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October rain has really benefited the soil profile

Clark County received a welcome rain recently with areas receiving anywhere from an inch and a quarter in the eastern part of the county to 3.36" in the Crocker Hills.

The north and western part of the county received the most rain 10 days ago. Fred Obermeier of Crocker reported 3.36 inches of rain, Scott Finstad at Bradley reported 3.20" and Bruce Schmidt of Raymond reported 2.61". As one moves south, Alan Luckhurst in Garden City had around two inches and Clark had 2.70" according to official weather observer Ryan Eggleston. Steve Haug in Carpenter reported two inches and Rick Flaten at the Willow Lake Elevator in Willow Lake and Ed Grandy at Car-gill in Vienna both reported 1.75". Judy Kos of Henry reported an inch and a quarter of rain.

Snow fell last week overnight with a dusting of a half inch to the west and the farther east and south one went, the deeper the snow. Vienna claimed about an inch and a half of the white stuff. Throughout the county the snow didn't last very long and began around 1:00 a.m. with residents waking up to their first view of snow on their lawns on Thursday morning, Oct. 25.

With the added moisture, the city of Clark is still behind with a year to date report of 17.20" last week Oct. 16 - Oct. 22 compared to 2011 when the year to date was 21.13".

Clark County, like all of the immediate area was in dire need of the moisture with drought conditions worsening as the summer lengthened into fall. Rains this summer hardly ever reached past the three tenths mark on the few rains we did have for a majority of the county, as it seemed that the summer of 2012 was without rain.

In the spring and early summer the northeast corner of the state fared better than our neighbors to the south.

In Clark the spring/summer monthly totals recorded are, shown as compared to 2011: March 2011 - 1.55", 2012 - .66"; April 2011 - 2.08", 2012 - 3.93"; May 2011 - 3.43", 2012 - 2.69"; June 2011 - 3.39", 2012 - 2.57"; July 2011 - 5.39", 2012 - .80"; August 2011 - 1.49", 2012 - 1.97" and September 2011 - .76", 2012 - .12".

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Oct. 23.....	58	39	0
Oct. 24.....	48	29	.12
Oct. 25.....	34	29	0
Oct. 26.....	36	19	0
Oct. 27.....	40	20	0
Oct. 28.....	43	32	0
Oct. 29.....	51	32	0
2012 precipitation to date	17.32"		
2011 precipitation to date	21.14"		

Two county commissioner races in 2012



Clara Luvaas

In addition to the general election, voters in Districts 2 and 4 in Clark County will be selecting commissioners when they go to the polls on Tuesday, November 6.

The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The District 2 County Commissioner race will have incumbent Clara Luvaas on the Democratic ticket running against Douglas Loomis on the Republican ticket. District 2 consists of the towns of Bradley and Garden City and the townships of Blaine, Cottonwood, Spring Valley, Warren, Ash, Woodland, Garfield, Elrod, Thorp, Maydell and Eden.

Candidates for District 4 County Commissioner are Republican incumbent Eugene Furness and Robert Bjerke on the Independent ticket. The District 4 area is Ward I & II in the city of Clark.

The candidates were asked some



Douglas Loomis

questions and following are their answers.

1. Please tell us a little bit about yourself, your family, education, occupation, civic and community activities, etc.

Luvaas: I was raised west of Crocker and graduated from Conde High School. After graduation I attended a business university then worked at a financial institute. In 1975 we returned to the Bradley area to farm and raise cattle. I still reside on the farm and have two children and seven grandchildren.

I am a member of the Crocker Lutheran Church and have been active in the 4-H program for several years.

Loomis: My name is Doug Loomis. I grew up in Garden City. My parents were Milo and Marcella Loomis. I graduated from Clark High School and have lived in Gar-



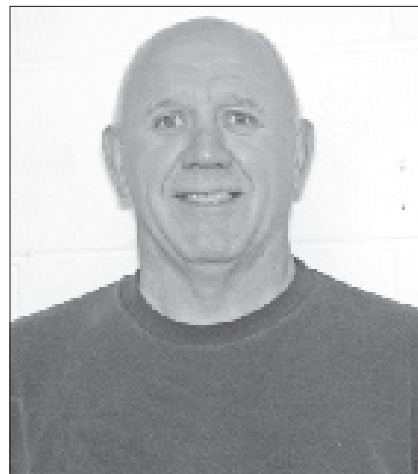
Eugene Furness

den City for the past 23 years. I work for the Clark County Highway department.

