



Little bit of everything at Legislative Cracker Barrel

Legislative Cracker Barrels provide an opportunity for state legislators and local constituents to spend an hour and a half talking state politics and matters that do matter, legislatively speaking.

District II legislators, Rep. Lana Greenfield, Rep. Kaleb Weis and Sen. Brock Greenfield, all republicans, visited with local patrons in a question and answer format, Monday at the Ulyot Building, in Clark. Farmers Union moderator Gail Temple asked each legislator to introduce themselves, tell what committees they serve on and maybe highlight a bill or two that they have sponsored or that has gained their interest.

Rep. Greenfield serves on the local government committee and chairs the house education committee. Rep. Weis is on the commerce, transportation and energy committees. Sen. Greenfield, who has been a legislator at Pierre since 2000, serves on the appropriations and state affairs committee.

As Weis, a rural Aberdeen resident, introduced himself, he noted that at about the half-way point of the 2020 session that 280 bills have been introduced in the house of

representatives and 180 bills have been introduced in the senate.

"Being my second year at Pierre, I've learned that we get hit heavy with comments such as 'why are you wasting your time with this (bill)?"' said Weis and he countered, "One person's stupid idea is one person's pet project." He then explained the process of how a bill becomes law and the importance of the respective committees within the process.

In the 90 minute discussion period, much information from the legislators was forthcoming as no one came to the meeting to argue but rather to learn and let the legislators know how they feel on bills that affect them.

Clark superintendent Luanne Warren was interested in a pair of bills that would affect education.

Sen. Greenfield explained that in 2016 the legislature mandated a capital outlay funding formula. "This redistributing has really hurt rural districts," he stated and there are bills introduced this year trying to fix this problem. Sen. Greenfield also commented that he does not support the bill changing the name of vo tech institutes in the state to 'colleges'.

Rep. Greenfield, on a different educational topic, talked an immunizations bill that has put the public in a questioning mode. "As immunizations have increased over the years, because there are so many and there also are many cases of learning disabilities, we are having a chance to hear both sides of the issue." Rep. Weis added that this is a parental rights topic. "Parents are having a chance to talk about things that usually they don't have a chance to talk about."

Hemp has been a 'hot button topic' at the legislature for the second consecutive year. Darin Lewis, who is employed at the local conservation service office, is interested in using hemp fabric, which could be cheaper than plastic, for lining tree shelter belts, etc. He stated that each year, in Clark County, over 95 miles of plastic fabric, is used.

He was talking about the conservation side of hemp, rather than the enforcement side and is hoping a hemp production site can be created in northeast South Dakota.

The hemp talk turned to production and Weis doesn't feel that a lot

Cracker Barrel
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The Clark District II Legislative Cracker Barrel has been held on the President's Day Monday in recent years. Sponsored by the Clark County Farmers Union and Clark County Farm Bureau, constituents come to the Ulyot Building to hear legislators' thoughts, ideas, opinions and to ask questions on various bills

and proposed legislation. Prior to the Cracker Barrel, District II legislators visit with Farmers' Union moderator of the program, Gail Temple, right. Left to right, Rep. Lana Greenfield, Sen. Brock Greenfield and Rep. Kaleb Weis.



Soup'er Bowl sledding for second graders

At the end of their deliveries of food items to the Clark ICAP food pantry last Friday - the Willow Lake second grade class had fun on the 'sledding hill' along 8th Avenue NW in Clark. Superintendent Chris Lee was right in there with them as the kids and sleds from the school were brought along.

Above, Mr. Lee assists a three-some at the top of

the hill as second grade teacher Mrs. Edleman waits her turn to do the same. After a fun time of giggling, screaming and running back up the hill to do it all over again, the group stopped to warm up at the Rogger and Pam Lee home for hot chocolate and treats.

This is the third year this group of students has won the Soup'er Bowl of Caring challenge at the school.

Retired Lt. Col. Lewis is county Veterans' Service Officer

"I really respect military veterans. So when the County Veteran's Service Officer position became available, I thought the job would be a great way to continue to support those who have served," stated the new Veteran's Service Officer - Retired Lt. Col. Darin Lewis of Clark.

Lewis began his position on January 23 with his office located on the west side of the courthouse on the first floor. His office hours will be on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

"I stand ready to answer any questions that one may have," stated the Veteran's Officer. "Our main purpose in this office is to assist veterans and their eligible family members in acquiring the benefits and services available to them. All counties and most tribes in the state have a Veteran's Service Officer."

"We don't want anyone to miss out on important benefits for which they may be eligible," continued Lewis. "Benefits and services which include compensation for service-connected disabilities, veterans and widows pensions, education and on-the-job training, burial benefits, V.A. healthcare and numerous other benefits."

Lewis is a 1985 graduate of Clark High School and moved back to Clark with his wife Kim in 2017. The couple live on a farm south of Clark. They are the parents of two grown children, Robert Lewis and Kacy Rau.

