



TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Nov. 25	30	15	.02
Nov. 26	19	-10	0
Nov. 27	16	-8	0
Nov. 28	23	11	0
Nov. 29	37	-1	0
Nov. 30	5	-7	0
Dec. 1	16	-10	0
2014 precipitation to date	15.78"		
2013 precipitation to date	25.19"		

High school sports season is upon us

The high school winter sports seasons are upon us. The Cyclone Wrestling Booster Club Tournament is this Saturday at the Clark High School gym, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Triangulars and tournaments continue to be the trend in high school wrestling, so only two events are scheduled for Clark and one for Willow Lake the entire season.

The Cyclone girls and boys basketball teams open at Clark the following Saturday, Dec. 13, with the Sioux Valley doubleheader. The trend this year is for more doubleheaders, and if it is on Saturday, to play the doubleheader in the afternoon. Because of the doubleheader, notice that Clark is the site for these doubleheaders.

This week's paper is not a repeat

In 2015, April Fools Day is on a Wednesday and we at the Courier wish it would have been last Wednesday. If you're wondering why, it's because in this 'computer age' we magically listed last Wednesday as Dec. 3. So we are printing back-to-back Dec. 3 front pages. (All pages were correct inside the paper.)

Be on the lookout for any and all scams

Scams, especially targeting senior citizens are a constant thing we have to be aware of and to keep on the look out for, continually. Clark Police Chief Jeremy Wellnitz wants everyone to know of these two latest scams.

Sweepstakes scams: Victim will either get a call or a mailing saying they won monies, cars, etc. The victim will have to send money to the scammer to pay taxes or they will say paperwork is stopped until payment is received. If you have to send money to receive something it's more than likely a scam. The scammers will ask you to wire transfer the monies through a Western Union or Money Gram or request a money order.

IRS Scam: Victims are told they owe money to the IRS and it must be paid promptly through a pre-loaded debit card or wire transfer. If the victim refuses to cooperate, they are then threatened with arrest, deportation or suspension of a business or driver's license.

Please note that the IRS will never call to demand immediate payment, nor will the agency call about taxes without having first mailed you a bill.

To protect yourself from becoming a victim of a scam, do not give out any personal information over the phone if you are not the one who initiated the call. If you feel you may be a victim of a scam, contact your local law enforcement agency.

Retailers looking for good holiday season

With just three weeks of shopping days left until Christmas, area merchants are thinking sales are on a pace to equal last year, or at least that is the hope this holiday season.

Local retailers are looking for a good holiday season this year and most comments have been favorable and positive concerning buying locally.

Small Town Saturday on the Saturday after Thanksgiving was a good day for local retailers.

Melanie Smith, Clark Flower & Gift Shop said, "The early snow has helped in getting people thinking more of Christmas. We've already sold some Christmas arrangements and a fair amount of snowmen and nativities. We had a good open house, selling a variety of items," and co-owner Linda Seefeldt concurred.

"We sold a lot of jewelry and scarves at our open house, we have a nice variety of new scarves this year which seem to be popular. Our Dakota Care packages are always a big hit.

"With Christmas ornaments, gold is making a comeback after silver being a huge hit in recent years. Bright colors and hot colors are a trend, for instance lime green and red versus the traditional Kelly green or Christmas green and red used for decorating. The lime green used makes it a little brighter. Repurposed old windows decorated for Christmas are popular like the ones in our front window. We know our customers and what they like, so that helps in ordering what people



The frosty weather can't keep Frosty away. In the front window of the Clark Flower and Gift Shop, several snowmen look out on Commercial street, perhaps planning to make a break back to a more compatible environment.

We fragile mortals, meanwhile, are anxious to be inside among the warm twinkle lights and cheery holiday decor. Christmas Eve is but three weeks from today and you know that the time will seem to fly by.

Retailers (continued on page 7)



Clark County Ambulance Administrator Pam Grensberg is shown holding the pads applied to the chest that deliver the shock from an Automated External Defibrillator or A.E.D. machine. Four A.E.D. machines received through a grant recently have been distributed to the outlying areas of Raymond, Carpenter, Crocker and Garden City.

Portable defibrillators now available in outlying areas

"Time is of the essence when dealing with cardiac dysrhythmias (also known as arrhythmia or irregular heartbeat). The faster one can act upon signs and symptoms, the better," stated Pam Grensberg of the Clark County Ambulance service. "We've recently received through an Automated External Defibrillator (A.E.D.) grant, four portable A.E.D. machines that will be located at Raymond, Carpenter, Crocker and Garden City. Currently there are A.E.D.'s at: Bradley (fire department and community center); Vienna at the Cargill Elevator; Willow Lake (ambulance and at the school) and besides in the Clark ambulance, the Clark High School also has an A.E.D.