I have three children, Alissa, Amanda and Matthew. All three attended the Clark High School, the two oldest have graduated and are presently in college. My youngest child is a junior at Clark High School.

I am currently serving as president on the Board of the Town of Garden City. I have been on the board for over 12 years. I have served on the Garden City volunteer fire department for over 20 years and am presently the Fire Chief. I am currently the treasurer of the Garden City Cemetery Association.

Furness: I was born in Watertown and attended school in Watertown, graduating in 1952. I have a Bachelor of Arts Degree from South



Robert Bjerke

Dakota State University in Brookings and Huron University and then earned a Master's Degree from Northern State University in Aberdeen.

In 1959 I moved to Clark where I coached and taught in the high school. My wife Joan (Bierscheid) and I have raised three sons, Greg Furness - managing partner of the Furness Funeral Home in Clark; Geof (Misty) Furness is a high school teacher/coach at Garretson, living in Dell Rapids and Brad (Marsha) Furness lives in Clark and works for the highway department.

I currently am a Clark County Commissioner and also served on the Glacial Lakes and the Clark Airport boards. I'm also a member of the Clark County Historical Society and currently serving as a director.

Commissioner
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Do not forget to vote on Election Day, November 6

The long awaited end to the 2012 Presidential election is less than one week away. Election 2012 will be held on Tuesday, November 6 with polls being open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Any voter in line at 7:00 p.m. will be allowed to complete the voting process.

Secretary of State Jason Gant reminds voters that state law requires employers to allow employees who do not have town "non-work" hours during the time polls are open, up to two hours off to go vote. He also states that voters will be asked for a photo ID at their polling place. Acceptable IDs include a South Dakota driver license or non-driver ID card, U.S. government issued photo ID card, tribal photo ID card or student photo ID card issued by a South Dakota school. Any voter who does not have an ID card with them will be allowed to sign a person ID affidavit swearing to their identity. Bringing a photo ID to the polling place will speed the voter through the line.

Gant released a fact sheet to address additional questions and eliminate any confusion about voting in the November 6th general election.

1. How do I find my polling place?

Access the Secretary of State's website at www.sdsos.gov. Go to "Where Do I Vote?" and enter your first and last name and your date of birth. Click "Search."

2. If I don't vote on a candidate or question, will my other votes still get counted?

Yes, you are not required to cast a vote in every race or on every question. If you choose to leave a race or questions blank, the rest of the votes on your ballot will still be counted.

3. What are the rules about campaigning in or near polling places?

State law prohibits electioneering within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place. This means anyone who is advocating for the election or defeat of a candidate or a ballot issue must be at least 100 feet away

from the entrance to the polling place.

4. What times do the polls open and close?

The polls will be open on election day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. standard time.

5. How can I access a sample ballot prior to November 6th?

Go to www.sdsos.gov. Find the space entitled "See Your Sample Ballot." Click on "View Your Ballot." Ballots can also be found at your county auditor's office and will be published in local newspapers the week before the election.

6. How can I review the ballot measures before I vote?

The 2012 Ballot Questions can be viewed at www.sdsos.gov. Copies have also been distributed to county auditor offices and libraries across the state and have been published in your local newspaper.

7. Has my district changed due to the 2010 census?

Maps of all South Dakota legislative districts can be accessed at

www.sdsos.gov. These maps were approved at the 2011 Special SD Legislative Session. Information can also be obtained from your local county auditor's office.

8. How can I follow the election results on November 6th?

Election results for all races and ballot measures will be posted beginning at 8:00 p.m. CST on Electionresults.sd.gov.

9. What is the deadline for absentee voting?

The county auditor must receive your application for an absentee ballot no later than 3 p.m. on Election Day.

10. When is the voter registration deadline?

Registration for the November 6th election closed on Monday, October 22nd.

11. I am registered to vote, but I've moved, and I didn't get my voter registration updated by the deadline. Can I still vote?

Yes, you will still be able to vote at your old polling place.

12. How do I absentee vote?

Go to www.sdsos.gov. In the "Absentee Voting" section, you can complete and print out an absentee application. Sign it and mail to your county auditor. Either have the form notarized or include a copy of your photo ID with your application. You may also go to your county auditor's office during business hours to vote.

Gant also states that if a voter's name is not on the voter registra-

tion list at their precinct, election workers will contact the county auditor to resolve the issue. If the issue cannot be resolved and the voter insists they registered to vote in that precinct, the voter is eligible to vote a provisional ballot.

The polling places for Clark County are:

Precinct #1. Townships of Blaine, Cottonwood, Spring Valley, Warren and Town of Bradley at the Bradley Community Center, Bradley, SD.

