

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



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The hometown newspaper of Jacob Arthur, Merrill, Iowa

TOP of the Week

School Christmas concerts upcoming

In 2013 there just isn't much time between Thanksgiving and Christmas, so many holiday activities will be planned in a short amount of time.

School Christmas concerts have been planned at area schools.

At Clark, on Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 7:00 p.m. grades 1-6 will give their choir concert at the CHS gym.

Thursday, Dec. 12, at 7:00 p.m. is the date and time for the grades 5-12 band concert and the grades 7-12 choir concert. It also is at the CHS gym.

On Tuesday, Dec. 17, at 2:45 p.m. in the Clark Elementary gym will be the preschool and kindergarten Christmas concert.

At Willow Lake, the Christmas concert is set for Tuesday, Dec. 10, at 7:00 p.m.

The first holiday concert is at Henry. The Christmas concert will be Tuesday, Dec. 3, at 7:00 p.m.

Is there anything in your mailbox?

If you live within the city of Clark and you haven't been getting any mail, there is a reason for that. There is no mail carrier. This just affects the carrier route, as the rural route mail carriers are all still on the job. So, many City of Clark citizens have not been receiving mail delivery since last Saturday. (As this is subject to change, hopefully this has been corrected and you've received your mail. There was a carrier for Tuesday.)

Hopefully your Clark County Courier will be reaching you at the customary time this Wednesday.

The classified section of the *Clark County Courier* does contain the job description.

Courier will publish early for the holidays

Because Christmas and New Years Day are on Wednesdays this year, the Clark County Courier will publish one day early. The paper will be in the mail on Tuesday both weeks. To accomplish those one-day earlier dates, news copy and advertising deadlines will be on Saturday, Dec. 21 for the Christmas edition and Saturday, Dec. 28 for the New Years edition.

Special Thanksgiving services planned

Tomorrow is Thanksgiving. Many area special Thanksgiving Services have already been held. Those set for tonight include:

In Clark, Peace Lutheran will have their worship service at 7:45 p.m. tonight, the eve of Thanksgiving.

There is a community service at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bryant at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday (today), November 27.

At the Willow Lake Evangelical Church, there will be a 6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving service on Wednesday evening.

In Bradley, at the St. John's Lutheran Church, a Thanksgiving service will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thanksgiving Eve, also inviting members of Crocker Lutheran Church.

Shop locally this Saturday, Nov. 30

This Saturday, Nov. 30, the Clark Chamber of Commerce will continue to join with other small towns across America in celebrating small-town businesses with its 'Small Town Saturday' promotion.

Chamber co-chairman Melanie Smith commented, "We always want our town to be vibrant, look good and continue with growth. Every dollar that you spend here, stays here, supports the local tax base and helps Clark grow."



Jeffrey Paulson and Jay Foster both have their eyes out for a buck this year. This will be Jeffrey's second year hunting and Jay's third and both have any deer tags. 'Expect the unexpected' and 'never underestimate what's going to happen' say the cousins who have both inherited the love of being outdoors in nature and the joy of the hunt.

Young hunters say: "Expect the unexpected"

▲ Cousins Jeff Paulson and Jay Foster look forward to 'bagging a buck'

With a Winchester 308 and a Remington 243, cousins Jay Foster and Jeffrey Paulson will be going for their bucks this year north of Clark.

"I've been hunting with my dad as long as I can remember," said Foster. "I also learned a lot from my grandpa Aly (Alan Foster). He was big into hunting waterfowl and pheasant. We would tag along with him when we could."

"My dad (Russell Foster) hunts every year. I think I was eight when he first took me out with him in the pickup to hunt deer."

Foster continued that when he was 11 he was with his father when he shot a buck. He is proud of his dad for bagging a buck every year. "Dad shoots them in the spine. That's how he's gotten every buck since I can remember."

When asked what he's learned from hunting with his father, the younger Foster replied, "The first buck you see might not always be the one to shoot. Sometimes patience is a virtue."

Getting out in nature and enjoying the wild life is what Paulson enjoys about the hunt. Both young hunters also shoot pheasants and waterfowl.

