

## City council hosts equalization meeting

A special meeting of the Clark City Council was held Monday, primarily to act as a Board of Equalization within the Board of Adjustment. Robert Steffen represented the Clark School Board for this activity.

The two appeals were heard for Terry O'Neill and David Clausen. Both have built new homes within the City of Clark.

City finance officer Jackie Luttrell gave background information on the assessment process, commenting, "I think it's fair to put everyone at 'assess value' rather than 'true market value.'"

New homes are valued at 'true market value' and everyone else's homes are assessed at 'assessed value'. An assessment firm will be re-assessing the entire county in 2019, two years from now. At that time everyone will be assessed together.

Luttrell continued, "We want people to build in Clark. Those who built new homes are penalized, currently. The new assessment, in 2019 hopefully will fix that. Once assessment goes up, the mill levy

will come down. Our mill levy right now is high. A true market assessment is our goal."

O'Neill's home was lowered from \$306,000 to \$191,000 and his shed from \$64,000 to \$20,000. Clausen's house was lowered from \$203,000 to \$140,000. Now the county will decide if this will remain or be raised or lowered.

After the council returned from Board of Adjustment to city council, the resignation of council person

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#### WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

|                            | HI   | LO | PR |
|----------------------------|------|----|----|
| Mar. 14.....               | 21   | 7  | 0  |
| Mar. 15.....               | 30   | 8  | 0  |
| Mar. 16.....               | 36   | 28 | 0  |
| Mar. 17.....               | 38   | 22 | 0  |
| Mar. 18.....               | 42   | 18 | 0  |
| Mar. 19.....               | 60   | 34 | 0  |
| Mar. 20.....               | 49   | 26 | 0  |
| 2017 precipitation to date | .88  |    |    |
| 2016 precipitation to date | 1.35 |    |    |



## Wind and cool temps didn't keep spectators from sharing Irish pride

Approximately 60 entries were in Vienna's second annual St. Patrick's Day parade last Friday, March 17. It was a 'wee bit' windy and cool, but that didn't dampen the spirit of the day as parade-goers came to watch the festivities. Local organizers were happy with the turnout as many came to the fun event to welcome spring. The Vienna fire truck's horn noted the start of the parade, which included a lot of John Deere green, not to be outdone by the decorated International reds, Minneapolis

Molines, Olivers and an Allis Chalmers, as well as many pickups and four-wheelers. Leading on horseback, bearing the U.S. flag, was Dan Thompson and an official Irishman, Robert Murphy, carried the Irish flag at the head of the parade. Someone who bore a strong resemblance to Donald Trump brought up the rear, with a sign behind him that read, "Thanks for your vote."



## Eagles gathering in unusually large numbers

One gets excited in Clark County when they spy one bald eagle in the area. This year, eight at one time were spotted flying around and landing in twos and threes at Mud Lake, just south of the Baptist Church near Clark last Thursday.

The club also enjoyed the tall dead trees at Maynard's Slough as a perch and could be seen occasionally while driving along S.D. Highway 25 in Elrod Township, about three miles south of U.S. Highway 212.

Game Fish & Parks officer Kyle Lenzner reported that he was told that over 130 eagles were spotted on the north side of Dry Lake #2.

"For some reason there are a lot more of them this year and they are sticking around this area. They usually follow the waterfowl migration north of snow geese. They might have pulled back south after the recent snowstorm; one can only guess. They follow the geese," explained Lenzner.

## South Dakota's 31,300 farms help celebrate National Ag Week

One South Dakota farmer/producer raises enough food to feed 155 people in the United States and abroad. South Dakota's 31,300 farms and ranches encompass more than 43 million acres and along with ag-related industries, employ over 115,000 people.

South Dakota is home to 31,300 farms with an average size of 1,397 acres. Ninety-eight percent of farms and ranches in South Dakota are family owned and operated.

We're the nation's largest producer of bison and sunflowers and rank in the top 10 states nationally in the production of corn, soybeans, wheat, hay, oats, sorghum, dry edible beans, flaxseed, honey, sheep, pigs and cattle.

Whether one produces the food, fiber, feed and fuel we depend on or just consumes it, pride should be taken in American agriculture.

This week is deemed by executive proclamation to be National Ag

Week with the March 19 to March 25, 2017 dates.

Monday is also the first day of spring.

Having more of an open winter (following a snowy December) with a mild February that begat a win-



ter thaw, area roads, pastures and feedlots are not as soggy as years past at this time of year. This makes for a better calving season with drier conditions in the fields. Warm recent temperatures have helped make quick work of the recent 8-10 inch snowfall in the area.