Precinct #2. Townships of Ash, Woodland, Garfield and Elrod at the Clark County Courthouse Basement, Clark, SD.

Precinct #3. Townships of Raymond, Logan, Fordham and Town of Raymond at the Raymond Fire Hall, Raymond, SD.

Precinct #4. Townships of Thorp, Maydell, Eden and Town of Garden City at the Prairie Ridge Lodge, Garden City, SD.

Precinct #5. Townships of Mt

Election Day
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Forty-fourth Clark Area Snow Queen Festival is Saturday, November 10

The 44th annual Clark County Snow Queen Festival will be held Saturday, November 10, 2012, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Clark High School gym. Two girls from the Clark County area will be vying for a chance to be named Miss Clark County Snow Queen 2013. Twelve girls will be competing for the Junior Snow Queen title.

"Footloose" is the theme for the 44th annual Clark County Area Snow Queen festival. The Mystery Snowman will be revealed at the end of the evening, just prior to the crowning of the queens. Winners will go on to the State Snow Queen Contest in Aberdeen in January.

Snow Queen Jill Stern and Junior Snow Queen Skylar Welk will make their final walks across the stage as reigning royalty and will speak on the last year's experiences.

Various talent acts will again be competing for berths in either the junior or senior divisions.

Vying for the title of Snow Queen will be: Jamie Finstad, daughter of Susan and Steve Berg and Brad and Lisa Finstad and Lacey Hanson, daughter of Garry Hanson and Sylvia Holmstrom.

Junior Snow Queen contestants

Mystery Snowman Clue
44th Annual
Snow Queen Festival
Mystery Snowperson Contest
"It took the next herd to even the score."
Send guesses to Janene Gehrke,
209 1st Ave. W.,
Clark, SD 57225.

are Emily Binger, daughter of Cory and Andrea Binger and Nichole Daphne; Clarissa Daniels, daughter of Shane and Sherri Daniels; Lauren Fjelland, daughter of Todd and Susan Fjelland; Jasmine Foster, daughter of Ryan and Ida Foster; Marcie Foster, daughter of Jessie and Bill Boss and Mark Foster; Chelsie Gehrke, daughter of Dan and Janet Gehrke; Hannah Gruenwald, daughter of Sandi Gruenwald; Falon Meinzer, daughter of Wayne Mendenhall and Lora Meinzer; Allyson Monson, daughter of Jerry and Brenda Monson; Kathryn Paulson, daughter of Bruce and Lisa Paulson; ShyAnn Springer, daughter of Roger and Lorie Springer and Angela Young, daughter of Jeff and Ruth Young.

Little Miss contestants include:

Justyce Brimus, daughter of Kristi Stormo and Jon Brimus; Alivia Gehrke, daughter of Dan and Janet Gehrke; Avery Lee, daughter of Chris and Lisa Lee; Lauren Luvaas, daughter of Nathan and Amy Luvaas; Katelynn Merkel, daughter of Nate and Megan Merkel; Manara Mjoun, daughter of Stacy and Kamal Mjoun; Talyn Ortberg, daughter of Matt and Lacey Ortberg; Valley Roebke, daughter of Chris and Kathy Roebke; Tehya Vig, daughter of Norman and Tara Vig and Ginny Warkenthien, daughter of Ryan and Loretta Warkenthien.

Little Master contestants are Gage Anderson, son of Brian and Jessica Anderson; Zachary Ambrose, son of Crystal and Jordan Henricks; Gabriel Ashley, son of Shannon Ashley; Blake Lenzen, son of Jessica Lenzen and Jeremy Elsen; Julian McElhone, son of Steve and Julie McElhone; Gannon Mohr, son of Heather and Matt Mohr; Waylan Olson, son of Casey and Melissa Olson; Nathan Randall, son of Lucas and Meghan Randall; Alex Reil, son of Anthony and Danielle Reil; Zane Werdel, son of Tony and Angie Werdel and Parker Schmidt, son of Ryan and Amanda Schmidt.



Halloween comes early at Fall Spooktacular

Clark's Fall Spooktacular started off with a costume contest held at the Field House. These four and five year olds patiently waited their turn before the judging began last Friday evening.

From left to right are Rapunzel, alias Alayna

Merkel; Princess Avery Lee; Pink Cowgirl Talyn Ortberg; Kaden Janisch (partially hidden) as a Lego and Logan Seefeldt in his Navy uniform.

For more Spooktacular costume contest pictures, turn to page 11.