It was Jeffrey who urged his father Bruce Paulson to get his deer license again after a 10 year hiatus from deer hunting. Said Bruce, "We always hunted pheasants together but when Jeffrey saw a big buck hanging around our farm a couple years ago, he said to me, 'Dad you're getting a deer license this year.'" That buck's antlers now hang on the wall at the Paulson residence and both Paulsons now annually look forward to deer season.

Jeffrey shot a doe last year with his father's Remington 243. He had a youth license which opens the season a week earlier and he ended up getting his deer on opening weekend.

"I shot it towards evening on the second day. You need to leave the deer alone a little while. Keep a scope on him and wait another 5-10 minutes. Then get ready to walk. And make sure it's dead."

"Last year our neighbor shot a deer and dropped it. He went over and took a picture of it and right after the camera clicked, it got up and ran away into a tree belt and it was gone," added Foster.

Jay Foster is in his third year of hunting. Last year he shot a buck on the second day of the first week-

end opener. "He was a 4 x 5 and it took four shots to drop him. I only brought one clip with me that day. It was kind of nerve wracking to see him still running after I shot my last bullet. He dropped 10 yards later," said Foster.

"A guy should be prepared and never underestimate what's going to happen," advised Foster. "It seems like when the weather is miserable, that's when they'll appear. It was cloudy, cold, windy and wet when I shot mine last year and cloudy and foggy the first year I shot a buck."

"My first year hunting I was in our deer stand. I dropped a 5 x 6

Young hunters (continued on page 3)

WEATHER				
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
Nov. 19	53	19	0	
Nov. 20	44	14	0	
Nov. 21	16	0	0	
Nov. 22	29	-2	0	
Nov. 23	16	-4	0	
Nov. 24	38	12	0	
Nov. 25	35	12	0	
2013 precipitation to date	25.19"			
2012 precipitation to date	17.64"			

Cold weather zaps hunter success rate of deer opener

Cold and breezy made for Clark County Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer Kyle Lenzner to only give a 'decent' as his appraisal of the East River rifle deer season opening weekend.

Lenzner said that hunters shot a few deer, but in his estimation not a lot of deer were harvested, compared to normal opening weekends.

"The cold weather had a lot of guys waiting," the game warden added. "Rather than sitting in a tree stand, the cold weather has hunters playing a waiting game."

In Lenzner's estimation less than fifty percent of the deer were harvested on opening weekend. That is the benchmark in recent years of the deer taken on the opening weekend.

"According to the many guys I talked to, many are waiting and only a few got their deer," he said.

It was a very busy weekend however for Lenzner. What kept Lenzner busy were road hunting violations, trespassing violations and shooting from the vehicle violations.

Lenzner said he knew of one report of a hunting related accident when a hunter fell from a tree stand south of Willow Lake. Other than that, there were no injuries reported, he said.

There were some decent bucks taken, Lenzner surmised, but he feels there are some big bucks still out there. "I didn't hear of any monsters taken. Hunters will now have to step up one step on their hunting skills because the deer have found hiding spots where hunters haven't been."

"There still are plenty of deer to be had. There are some nice deer still out there," the Game, Fish and Parks officer stated. "Also, there are no leftover tags remaining."

Hunting in northern Clark County over the weekend was pretty tough, with low hunter numbers and some corn providing easy shelter for the deer. Lenzner said he expected better success this coming weekend as more of the corn is harvested and with hopefully better weather.

What winter will be like is anybody's guess

With a late Thanksgiving, people are thankful they can travel without adversity this holiday. As December begins it usually seems it's with a cold snap, but with no white stuff yet on the ground, it makes driving on dry ground a luxury. In South Dakota, we follow the winter weather quite closely.

The temperature and precipitation outlook for December in South Dakota remains somewhat mixed in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration latest seasonal climate outlook released this week.

For South Dakota, this means equal chances of below average or above average temperature for the next month. The same probabilities hold for precipitation as well, said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist. Edwards added that just to our north, there is a higher likelihood of cooler than average temperatures in December. South Dakota remains between the likely cooler than average to the north and warmer than average region in the southern US.

