

## City looking at new Fire Hall?

The final City of Clark council meeting for 2018 was held Monday, Dec. 3, at the Ulyot Building. Finishing the fiscal calendar year and looking forward to 2019 was all part of the 18 point agenda schedule.

Clark Fire Chief Shane Hagstrom addressed the city council about lack of room at the Clark Fire Hall.

"We've run out of room," said Hagstrom and he wanted to ask the council about funding for a new Fire Hall as well as seeing how accommodating the council would be for a new Fire Hall.

Hagstrom wasn't ready to talk exact amounts or new location site, but wanted to 'bounce off the council' the fact that the fire department was out of room for their equipment and looking to build, as expanding isn't an option either.

This was a five-year plan (type) request, ended Hagstrom, asking the council to budget annually for this project.

The next agenda item was 'Clark County Development Corporation', but with none of the economic development committee members in attendance, nothing was discussed on this subject.

Three important ordinances were passed by the council:

1) The city council approved municipal salaries for 2019. Mayor John Pollock increased salaries at a three percent increase from a year

ago. Also, a year ago the mayor went from a salary scale to an hourly wage scale. These salaries will be published next week in the *Clark County Courier*.

2) Water rate fees will be \$5.20 per every 1,000 gallons and the line fee service will be \$13.50.

3) The City of Clark 2018 Budget was supplemented to: finance office, \$9,500; streets, \$13,500 and parks, \$12,200.

### In other business:

▲ Street superintendent Roger Collins, in department updates, said that he is readying the ice skating rink, painting bleacher sand he again queried the council about a 'heavy duty construction frame' truck, in the \$19,000 - \$23,000 range, for purchase.

▲ The January, 2019 meeting will be on Jan. 7.

▲ The council passed the Luke Encroachment Easement resolution.

▲ In her department update segment, finance officer Jackie Luttrell asked the city council about a golf course clubhouse drywall estimate. She would like to see interior improvements at the clubhouse this winter and asked if she could get started 'within allocated monies'.

▲ Mayor Pollock ended the meeting thanking the council for a smooth 2018. "The year has gone well" he stated.

## Retailers looking for a good holiday season

It's the time of year when thoughts turn to winter and Christmas. November and Thanksgiving are both history.

With less than three weeks of shopping days left until Christmas, area merchants are thinking that sales are on pace equal to 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 very favorable and positive concerning buying locally.

Linda Seefeldt of the Clark Flower and Gift Shop stated, "Our Open House was excellent-very well attended." In recent years Clark Flower and Gift has been hosting the open house the week prior to Thanksgiving.

Added Melanie Smith of the Clark Flower and Gift Shop, "Traditional Christmas colors such as red, gold and silver are big this year, as are farm house decorations. Lighted things, such as figurines, houses and lanterns, along with plaid are hot again this year." Giftware and Christmas decorations were top sellers during the open house.

The Clark Flower and Gift Shop has been in operation for 41 years, and for the last 31 years, South Dakota Care Packages have been a staple.

Said Seefeldt, "Thirty-one years ago when the Red Owl Store, in



Dekker Hardware owner Pam Dekker said that Christmas lights, Christmas trees, yard decorations and ice melt have been items customers have been purchasing in recent weeks.

Clark closed, we put SDSU cheese, Rushmore Mountain Taffy, Wooden Shoe Cheese and Sturgis Jerky in gift boxes. We took off from there with South Dakota 'stuff' and the Dakota Care Packages were born." At Ken's Food Fair the Christmas Open House is slated for next Wednesday, Dec. 12 and manager-in-training Scott Drexler invites

As December is here, Christmas is less than three weeks away. Shopping locally is so important to the area economy.

one and all to the open house. Drexler takes over January 1, 2019 for the retiring Kim Nelson.

"We have many cooking and baking items for all of your cooking and baking needs," said Drexler.

"We have had a nice fall and we are looking forward to the loyal customers during the Christmas season."

Pam Dekker at Dekker Hardware

said that Christmas decorations and lights and Christmas tree sales are strong this year. "Now with winter weather-snow shovels, ice melt, ice scrapers and gloves have been going out the door."

The Nuwave Bio-air Fryer has

**Retailers**  
(continued on page 4)



## Fire destroys trailer house in southeast Clark

A stove fire was the culprit of this trailer house fire in southeast Clark just east of Cloud Street on 6th Ave. S.E., Saturday morning.

The fire started at 8:52 a.m. at the house owned by Clinton Brooks and leased by Taryn and Akwa Imbali. The family of five and two other occupants were at home when the fire started. Everyone got out okay. The trailer is a total loss.

Local ICAP services provided immediate clothing, as everything in the house was a total loss.

Clark Police Chief Jeremy Wellnitz, along with the Clark Fire Department and the Clark County Ambulance, were on the scene, aided by the Clark County Game, Fish and Parks and Clark County Sheriff's Department.

