

\$7,000,000 retention pond to become reality for Clark

At February's meeting of the Clark City Council, on Monday, a resolution was passed by the council going forward with Clark's wastewater treatment system retention pond project. A public hearing was held prior to the passage of this resolution.

In a nutshell, this project will:
* Cost approximately \$7,000,000. The initial price tag was \$5,000,000 but construction costs and land prices have elevated this figure.

* Land will be purchased by the city, potentially south and east of Clark. Negotiations will begin on approximately 320 acres as soon as money can be secured. Mayor Larry Dreher said that no specifics are in place at this time, but land will be needed for three large ponds as well as smaller buffering wetlands.

* The city is applying for \$5.5 million from the state of South Dakota in grants and loans. A decision will be made in Pierre, at the end of March, to see how much will be allocated for this project.

* This project is being mandated by federal and state agencies, because of wetlands and fisheries policies and standards. The deadline for this project is 2017.

* Jeff Maag of the First Planning District out of Watertown was in attendance for the wastewater treatment project public hearing.

He explained to those in attendance of where the project is at this

point and what needs to be done going forward. Because of the various government agencies involved the exact financial assistance is not known, but it is a competitive, expensive process, he noted. Rural Development, through a waiver out of Washington, D.C. due to wetlands rules is leading the way to aid in financial assistance, noted Maag, with the South Dakota Department of Natural Resources (DENR) helping with this package. The City of Clark has already acquired \$1.5 million toward this project, so it was reiterated that \$5.5 million is needed through grants and loans.

* The '640 pound gorilla in the room' is "how much will this cost the taxpayer of Clark"? Currently sewer rates are \$26.50 per month.

Retention pond (continued on page 10)

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

| | HI | LO | PR |
|----------------------------|----|-----|-----|
| Jan. 27 | 38 | 26 | 0 |
| Jan. 28 | 41 | 26 | 0 |
| Jan. 29 | 26 | 13 | 0 |
| Jan. 30 | 36 | 14 | 0 |
| Jan. 31 | 23 | -1 | .01 |
| Feb. 1 | 4 | -11 | 0 |
| Feb. 2 | 16 | -6 | 0 |
| 2015 precipitation to date | | | .33 |
| 2014 precipitation to date | | | .24 |



It was 46° on January 28, 2015

Evidenced by the lack of hats, no wind and sunny skies, this was the appearance of a beautiful winter's day last Wednesday. Temperatures reached up to 46 degrees as parents picked up their students at the Clark Elementary on the sunny west side of the school. Smiles were also evident especially with the adults as a January thaw is always wel-

come in our part of the country.

Meanwhile down south and to the east, dry roads and streets were much harder to find as winter storm Juno pelted the east coast. Unexpected snowfall also surprised those to the south of us earlier this week, interrupting traffic flow and travel plans.

Fixing roads a priority, but teacher pay also a concern

By Elizabeth "Sam" Grosz
Community News Service

Multiple transportation bills designed to address the state's deteriorating roads and bridges will be debated in this year's S.D. Legislature, but differences likely will be negotiated by a conference committee at the end of the session.

Minority Leader Spencer Hawley, D-Brookings, told journalists attending Newspaper Day at the Legislature Jan. 29 that the difference between the transportation bills was that the Governor's bill would leave out increases in the dyed fuels, the wholesale tax and the wheel tax that are found in legislation crafted by an interim committee headed by Sen. Mike Vehle, R-Mitchell.

SBI, Vehle's bill, would raise \$101.87 million, while Gov. Dennis



In 2015, South Dakota Legislative District 2 is represented by, left to right, Sen. Brock Greenfield, Rep. Lana Greenfield and Rep. Burt Tulson. The trio was pictured following the South Dakota Newspaper Association luncheon last Thursday in Pierre.

Fixing roads (continued on page 10)

Nickeson is new Clark police officer

Getting to know people and integrating into the community are the first things in order for Clark's newly hired policeman Nathan Nickeson.

Nathan and his wife Amber, their son Tyler who is nine months old and their Siberian Husky Meeka moved into Clark last Friday. Nathan's first day on the job was on Monday, February 2.

