields, both corn and beans, are

all over the board, depending upon how much rain was received or in this case, how much rain missed us.

It is supposed to freeze hard this weekend if a hard frost had not yet been experienced. Also, the wind is supposed to blow in the 25-35 mph range.



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