"The winter outlook, which covers December through February,

leans toward colder than average temperatures - especially in the northern part of the state," said Edwards, following the Nov. 21, 2013 release of the national outlook. The jet stream will likely continue to break repeated cold outbreaks similar to what the area has seen the last several weeks.

For precipitation, Edwards said part of Wyoming and Montana are more likely to receive above average precipitation in December. She added that looking ahead to the winter season through February 2014, there remains some uncertainty for the precipitation patterns that will prevail. But a similar pattern is likely for the whole winter. As for total snowfall, Edwards said it is still anyone's guess.

"Precipitation and snowfall are often the most difficult to forecast," Edwards said. "Without El Nino or La Nina affecting our climate this winter, we rely on climate models and long term trends to give hints to what lies ahead."

The other problem with precipitation is that a single large winter

Winter (continued on page 3)

Ashley Price is the new K-12 guidance director at Clark

Ashley Price started her duties recently as K-12 guidance director at the Clark Schools. This position is also considered her internship as she finishes her degree at South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Price is attending classes in the evenings, commuting to Brookings after school on some days with a schedule that varies. She is earning her degree in counseling and human development, specializing in school counseling.

Price is a 2008 graduate of Roslyn High School and grew up on a farm near Eden. Her parents are Scott and Cindy Sommers who live at Buffalo Lake. Ashley has two sisters, Amanda (Brian) Krause of Milbank and Amber Sommers of Watertown.

Attending school in Roslyn, Price was very active in extra-curricular activities. She participated in girls basketball, volleyball, track, cheerleading, oral interp and drama. She also helped with the school newspaper, yearbook and was on the student council.

It was representing Roslyn as a soprano in the All-State Chorus that led her to meet her husband, Scott Price of Britton. "We would



Ashley Price is the new K-12 guidance director at Clark School. An Eden/Roslyn native, Price is finishing up her degree in counseling and human development, specializing in school counseling at South Dakota State University in Brookings.

drive to Britton for chorus practice together with several small schools. He sang bass representing the Britton school. We all took a charter bus to Rapid City for the concert that year. He asked me out for the first time shortly after we returned from the concert. We were married on August 4, 2012."

Ashley and Scott currently live

in Watertown with their black lab 'Tess'. Scott is a police officer in Watertown.

"With commuting back and forth to college, the time consumption of it all is my main challenge right now," says Price, "but I really appreciate the opportunity to start my career as I finish up my degree."

Christmas Memories & Traditions 2013 Clark, South Dakota

Chamber has many "home town promotions"

The Christmas lights will soon be up and operating in the city of Clark, there are special promotions for the shoppers and the shelves are being loaded with gift merchandise.

The Clark Chamber of Commerce will be sponsoring Christmas Memories & Traditions 2013. Clark Bucks are the prize and punch cards are the avenue to gain or win these Clark Bucks.

Christmas Open Houses will be upcoming, with Dacotah Bank's on Friday, December 13, Ken's Food Fair on Friday, December 13 and Heather's Bistro on Saturday, December 14.

The Clark Chamber of Commerce reminds everyone to remember to fill their Christmas Memories 2013 punch cards. Cards are available at any participating Chamber business. Between November 28 and December 21 these cards can be used any participating Chamber member business for cash only purchases, no charge purchases. Every card must have \$100 in total purchases and must be completely filled before submitting for the drawing to be held on December 21 at the Clark American Legion building.

There will also be some fun for the kids, Dacotah Bank is offering a free movie for kids on Saturday mornings. On November 30, December 7, 14 and 21, at 10:00 a.m., Dacotah Bank will be showing a movie in their basement. The movie will last approximately two hours and snacks and beverages will be provided. This week's movie is Monster's Inc.

The Clark Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their annual Christmas open house on December 21 at the Clark American Legion building from noon to 2:00 p.m. for free bingo. Drawings for the prizes will be held at 2:00 p.m. One must be present to win the \$150 Clark Bucks prize. One need not be present to win the \$100 Clark Bucks or the \$50 Clark Bucks drawings.