In Raymond, one is located at the

Raymond Fire Department and the contact person there is Russ Hurlbert.

In Carpenter, one is located at the United Methodist Church with Crystal Grann being the contact person.

In Crocker, one is located at the Crocker Lutheran Church and Nancy Tarbox is the contact person.

In Garden City, one is located at the Garden City Post Office and Doug Loomis is the contact person.

An Automated External Defibrillator or A.E.D. is a portable machine that can be attached to a patient, will analyze the situation and if needed will deliver a shock to the heart for those who think they may be having a heart attack. Calling 911 is the first step one must take,

then CPR, then defibrillation.

Men and women often have different symptoms when experiencing heart problems, she noted. "Men, more so, have a tightening of the chest or a heavy and tight feeling in the chest, maybe radiating down one or both arms or up to the jaw. One could also be experiencing a shortness of breath, or sweating all over the body (diaphoretic), like when you're sick.

Grensberg continued, "Women are more likely to experience different symptoms, besides those above, like pain in the shoulder or jaw, upper back pain, nausea, paleness and having a bad feeling that something is not quite right.

Ambulance (continued on page 7)

Chicken ordinance does not pass in the City of Clark

The chicken question officially came to an end Monday at the December meeting of the Clark City Council. The council has been debating and discussing whether or not to allow chickens within the city limits for the better part of a year.

Mayor Larry Dreher broke the tied vote. He cast his vote against allowing chickens and has been very consistent the past several meetings letting everyone know how he felt if it came down to a tie-breaking situation.

Those in favor of allowing the chicken ordinance were Belinda Hanson, Tony Woodland and Vicki Orris. Against the ordinance were Dennis Larson, Kerry Kline and Louann Streff.

This vote, at the December meeting, came about with little discussion on the agenda for at least six meetings in 2014. The council also decided that Tammie Wilson, who has ducks in her back yard would be allowed to keep her ducks as long as the current ones are alive. "When this said flock is done - it's done," said the mayor.

Two other key ordinances were given second reading by the council, and passed.

The dynamic braking ordinance passed on a 5-1 vote of the council. Council person Vicki Orris voted against this measure, saying that she had talked to many constituents and "the talk doesn't favor this new ordinance," she said.

Four signs will appear on US Highway 212 governing this ordinance and Mayor Dreher will talk to the State (Department of Transportation officials) to see what other measures the city can take as to slowing traffic down, especially from the west, in the City of Clark.

Regarding the supplemental budget ordinance which was passed by the council, finance officer Jackie

Luttrell stated that the golf course numbers look high and they are, but when the entire first year budget numbers and fees and receipts are all looked at, it will make sense and at that time she will better be able to explain and be on top of the golf course budget/expenditures.

The supplemental budget included: 101-General Fund; Highway and streets - \$50,000; Golf Course - \$65,000. 226-Library; Libraries - \$500. 302-TIF District #2; Debt Services - \$32,724.

In other business:

▲ A 20-minute executive session was held for the purpose of personnel and contractual reasons. No motion was necessary following the closed session.

▲ An ordinance regarding parked cars on city streets, following snowfall, was given a first reading.

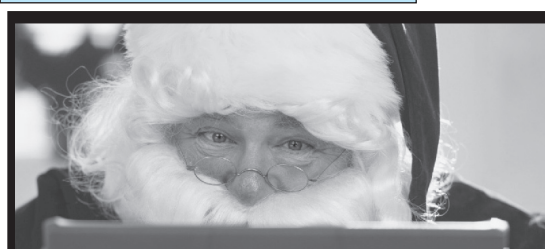
During his 'mayor's comments' portion of the meeting, Dreher said that he had been hearing of a rift between the city and Sturdevant's located on US 212, just west of Smith St. Dreher stated that communication is healthy and on going, and that cars have been moved and it will hopefully stay that way. Dreher wanted it to be made perfectly clear that he didn't feel there was a rift, but he is glad the block has been cleaned up.

▲ In his police report, Jeremy Wellnitz logged 650 miles, had 65 calls for service, three accidents and has been kept very busy with prior crimes reports.

Wellnitz applied for and received a \$5,490 grant from Homeland Security, for the new (yet to hire) police officer.

The council also approved the mayor to sign a \$9,980 Zuercher License and Software agreement. This is for records management,

City of Clark (continued on page 7)



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