## Sunday School programs to be held in the area

Many children's Christmas programs in individual churches will be held this holiday season. Christmas celebrations will continue as Christians in the community and around the world recognize the birth of the Savior and the new life he brought to the world.

### Clark services

At the Clark United Methodist Church a children's program will be held on December 16 during worship at 11:00 a.m.

At St. Paul Lutheran, they will be having their Sunday School program on Sunday, December 16, at 5:00 p.m.

The Assembly of God will have their church Christmas program with children and adults on Sunday, December 9 at 6:30 p.m. with fellowship to follow.

At the Plymouth Congregational Church (UCC) their children's Sunday School program will be held on December 16 at 9:30 a.m. during the church service.

### Willow Lake area

On Sunday, December 16 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Vienna, the children of the church will be presenting their Christmas program at the 8:30 a.m. worship.

The Sunday before Christmas is the date, December 23, for Grace Lutheran Church's Sunday School program to start at 11:00 a.m.

Willow Lake Evangelical will have their parish Sunday School program at 6:00 p.m. on the 24th.

At the United Methodist Church in Carpenter their Sunday School/Parish Christmas program will start at 6:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. This will also be their candle-light service.

### Bryant

In Bryant at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church, their Sunday School children will present their Christmas program during worship on December 23 with the service to begin at 9:45 a.m.

### Bradley

St. John's Lutheran Church in

Bradley will have their Sunday School program at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, December 23.

The Bradley Christian School will have their Christmas program on Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church.

### Henry

In Henry at the United Methodist Church, on Sunday, December 16, a children's Sunday School program will be held during the 10:45 a.m. service.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Nov. 27	15	4	0
Nov. 28	24	5	.01
Nov. 29	27	23	.01
Nov. 30	34	24	0
Dec. 1	34	25	0
Dec. 2	30	19	0
Dec. 3	22	19	.01
2018 precipitation to date	17.95		
2017 precipitation to date	22.95		

# Leland Harding III has always loved music

On thinking back on how his music career began - singing for other people - Leland Harding, III recalled when about eight years old. "I sang for our neighbor in Watertown, Jim Stadheim, who was a big fan of Elvis and loved his song, 'I Love', which is actually a Tom T. Hall original that Elvis sometimes sang with the lyrics that started - I love, little baby ducks, old pickup trucks, slow moving trains...and rain. He liked my singing and told me he had to have his brother Harlan listen to me. Well I went over there just down the road with Jim and sang for Harlan and he gave me a dollar. Then he asked me to sing another one and gave me another dollar. That was the first time I remember thinking maybe I could make a living doing this," recalled Harding. "I've always loved music."

The 1997 Watertown High School graduate spent 35 years of his life in Watertown before moving to Willow Lake with his wife Cassandra and family. The couple has two children - Leland Harding, IV and Ella who are nine and six years old respectively and attend the Willow Lake School.

Harding's mother and father are both talented musicians with musical backgrounds. His mother sang with Wade Jackson on Don't Be Angry singing the response and his father traveled with bands playing backup for Waylon Jennings and Charlie Pride to name a few. The couple met in Aberdeen at a club. Harding's father Skip is originally from Tampa, Fla. and his mother was formerly a Zubke from Waubay. "My dad heard my mom on the radio, before he met her," added L. Harding. Leland has two sisters, Tammy and Tawnya.

For a time Tammy sang harmony with Leland from 2000 to 2007

approximately in the family band. Currently both of his sisters are teachers in the Watertown School System.

Leland Harding, III & Family Tradition, the Hardings and Family Tradition are all names the band has gone by in the past. Along with his parents their band was inducted in the S.D. Country Music Hall of Fame and Legends in 2015.

Harding has a studio in his basement at his home in Willow Lake. Attending a recording workshop in Ohio back in 2001, helped Harding with the ins and outs of the methods of recording and marketing.

For a short time, Leland joined with a couple others to form a rock band called 'Snapcracker' in 2000 and 2001. But country music called him back and has always been in his blood, he noted.

His first album (CD) debuted in 2006 named 'Turn to Me', which is

a traditional country album. He's also helped others singing their songs written and has performed with many local artists over the years he stated.

His second album, 'You Got to Have Faith' he co-wrote with his friend Anton Mack from the Krantzburg area. "We wrote the words and

**Harding**  
(continued on page 6)

Leland Harding, III, from Willow Lake thoroughly enjoys singing and playing the guitar and started when he was very young singing for his neighbor. From a musical family with the pipes to prove it, he enjoys singing gospel music the best and has two CD's under his belt so far in which he collaborated with a friend, writing the lyrics and the music. "I'm country now," stated the melodic singer who performs along with his family's band 'Family Tradition'.



# Gather

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