



Santa visits Willow Lake kids

Santa was on hand to gather Christmas lists from all the good kids in Willow Lake on Sunday. Santa said there were no naughty kids this year so no one will be getting lumps coal in their stockings next week. Way to go kiddos! Pictured above are Milo and Harper Terhark, children of Mel and Jeffery Terhark of Willow Lake sitting on Santa's lap.

Santa's visit was followed by the traditional Lighted Parade organized this year by the Willow Lake Slew Crew. Over 20 lighted vehicles made their way down Main Street with lights flashing and holiday music filling the streets entertaining the crowds viewing and cheering from the sidewalks.

Photo courtesy of MJ Schmidt



Kids enjoy pancakes with Santa

Clark Ace Hardware hosted a Pancakes with Santa event on Saturday, December 14 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Kids were able to eat pancakes with Santa Claus, decorate ornaments and take pictures with Santa. Pictured above are Clark third grade students Piper Graves and Tren Bernard with Santa (Chad Thomas).

Photo by Kimberly Paulson

Clark Day of Giving raises funds for local individuals in need

By Carolyn Olson

The sixth annual Clark Day of Giving was held last month by Clark Area Community Foundation and Clark Rotary Club.

Several fundraisers around the community generated funds for the Day of Giving. The Clark Lions Club pancake and burger feed raised \$2,000, the Clark Elementary School penny war raised \$1,600, and the Clark County Amazing Race committee donated \$1,600 after their event in October. The preschool class won the penny war at the school and were rewarded with an ice cream party.

A flyer was sent out in the *Clark County Courier* to help kick off the giving season. The food cart at Ken's Food Fair has been filled up six times and taken to ICAP to fill

up the Food Pantry, and the donation cart at Ken's will be going until January 1, 2025. "We don't want hungry families, so please take advantage of the food pantry if you need," encouraged Dala Albright.

Food donations have been starting to dispense into the Clark community, such as helping with turkeys and hams for the Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes. Many more donations will soon be distributed.

"It was a great turn out again this year. We were able to raise \$31,000!" said Gayle Wookey.

The Clark Area Foundation and the Clark Rotary would like to thank the Clark community, churches and all who have made donations and contributed to the Day of Giving.

Florence school board to revote on future of co-op with Henry

By Brandon Heim
Watertown Current

The November 11 decision by the Florence School Board to end its athletic co-op with Henry is on hold...for now.

The original decision last month was found to be invalid because there was no motion made by a board member calling for a vote.

Additionally, the vote was presented as a retention of the co-op, with those wishing to end it voting "No."

However, Robert's Rules of Order states that changes should be made in the affirmative. Essentially, a proper vote would have required a "Yes" vote to end the co-op.

After an executive session lasting well over an hour, the second vote was tabled until next month. Board Member Cory Rislov moved to table the vote pending the results of a revised proposal sent to the Henry School Board.

The proposal is not publicly available, but it is thought to be an invitation from Florence to allow student athletes from Henry to participate in Florence athletics on a stand-alone basis.

The proposal was sent to Henry with a deadline of Friday, December 13. However, the item does not appear on the agenda of the next Henry School Board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 11.

Henry School Superintendent Todd Obele said it was more of gauge of interest, stating, "There will not be a vote, because there is nothing to vote on."



With the Christmas holiday quickly approaching, many churches in the area are in full swing of holding Christmas programs and worship services.

The children of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Bryant and St. James Catholic Church in Willow Lake performed their Christmas program after Mass on Sunday, December 15 in Bryant. The congregation followed the program with a potluck and fellowship.

Pictured in the back row, left to right are Hoyer Vandersnick, Nathan Vandersnick, Camila Pinzon

de Jesus, Addie Konechne, Maddie Kadinger, Colton Koenig, Colt Nichols, Lauren Larson, Holden Carstensen and Logan Koenig.

Pictured in the front row, left to right: Bennett Vandersnick, Alitzel Monserrat Vásquez Cruz, Savvy Prouty, Bailey Kadinger, Emmette Swanhorst, Herbert Lamb, Flint Nichols, Addy Koenig, Elliot Konechne, McCoy Pommer and Knox Nichols.

Photo Courtesy of Jennifer Carstensen

Area churches will celebrate Christmas with worship services

The Christmas holiday is coming up this weekend, with Christmas Eve falling on Tuesday, December 24 and Christmas Day on Wednesday, December 25. Many area church services are being held to honor the Savior Jesus Christ's birthday.

Clark
At the Plymouth Congregational (UCC) Church, Christmas Eve worship will be held at 6:30 p.m. on December 24 with Pastor Fawn Lamb. At St. Paul Lutheran, Preacher Jody Peterson will lead a Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 4:00 p.m. December 24.

