

# Clark County Courier

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**Cyclone Senior  
Noah Huber**  
named SD 9AA  
First Team Center



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for the  
story

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## The advantage could go to the deer hunter this weekend

Deer season opens this Saturday. It will be the coldest weekend of the fall, but shrinks in comparison to the cold witnessed in 2014 and 2013.

"It will be colder than it's been and really the first cold snap of the fall," said Clark County Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer Kyle Lenzner when asked about the South Dakota East River Rifle Deer Season opener, on Saturday. "The deer should be moving pretty good."

As of press time, Tuesday afternoon, the high on Saturday is to be around the 32°, freezing mark. The low Friday, into Saturday, is around 20°. This pales in comparison to a year ago, when the low was 0° and the high was 18° on the opening Saturday.

So, weather-wise, this coming weekend should offer pretty nice hunting conditions. Almost an inch of rain, average, fell over the area in the middle part of the week and it looks as if there will be no snow on the ground.

"It could be pretty good for the hunter," said Lenzner. "The deer

numbers seem to be up and all the crops are out. I really don't think there will be any tracking snow. I really think it will be a nice weekend to hunt."

Lenzner continued that the warmth this fall, in his estimation, has slowed down the deer rut. The rut peak was about a week ago, he speculated. "The deer are still chasing pretty good, as this has been going on for awhile and it could be winding down."

There are 600 any deer tags for Clark County this year (which have all been purchased). "From what I've seen and in talking to guys, there are more deer out there than there has been in the last couple of years. Plus, I've seen some very nice deer running around."

Lenzner said that the proof that there are some big deer out there is the road kill on the side of the highway. "Hopefully, the big bucks will survive car accidents this week, but we've been seeing about one a day in recent memory," the conservation

**Deer season**  
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## Speaker Rep. Burt Tulson: "Vets are the Best!"

Every year Clark School puts much emphasis into the Veterans Day Program. Good things were heard about the 2015 program, held on Veterans Day, Nov. 11 at the Clark High School gym.

The entire school was involved in the Veterans Day program, with the high school, middle school and elementary all playing significant roles in honoring the area Veterans. The band and choir played and sang patriotic songs. A highlight was the video presentation with all Veterans in attendance shown in uniform, during their military days.

The 2015 Clark School Veterans Day speaker was S.D. District 2 Rep. Burt Tulson. Tulson used history, humor and personal stories,

as he honored all those who have served our country. His finish was having all the elementary students loudly say three times: "Vets are the Best", a very patriotic way to end a patriotic program.

A group of Clark High School students, above, displayed the 'Missing Man Table' also known as the 'Fallen Comrade Table'. The students scripted this observance with military symbolism and ceremonial remembrance.

Seniors Rory Forest and Emily Binger place the white tablecloth. In the background, CHS students go to the microphone explaining their respective symbolic remembrances with the 'Missing Man Table'.

## Paulson is 2016 Snow Queen

▲ Guzman crowned Junior Snow Queen



Senior Snow Queen Kathryn Paulson, left and Junior Snow Queen Tavie Guzman, right, are all smiles after being crowned at the 47th annual Clark Area Snow Queen Festival on Saturday.

Paulson and Guzman will now compete in their respective South Dakota Snow Queen Festivals in January in Aberdeen.

Kathryn Paulson was crowned the 2016 Clark Area Snow Queen at Saturday night's 47th annual Snow Queen Festival. Retiring queen, Brooke Reidburn then passed on the crown to his year's winner. Paulson will represent the Clark area at the upcoming State Snow Queen Festival in January at Aberdeen.

Kathryn is the daughter of Bruce and Lisa Paulson. She also was crowned Miss Congeniality. First runner-up was Chasity Terrill, daughter of Tony Terrill and Amy Mahlen. The second runner-up was Lauren Fjelland, daughter of Todd and Susan Fjelland.

Tavie Guzman, daughter of Mario and Jackie Guzman was crowned Junior Snow Queen and Miss Congeniality by retiring queen Laney Ulschmid. Guzman will represent the Clark area at the Junior Snow Queen Festival in January. The first runner-up to Junior Snow Queen Guzman was Kendra Gassman, daughter of Kurt and Dory Gassman. Second runner-up was Sydnie Fjelland, daughter of Todd and Susan Fjelland.

The emcee for the night was Kathy McHenry and Larry McHenry was the Mystery Snowperson.