"I'm the patrol guy," stated Nickeson, who will be in the brown Ford Expedition, should one meet him out and about.

Nickeson is a Veblen (Marshall County) 2002 high school graduate. After deciding graphic arts wasn't for him, attending Northern State University after high school, he joined the Army Reserve out of Aberdeen. Eleven years later, he is still with the 452nd Ordinance



New hiree Nathan Nickeson, right, is welcomed to Clark and the police department by Jeremy Wellnitz, left, and Mayor Larry Dreher, center. Nickeson will be 'the patrol guy', in the brown Ford Expedition. He is an 11-year member of the Army Reserve, out of Aberdeen.

Nickeson (continued on page 10)

Plain Janes Misadventures is well read in ag country



Shown in her country kitchen with her writing staple - a cup of coffee made with her mother's old Wearever Driplator in the background, published author Jane Green is shown with the various farm and cattle magazines she writes for monthly.

Farm wife, cattle sorter, dog lover and prairie daughter with a good sense of humor who's able to easily put her thoughts and stories down on paper for others to enjoy is how one could describe local author Jane Green of Clark.

Green currently writes stories for the *Farm Forum* also known to many as 'The Green Sheet' on the first and third Fridays, the *Argus News* four times a year, the *Corsica Globe* twice a month and on occasion for the *Western Ag Reporter* and *Cattle Business Weekly*. She's also written for *Today's Horse* magazine.

Jane and her husband Jim Green live on a farm northeast of Clark where they raise Angus and Simmental cattle and she knows firsthand what it means to be a farm wife and has the stories to prove it.

One phone call in March of 2006, changed the course of her life. In a conversation with the co-owner of *Cattle Business Weekly*, Donnie Leddy, one thing led to another and she was soon writing weekly for the publication.

Her first story on 'Calving Season: How I met my Waterloo' brought about a tearful testimonial in appreciation from a fellow at the local farm show. "My wife is way too trusting around our cows, she needed to hear your story, she could get killed," he told Green. "He told me to keep the story of my tame as a kitten pet heifer who became almost mad with fever after the birth of her first calf. She could have done me in, had I not crawled under the tractor nearby. I ended up crawling under the tractor in between the wheels on my hands and knees (through many pungent items) as my neighbor drove the tractor slowly to the gate to escape. It taught me never to trust any cow after giving birth, no matter what," stated Green.

"Behind every story is a lesson to be learned and the educator in me continues to surface in my writing."

A retired teacher, most recently having taught at Henry, Green enjoys helping people the most. "I get such a kick out of it, I really do," claims Green. "What really pleases

me is that I can help other people be recognized. Like the Larry Dahl family of Estelline who were recognized this last fall as a 100 year farm family raising Angus in the national *American Angus Association* magazine. My story on them helped in that process to record their story."

Stories of life on the farm and families, penned with a sense of humor are her favorites she says. "You just have to laugh at yourself sometimes," says Green and she has a way of bringing to life these stories, enveloping the reader right along with her, stirring up fond memories of their own.

Her position with *Cattle Business Weekly* brought about her association with their graphic artist who made Green's first logo. However, the first draft, a Holstein milk cow with horns by the cartooned red barn didn't cut it for Green. "Dehorn that critter and make her black," she said and her first logo was approved.

The articles later became Green's first book titled *Plain Janes Misad-*

ventures in 2006. They were soon to be followed by the second *Plain Janes Misadventures - Enjoying the Good Life* book in 2007 and the third which came out last summer, *Plain Janes Misadventures - Taking it Easy*.

Encouragement

Back in 1990, when Green was taking an advanced graduate course, she had the chance to meet author Frederick Manfred, the author of *Lord Grizzly*, among other books. He told her 'Jane, you've got to start writing'. So she did as soon as she retired from teaching in May of 2005.

She's kept all of her stories in notebooks and has 10 notebooks so far. She also enjoys scrapbooking as her articles have come to print.

Her storytelling is not limited to paper. In her various book promotions and presentations, after speaking at a Festival of Books show she was asked to join the speakers bureau for the South Dakota Humanities Council in 2008.

Plain Jane (continued on page 4)

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