### Winter wheat

"We're all dependent on the weather," notes SDSU Extension Agronomist David Karki, who works out of the Watertown office. "It's too early now for the winter wheat to come out of dormancy. It takes a 40° temperature daily for two weeks for winter wheat to come out of its dormant stage. Weather fluctuations like we had in February won't affect the winter crop."

The extension educator went on to say that with temps leaning more towards warmer weather the wheat could start growing as soon as April first. Between April first and mid April are the usual times that winter wheat breaks its dormancy.

"At the end of April is the time most producers start planting oats and spring wheat. This is later fol-

**National Ag Week**  
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## 32nd annual Pro Pheasants banquet is Friday, March 31

The Clark County Pro Pheasants 32nd annual banquet is Friday, March 31 at the Clark American Legion Hall.

Clark County Pro Pheasants Club president Robert Steffen said that the organization is committed to working with their members to increase the pheasant population in Clark County.

In 2016 the organization enrolled 371.8 acres in the food plot program in Clark County. "These acres are up from 2015 but remain lower than most previous years due to many factors including the Conservation Reserve Program acres that are being put back into production," said Steffen.

The club also helped members in releasing over 2,000 fertile hens in Clark County in the spring of 2016. Steffen said, "We have secured hens for the spring 2017 release. Any programs offered by our organiza-

tion are available to Clark County Pro Pheasants members only. There will be an opportunity to sign up at the banquet for anyone interested in participating in any or all programs."

One of the highlights of the club is the annual Youth Pheasant Hunt held in early October. The participants were invited from a list of kids who successfully completed their hunt safe course in Clark County. There were 11 first time hunters who participated in trap shooting, safety talks and hunting with a guide and a dog. After the hunt, lunch was served and there were drawings for donated prizes.

Clark residents make up a good portion of the Pro Pheasants' membership, but members also come from surrounding counties and from Minnesota, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Michigan and Ohio.

## Legion Government Day is Monday

Clark County American Legion will be coordinating the Clark County Government Day for all senior county government students.

Willow Lake and Clark High School government seniors will check in Monday, March 27, around 9:00 a.m. The morning will consist of observing the circuit court in action. The Clark County Board

of Commissioners will be meeting on Monday rather than the usual Tuesday, so students may observe county government first hand.

Clark and Raymond American Legions will be in charge of lunch at the Clark American Legion Hall.

Legion members from all of the Clark county posts will be participating.

## 2017 Clark High School Girls and Boys State delegates have been selected



Boys and Girls State representatives were recently selected at Clark High School. Boys State is held on the Northern State University campus in Aberdeen and Girls State is held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion.

Boys and Girls State delegates have been selected at Clark High School for the 2017 sessions.

Chosen as girls state representatives are juniors Karli Paulson and

Alexandria Thomas. They will be sponsored by the Clark American Legion Auxiliary and the Raymond Legion Auxiliary.

In the front row, from left to right are Girls State representatives Alexandria Thomas and Karli Paulson. The Boys State representatives in the back row from left to right are Mekel Sanchez, Bradyn Rusher, Brock Shult, Joshua Weisbrod and Keith Myrvold.

Alexandria Thomas. They will be sponsored by the Clark American Legion Auxiliary and the Raymond Legion Auxiliary.

Karli Paulson is the daughter of

Doug and Kimberly Paulson. Her activities include National Honor Society, One Act Play, All School Play and Snow Queen. She also volunteers for Meals on Wheels.

Alexandria Thomas is the daughter of Chad and Tara Thomas. She is active in band, One Act Play, All School Play and Snow Queen. She is also active in the Assembly of God Youth Group and is a Sunday School teacher.

Girls State is held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion from May 29 to June 3. It is an intensive week of training in citizenship and government, an effort of the American Legion Auxiliary to bring to the girls of South Dakota who are entering their senior year of high school.

Through actual practice and control, they gain a knowledge of the fundamental principles of American government. Girls chosen for this honor show a definite interest in American government, must be willing to take initiative and assume responsibility.

Boys State delegates selected this year at CHS are Keith Myrvold, Bradyn Rusher, Mekel Sanchez, Brock Shult and Joshua Weisbrod. Sponsors for these delegates are: the Cagley-Smith Legion Post #60 of Clark; Baker Legion Post #209 of Raymond; Larry F. Hartman Legion

**Girls and Boys State**  
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