Lewis started his military ca-



Clark County has a new Veteran's Service Officer. Retired Lt. Colonel Darin Lewis, a 1985 Clark High School graduate who moved back to the Clark area in 2017, has taken on the position. His office on the first floor of the Clark County Courthouse is open on Mondays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. His office phone there is 532-5435.

reer in 1984 when he enlisted with the South Dakota National Guard. While attending Northern State University, he joined the ROTC program and became the 1990 Distinguished Honor graduate, with a Bachelors Degree in Business Marketing and Management and a minor in Military Science.

Commissioned into the U.S. Army in 1990 he then attended the Aviation Officer course and helicopter flight school in Alabama. Just under 22 years later, Lewis retired from active military service at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In 2011, Lewis started working for the Department of Defense as a Counter Improvised Explosive De-

vice (IED) Program Manager. In 2017 he decided to retire and move back to Clark.

He is currently a part-time farmer, the American Legion County Commander and a Clark County Conservation District Supervisor.

Retired Lt. Col. Lewis also enjoys volunteering such as work done on the local Charters of Freedom, its Constitution Day presentation, Government Day and activities through the local conservation district.

"I believe it's important to give back to our town and community," ends Lewis. "I like to volunteer where I can be of service."

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services

Next Wednesday, February 26, Ash Wednesday begins the Easter Lenten Season with most churches in the area starting the first of a season of worship services.

In Clark, a community service will be held at the Clark United Methodist Church with a meal at 5:30 p.m. followed by worship at 6:30 p.m.

Saint Michael Catholic Church in Clark will hold their Mass with distribution of Ashes at 7:00 p.m. In Henry, at St. Henry's Catholic Church, the Ash Wednesday service will be at 5:30 p.m.

In Carpenter, the United Methodist Church will have services at 7:00 p.m. St. John's Lutheran Church in Bradley will combine with Crocker Lutheran Church for a service to be held at St. John's Lutheran in Bradley at 7:00 p.m. with lunch to follow. The Prairie Star Lutheran par-

ish begins their Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service to be held at 7:00 p.m. on February 26 at Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

The Lake Gospel Church will have their Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26. In Raymond, the Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church will have an "Ash Tuesday" worship service with Communion on Tuesday, February 25.

Willow Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church will have their Ash Wednesday Communion worship at 7:00 p.m.

Moving forward with the Clark Ecumenical Lenten series, the first Wednesday Lenten service will be held on February 26 with a 5:30 p.m. light supper followed by a 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday service at Clark UMC.

A 5:30 p.m. supper will be followed by 6:30 worship on the dates and locations being:

March 4 at Plymouth UCC, March 11 at St. Paul Lutheran, March 18 at Plymouth UCC, March 25 at St. Paul Lutheran and April 1 at United Methodist Church in Clark.

Holy Week services have been planned for the week of April 6 through April 10 at the Plymouth UCC church at 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m.

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Feb. 11.....	26	10	0
Feb. 12.....	31	9	0
Feb. 13.....	27	-20	.01
Feb. 14.....	4	-16	0
Feb. 15.....	29	-16	0
Feb. 16.....	30	14	0
Feb. 17.....	24	19	0
2020 precipitation to date			1.04
2019 precipitation to date			1.69

Time to file for local government positions

Local government is important. Many municipal openings are available throughout Clark County this spring as well as the Henry School Board. The municipal elections this year fall on Tuesday, April 14, 2020.

2020 Municipal and Henry School Board openings include: Clark, Garden City, Bradley, Willow Lake, Vienna, Naples and Henry School. Petitions for any of these boards may be obtained from the town finance officer or in the case of the Henry School from the business manager at the school office.

Petitions need to be filed by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 28, 2020.

Clark: Five council positions will become vacant in Clark due to the expiration of the present terms of office. In Ward I, there is one, one-year term open, currently held by Terry Schlagel. Also in Ward I, there is a three-year term open, currently held by Belinda Hanson. Ward II council position with incumbent being Harvey Spieker has

a one-year term available and also in Ward II, there is a three-year term open, currently held by Kerry Kline. In Ward III with Dennis Larson being the incumbent there is a three-year term open. The position of mayor for a three-year term, currently held by John Pollock, is also open. The finance officer in Clark is Jackie Luttrell.

Willow Lake: Three positions will become vacant in Willow Lake. The present terms of office for council members that will expire are: Ward I - a two-year term held by Matt Kadinger and in Ward II - a two-year term currently held by Steven Johnson. The two-year term of mayor currently held by Delwin Bratland will also become vacant. Heidi Madsen is the Willow Lake city finance officer.

Henry School: Henry School District #14-2 holds their election the same time as city elections. Two three-year terms are open with the incumbents being Adam Hart-

ley and Paula Blue. Gail Thompson is the business manager at Henry School.

Clark and Willow Lake schools hold their school board elections in June.

Garden City: One council position will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term. One three-year term currently held by Doug Loomis is open. Jeanette Warkentien is the finance officer for Garden City.

Bradley: One three-year term position presently held by Royal Rosheim will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term. The finance officer for Bradley is Jeanette Warkentien.

Raymond: One three-year term currently held by incumbent Larry Brannan will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term. Carrie Reis is the finance officer in

Time to file
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