



Activities that are fun as well as educational are offered at Clark's after-school program. From 3:25 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the elementary, students unwind, have a snack, do activities, read, do homework if need be and get in some playtime. Shown above, paraprofessional Lori Bjerke assists Gabe Ashley with an art project. From left to right clockwise, sitting around the table are Corbin Wagner, Lincoln Reidburn, Connor Mudgett, Jada Wagner, Bjerke and Ashley.

After school program in Clark continues to be successful

The after school program in Clark has been going on now for about 10 years. Set up for preschool through fourth grade, for a daily minimal fee, students are fed a snack, get a little playtime in and may get their homework done or work on a craft or school project.

Betsy Kolden is the after school facilitator assisted by Julie McEl-

hone, Annette Boehnke and Lori Bjerke.

The routine is first to come to the elementary gym to get a snack and have Betsy take a roll call. A little time is spent eating and unwinding a little from their day, maybe playing with their friends in the gym.

Then about 3:40, the preschool through first graders go to the af-

ter school room which is the former sixth grade room. The second through fourth graders go to the library.

The older students in the library with librarian Annette Boehnke are then to work on their homework or

After school program
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Petitions may now be circulated for local boards

Vacancies for positions on local governing boards have begun. Petitions may be circulated and need to be filed by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 22, 2013.

Position openings include:

Henry School: Henry School District #14-2 holds their election the same time as city elections. One three-year term is open with the incumbent being John Rider. Dianne Easthouse 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. Da-

vid Waples is the incumbent for this three-year council position. Jeannette Warkentien is the finance officer for Garden City.

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

Willow Lake: Four positions will become vacant in Willow Lake. The present terms of office for a council member that will expire are: Ward I - two year term held by Mildred Saboe and a one year term held by Lane Wirtjes and Ward II - two year term held by Delwin Bratland. The

mayor's position, a one-year term held by Herb Loterbauer II, is up for election. Janet Denman is the finance officer for Willow Lake.

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

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.

The municipal elections this year fall on Tuesday, April 9.

Bipartisan approach seen this year during S.D. Legislature

By Elizabeth "Sam" Grosz
Community News Service

State lawmakers on both sides of the aisle report a more bipartisan approach to their work this year during the S.D. Legislature.

"Three weeks into the legislative session," said Democratic House Leader Bernie Hunhoff, Yankton, said, and "this is the best bipartisan discussion in years."

Hunhoff said everyone has seen the "dysfunctional" situation in Washington and "all 105 have come back and said 'that won't be us.'"

Republican Senator Corey Brown, Gettysburg, agreed with the assessment, noting that everyone had watched the inability of Congress to get anything done and "folks got fed up with that... and they don't want South Dakota to operate like that."

Rep. Julie Bartling, Democratic leader from Platte, agreed, noting that she had "seen so much more openness and willingness to talk" than the last time she had served in the Legislature.

Legislative leaders from both parties, respectively, spoke with members of the South Dakota Newspaper Association on a number of topics when they met in Pierre Jan. 24.



Newspaper Day at the South Dakota Legislature is a good opportunity for publishers/editors to rub elbows with the local legislators, hear the Governor speak and to get up to speed on legislative issues.

At the noon luncheon last Thursday, Bruce Odson, publisher of the *Dakota Dunes North Sioux City Times* and the *Southern Union County Leader-Courier*, introduces himself to District II Senator Chuck Welke, with Rep. Burt Tulson and Rep. Brock Greenfield also visiting with Odson. The District II legislators took time out of their busy schedules for a visit, and then the topic turned to the Clark Legislative Cracker Barrel. A date and time will be forthcoming in the near future.

Brown, however, did not hold out hope that there would be any major changes or new initiatives coming out of the session.

He cautioned that looking at the proposed budget, giving three percent raises to state employees, Medicare providers and schools would take care of 75 percent of the budget.

Leaving less than \$1 million to be expended, Brown said, "probably does not allow room for major changes."

Hunhoff said three big areas are education, economic development

and healthcare. A fourth, corrections, is being addressed with a comprehensive overhaul of how minor offenders are rehabilitated. Following the news conference, the Senate passed that bill, the South Dakota Public Safety Improvement Act, sending it on to the House for its consideration.