At the United Methodist Church in Clark, Pastor Rob Salmonson invites all to a Christmas Eve worship service to be held at 3:00 p.m.

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Clark will hold Nativity of the Lord Christmas Day mass on December 25 at 9:00 a.m.

Willow Lake Area

Pastor Randy Bader invites members to the Willow Lake Evangelical Lutheran Church for the Christmas Eve service and Children's Christmas service at 4:00 p.m. on December 24.

Pastor Steven Johnson will lead Christmas Eve candlelight worship

at 6:00 p.m. at Lake Gospel Church in Willow Lake.

The Carpenter United Methodist Church will hold a Christmas Eve Service on December 24 at 6:00 p.m.

Christmas Eve worship on December 24 at Good Hope Lutheran Church will be at 4:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Vienna will hold a 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service.

At Grace Lutheran Church in Willow Lake, a 6:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service will be held.

Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bryant will host a 4:00 Christmas Eve worship service on December 24.

Other Area Services

In Raymond, the First Presbyterian Church will have a Christmas Eve Candlelight service at 5:00 p.m. that will be held at the Raymond Legion Hall.

In Crocker, a Christmas Eve worship service on December 24 will begin at 4:00 p.m.

Nativity of the Lord Christmas Eve mass on December 24 at St. Henry Catholic Church will begin at 6:00 p.m.

In Henry at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Pastor Randy Bader will lead a Quad Parish Christmas Day song service at 9:00 a.m.

Merry
Christmas!

Happy
Holidays!



WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
December 10	29	23	0.01
December 11	29	-6	0.07
December 12	1	-5	0
December 13	7	0	0
December 14	24	4	0
December 15	30	24	0
December 16	34	30	0
2024 precipitation to date	20.93"		
2023 precipitation to date	18.47"		

El Corral restaurant in Clark to close on Friday, Dec. 20

El Corral announced in a post on Facebook, made on Monday, that they would be closing their doors on Friday, December 20, 2024.

Their business hours for the remainder of the week will be 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The restaurant is located along U.S. Highway 212 on the west side of Clark.

They explained their reason for closing in the post stating, "We are unable to keep the business open due to family members moving. However, there are discussions and

possibility about new management under a different name."

Community members have enjoyed the authentic Mexican food El Corral had to offer for the last four years. The restaurant opened its doors in 2020 under the Ismael and Diana Cruz and Ivan and Teresa Regalado families.

"We have had the pleasure to serve our authentic Mexican food for the last four years and are extremely grateful for your support! Thank you for this wonderful opportunity!"

Clark County Courier prices increasing in the new year

Effective January 1, 2025, the *Clark County Courier's* subscription prices, advertising and insert rates and obituary cost will be increasing.

Subscription rates will be raised as follows:

Counties of Clark, Codington, Day, Spink, Kingsbury, Beadle and Hamlin - \$50/year

Elsewhere in South Dakota - \$55/year

Out of State - \$60/year

Online edition - \$40/year.

Prices for six month and three month subscriptions will remain the same.

The column inch rate for advertising will increase to \$7.00 for black and white, \$10.00 for color.

Obituaries will now cost \$100.

The price per insert will in-

crease to \$0.10/insert.

Other rates for 2025 include:

Mail out paper(s) - \$3.00/paper

Classified ads - \$10.00 minimum fee for 25 words or less, \$0.15 per word thereafter

Card of Thanks - \$10 minimum fee for six lines, \$0.60/line thereafter

Announcements for births, baby showers, anniversaries, etc. are free of charge for the first week published, \$10.00/week thereafter

Front page banner ads - \$100

Holiday greeting ads - \$20/holiday

Community sponsor - \$20/ad

Deadline - Monday before 5:00 p.m., subject to change due to holidays.

Courier Christmas and New Year's editions to be published on Tuesday instead of Wednesday

With the Christmas and New Year's holidays falling on Wednesdays this year, the last edition of 2024 and the first edition of 2025 will be sent out on Tuesday instead. This means, of course, the newspaper has to be ready for print by Monday afternoon (a day earlier than usual) so it can be delivered to all county subscribers on Christmas Eve (Tuesday, December 24) and New Year's Eve

(Tuesday, December 31). These editions will also be available for counter sales on Tuesday.

For these editions (12/25/24 and 1/1/25), our holiday deadline will be before 5:00 p.m. the Friday prior to printing.

***The deadline for the December 24 edition will be Friday, December 20.**

***Friday, December 27 will be the deadline for the December 31 edition.**

The Clark County Courier office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 in observance of the holiday.

The deadline for the December 25 edition will be Friday, December 20 before 5:00 p.m.