Crowned as Little Miss was Alayna Merkel, daughter of Nate and Megan Merkel. Little Master was Kaden Wookley, son of Andy and

**Snow Queen**  
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## Special Thanksgiving services planned

Next Thursday, November 26 is Thanksgiving. Special Thanksgiving services have been planned in the area.

In Clark, the Plymouth UCC Church will hold a community Thanksgiving service at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, November 22.

In Raymond, the Bethlehem Lutheran Church will hold a 7:45 p.m. service on Thanksgiving Eve, November 25.

In Bradley, St. John's Lutheran will be the host to a joint Thanksgiving service at 7:00 p.m. inviting members of the Crocker Lutheran parish on November 25.

The Prairie Star Lutheran parish will be having their Thanksgiving

parish worship at the Grace Lutheran Church in Willow Lake at 7:00 p.m. on November 25.

A community service for members of the United Presbyterian Church and the Congregational Church will gather at a community service at UCC on November 25 at 6:30 p.m.

The Willow Lake Evangelical Church will have their Thanksgiving worship at 6:30 p.m. on November 25.

*Give Thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good.  
Psalms 107:1*



### WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Nov. 10	60	34	0
Nov. 11	36	26	0
Nov. 12	44	21	0
Nov. 13	46	19	0
Nov. 14	62	32	0
Nov. 15	63	32	0
Nov. 16	50	40	.59
2015 precipitation to date	21.20"		
2014 precipitation to date	15.76"		

Clark County Rainfall Nov. 17	
*Bradley .57"	
*Crocker .54"	
*Raymond 1.00"	
*Carpenter .75"	
*Garden City .62"	
*Clark .59"	
*Henry .95"	
*Vienna .48"	
*Willow Lake .75"	

## 'Handwriting Without Tears' used at Clark Elementary

Those born in the 20th century recall being required to use cursive writing in school in the elementary grades, once they learned the style of writing using tears, or loops at the bottom of letters that helped to connect one letter to another.

This form of cursive handwriting - D'Nealian was dropped about four or five years ago at the Clark School and has been replaced with 'Handwriting Without Tears'. This cursive handwriting program is started in the last semester of the second grade.

"It's a good program," states second grade teacher Melissa Neshheim. "The kids love it, they think it's more adult and they like writing like an adult. I get to see the beginning of it."

"What used to be taught in third and fourth grade is now taught in second grade in comparison of when we were in grade school. Students actually start in preschool with printing letters. With the Handwriting Without Tears style of cursive writing, with more straight lines to the letters (no loops at the

bottom for connecting) the print leads right into cursive - it's a good transition for them. It helps with reversals and we have songs and stories to help them remember some of the techniques."

Technology has impacted the decline of the importance of cursive writing notes the teaching staff and handwriting is not even one of the Common Core standards schools are now held accountable for. Years back when the 'No Child Left Behind' (NCLB) testing started for the core subjects in the nation's school, handwriting wasn't even in the equation.

"We're not spending the time on it, that we used to spend on cursive writing," stated Clark superintendent Luanne Warren. "We will always still need it for signatures on legal documents but letter writing has really become a lost art, I believe. The students do more assignments using technology and keyboards and everything is more hands-on than worksheets."

"Handwriting will never be lost completely, but it won't have the

practice time it used to. When I taught the upper elementary grades in the mid 1980s, we had times throughout the week when we practiced our handwriting. Now we have so many other responsibilities and technology to teach for today's world."

Overall, the emphasis is now on the Common Core standards and learning engagement with more project based activities.

"There is still some importance to it," stated third grade teacher Cindy Wientjes, "but we're not held by standards to implement cursive writing."

"Some learners have more control with cursive writing versus print," continues Wientjes. "They do better at it I think. I've seen students improve using cursive over print, they have more control it seems. We start the year doing workbook pages, they transfer it in the workbook and then at the last quarter they have to write it."

**Handwriting**  
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Third graders, from left to right, Avery Clausen, Parker Schmidt, Alivia Gehrke and Christopher Venjohn kickoff the week making journal entries in Mrs. Wientjes' third grade class at Clark Elementary.

Sitting up straight, feet on the floor, book slightly tilted and 'two hands on the wheel' are the directives

of Mrs. Wientjes as third grade is when students perfect their cursive handwriting skills at Clark. Cursive handwriting is still taught at Clark Schools however keyboarding skills are emphasized more due to the technology needs with computers, iPads and laptops.