Senate Democratic Leader Jason Frerichs, Wilmot, said there are at least four different bills this session that deal with various economic development programs.

The key, however, he said, is to "find that funding source outside of

the general fund (for those bills)." He called it a "guiding principle, along with transparency."

Brown said there is a misconception that economic development is a big company relocating in South Dakota, while "80-90 percent of economic development doesn't occur like that." This year's session has several pieces of legislation to consider that would be helpful to smaller businesses locating or expanding, including addressing in-

Bipartisan approach
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WEATHER				
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
Jan. 22	10	-1	0	
Jan. 23	7	-10	0	
Jan. 24	13	-9	0	
Jan. 25	20	-1	0	
Jan. 26	23	0	0	
Jan. 27	33	22	tr	
Jan. 28	27	18	0	
2013 precipitation to date			0.08"	
2012 precipitation to date			0.39"	

Clark Wind Farm is a step closer to reality

Oak Tree Energy, LLC received some really good news last week. On Tuesday, Jan. 22, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission gave a verbal order as a final decision in regard to the Clark Wind Farm, developed by Oak Tree Energy.

According to Oak Tree's Michael Makens, the verbal order states that the wind farm shall have a Power

Purchase Agreement at a leveled rate for 20 years with NorthWestern Energy. Oak Tree continues to wait for the order to be finalized in a formal written manner.

"This marks another step forward towards making the Clark Wind Farm a reality that will benefit the entire community," said Makens.

Moderate construction boom in the ag community

The assessed value for new construction in Clark County in 2012 was 5.2 million dollars. In comparison, 3.7 million was assessed in 2011 and 4.7 million in 2010 if one was to look back.

County wide, 80 building permits were taken out. Eleven of those were new home permits. Three homes were finished in 2012, belonging to Mark Kannegieter, Anthony Bjerke and Gordon Spaete with permits taken out previously.

In the city of Clark, \$142,975 was spent on home additions, storage buildings, patios, fences and home improvements. Twenty-four permits were taken out for building in the city.

Houses included in the 2012 building permits were the new homes of Kevin Ortberg, Thomas Lamb, United Feeders (manager's house), Tim Johnson, Lonnie Shorg, Brad Larson, Marlin Warkentien,

Daniel Anderson, Jeff Kalo, Marty Hemmingson and Ray Olson.

The Rusty Nail Steakhouse and Tellinghuisen's Home Town Hotel were finished in Willow Lake, also in 2012.

Area Hutterite colonies additions were a pole building at Hillcrest and three large grain bins at the former Wide Spot location along U.S. Highway 212 for the Silver Lake Colony.

Taking out permits in 2012 for pole buildings or sheds on their farms or property were David Spieker, Mike Bale, Rodney Foster, DuWayne Bauman, Hillcrest Colony, Pat Schultz-Shiley, Jeff Gran, Jeff Kalo, John Fischer, Roger Anderson, Darin Michalski, Ron Opsahl, Dwight Warkentien, Dave Huber, Gary Nelson, Jeff Yexley, Bill Karber and Francis Hass. Two new hangers/buildings built out at the airport were for Steve Berg and Chuck Beving.

Permits for garages, shops or storage buildings went out to Brian Gehrke, Chris Tarbox, Corey Tellinghuisen and Don Bowers.

Grain bin permits went to Bruce Nelson, Jay Fuller, Charles Boynton, Gjerde Farms, Silver Lake Colony (Wide Spot location), Eric Meier, Campbell Farms, Paul Tarbox, Jim Paulson, Wayne Orris, Tom Wookey and Bob Schmidt.

Those applying for home additions were Bruce Nelson, John Schmidt, Todd Seefeldt, Ralph

Hurlbert, Scott Wicks, Terry Wicks, Ray Townsend, Ryan Foster, Travis Werdel, Terry Mudgett and Mikel Seefeldt.

The Clark Industrial Development Corporation took out a permit to add on some square footage to the Dakota Style building in the Clark Industrial Park.

Dakota Butcher added storage to their building and Jorgan Bjerke put up a fence for her daycare business.



Jeff Kalo home and pole building



Silver Lake Colony grain bins



Dakota Butcher storage addition



United Feeders manager's house



Tim Johnson home