

Clark County Courier

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SATURDAY IS CHRISTMAS IN CLARK! LIGHTED PARADE STARTS AT 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday, December 7, 2022

Vol. 142, No. 23

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

\$1.00

The hometown newspaper of Lynda & Tom Gerhardt, Glendale, Ariz.



Clark Elementary School Winter Concert was Monday night

Clark Elementary School students brought the holiday spirit to life during their Winter Concert Monday night. This was the first concert for new elementary music director Alicia Turnquist. The songs presented by the students were: Second and third grade performing - "Winter Holiday" and "No School;" second grade - "First Day of Winter"; and third grade - "Blanco Es el Invierno." The preschool, kindergarten and first grade classes sang - "Here We Go A-Shoveling" and "If I Were a Reindeer;" preschool and kindergarten - "Winter Wiggles;" first grade - "Let's Build a Gingerbread House."

The fourth and fifth grade classes sang "In December," "Snow," "In Winter" and "Cold and Fugue Season." The fifth grade band performed "Jingle Bells," "Good King Wenceslas," "Dreydl Dreydl" and "Holiday Sampler." Pictured above are preschool through fifth grade students performing the combined finale "Seven Feet of Snow." As the final song of the night came to a close, the students tossed snowballs of cotton into the air.

Christmas in Clark activities are on Saturday

▲ Tis the season for holiday events

This Saturday is Clark's fourth annual Lighted Parade. Parade participants line up at 5:30 p.m. at the Clark Elementary School. Spectators can share in the Christmas Spirit by watching the passing lighted floats on the normal parade route starting at 6:00 p.m. Christmas in Clark, sponsored by the Clark Chamber of Commerce, has events planned during the day Saturday as well. From 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. there will be games for children set up at the Clark Legion Hall. Games will include: plinko, roof bean bag toss, a snowman game and individual tables set up for kids to make holiday inspired arts and crafts. Santa and Mrs. Claus will be

attending the Legion hall during the games and crafts. Families and their children can take photos and share their Christmas wishes with Santa and Mrs. Claus in between all of the other fun activities like the cake walk or listening to special stories at the library corner.

Saturday looks to be the warmest day of the week that doesn't include snowfall. A good weather opportunity to hang out on Main Street for a chance to hop on the Polar Express for a ride around town.

Get a jump on the holiday festivities on Friday by stopping in to the Emil M. Larson Public Library for their patron appreciation and Christmas open house on Friday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. with a spe-



cial appearance by Santa from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Ken's Food Fair - Clark is also hosting their Christmas open house

from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Ken's will be offering door prizes, food samples and a special Santa visit.

Clark Building Center & Ranch Supply is hosting a two-day Christmas Open house beginning Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and again Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. where they will serve coffee, cookies and treats.

There will be other holiday inspired open houses and events throughout the county as the month goes on. Dacotah Bank in Clark will be hosting their Holiday open house on December 15 where you can stop into the lobby for coffee, cider,

Christmas in Clark
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Clark 7-12 band playing at USD

The Clark 7-12 band is heading to Vermillion to play pep band for the University of South Dakota Coyotes basketball teams on December 14. The women's basketball team will take on the University of Tennessee at Martin Skyhawks and the men's basketball team will take on the Coastal South Carolina Chanticleers. "We are looking forward to this unique experience and are quite honored to be asked to play," said 6-12 band and vocal instructor Amy Nelson.

The assistant Athletic Director for Marketing and Promotions at USD, Jarren Duffy, reached out to Nelson to ask if Clark's band could perform at the event because USD's band and student body would be on Christmas break. "The Director of Athletic Bands suggested that he reach out to us!" Nelson said.

The band will play for the women's basketball team at 5:30 p.m. and the men's team at 8:00 p.m.

Clark 7-12 Band
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Sunday School programs to be held in the area

Many children's Christmas programs in area 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

St. Michael Catholic Church will

hold a children's program following mass at 11:00 a.m. on December 11.

At St. Paul Lutheran Church, a children's program will be held on December 18 during worship service at 9:00 a.m.

The Assembly of God Church will hold a Family Christmas program

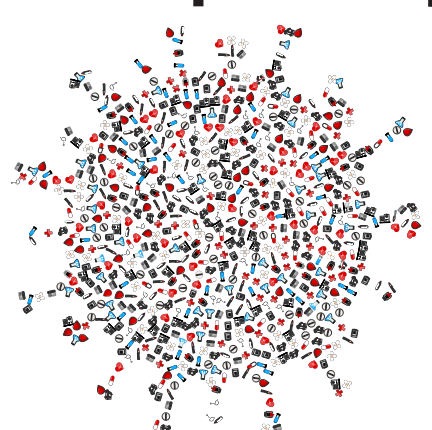
Sunday School Programs
(continued on page 4)

The season of respiratory illnesses is in full swing

Coronavirus or COVID-19, Influenza and Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) are three of the most commonly spread upper respiratory illnesses this time of year and the Clark area is no exception.

"COVID is pretty much at a constant pace in the community as it has been for several months," Sanford Clinic - Clark's Physician's Assistant Louann Streff said. By now, we are no stranger to COVID-19, the symptoms and the protective measures that need to be taken to avoid infection.

High risk categories include those with chronic health conditions and people age 65 and over. For those high risk populations, once infected, Streff commented



that there is an oral medication called Paxlovid that may help symptomatically.

Deb Waples, Director of Nursing at Avantara Clark, said, "There are currently no residents or staff af-

ected by COVID-19 or Influenza." While it is not mandated, vaccinations and boosters are available to all staff and residents at Avantara - Clark, which Waples believes to be an advocate to the health of the facility at this time.

According to the South Dakota Department of Health COVID-19 dashboard, in the last 30 to 60 days there were 36 reported cases of COVID-19 in Clark County, with 21 of those cases being reported in November.

Statewide reported cases at the beginning of the season averaged around 262,000, and in the last few weeks have had a steady rise up to around 303,000.

The South Dakota Department

of Health currently lists statewide Influenza activity as high. Influenza

Respiratory Illnesses
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WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
November 29.....	39	18	0
November 30.....	22	10	0
December 1.....	26	10	0
December 2.....	38	25	0
December 3.....	36	-5	0.03
December 4.....	31	7	0
December 5.....	39	8	0
2022 precipitation to date	20.33		
2021 precipitation to date	24.26		



Pictured above is the Angel Tree at Dacotah Bank in Clark. Several tags are left for this season. On the left is Dacotah Bank representative Heather Koons with Inter-Lakes Community Action Partnership representative from Clark County, Misty Riter.

Angel trees serve the less fortunate

Angel Trees are up at Dacotah Bank locations in Clark and Willow Lake this week. The Angel Tree has tags with a wish item for the holiday season for people and families in need.

There are 35 families in Clark County that have children with Christmas wishes on the Angel Tree. In addition to the families, there are also residents from Roettell's Assisted Living, Fay Wookey Memorial Assisted Living Center and Avantara Clark.

If interested in helping, you can

visit either Dacotah Bank location and sign out the card chosen from the tree. The gifts are due by Saturday, December 10 but will still be accepted on Monday, December 12. Once purchased, the gift can be returned to the location the card was picked up from.

Cash donations are also accepted for those who do not have time to shop but still want to help. Any cash donations will be used to purchase the remaining items from the tags.

'Tis the season for devices!



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