

First case of COVID-19 reported in Clark County - Statewide 101 cases



Practicing social distancing and following precautionary pandemic guidelines is now the norm. President Donald Trump and his CDC COVID-19 team have put in place precautionary national guidelines through April, 2020. Clark barber Roger Chapin brings a little humor to the situation with his sign, "Sorry. A man with a gun told me to lock it up."

An Emergency Resolution to Address a Public Health Crisis is in effect in Clark County, shuttering many activities, businesses and all around movement. 'Stay at home, alone' is what everyone is being asked to do until this disease is under control and the case load curve is flattened.

These are unprecedented times. Schools are closed. Many businesses are shuttered. People are staying home, not by choice, but by edict.

COVID-19 has the United States in a State of Emergency as the coronavirus has spiraled out of control because it is ultra contagious. Currently (as of Tuesday morning) there are 140,904 cases in the U.S. and 2,405 deaths. In South Dakota there are 101 positive cases, 66 active cases, one death, 34 recovered and 3,478 have tested negative.

Clark County reported its first case over the weekend. Five cases have been reported in Codington County, three in Brown County, one in Spink County, one in Hamlin County and one in Deuel County, all last week, as 11 new cases were reported Monday.

None of the new patients are hospitalized and are all isolating at home, said Kim Malsam-Rysdon, state secretary of health.

There has been one death from the virus reported in the state; a man in his 60s from Pennington County died on March 9.

The majority of cases are seen in people ages 40 to 60, but there are 24 confirmed cases in people under 30 years old.

Clark County COVID-19 Response Team information director Jeremy Wellnitz reported the following: "Clark County has had its first COVID-19 case. This case was reported on Sunday, March 29th. This case is reported to be minimal/moderate community transmission. Below is a link from the CDC website. This explains what community spread/transmission means.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/how-covid-spreads.html>

"The only way to get FACTS about COVID-19 is to hear it DIRECTLY from the Clark County COVID-19 task force or the South Dakota Department of Health. Therefore, if you have not directly heard a FACT from either of the above resources, the task force implores you to consider what you have heard to be a RUMOR with

no factual basis.

"At this time, the CDC and South Dakota Department of Health are projecting our peak of COVID-19 cases to be in late April or May, possibly later. We can all do our part to combat this virus.

- Practice social distancing: 6ft or more

- Use proper hygiene, wash your hands, clean and disinfect your house

- Don't host social gatherings

- If you are sick, don't leave your home

- If you are feeling ill, please call your local emergency provider. They will tell what steps to take next.

"If you are a carrier of COVID-19, you can spread the virus even though you have no symptoms. Together we can overcome this challenge. We just need to do our parts and follow the recommendations of the state health department and the CDC.

"If you need groceries or other items delivered, please don't hesitate to call the Clark City Office at (605) 532-5665. They will take your information and get things lined up for delivery. They are also taking your questions in hopes of getting answers to you quickly.

"We are recommending citizens and businesses continue to practice social distancing and follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines with respect to proper hygiene and cleaning of workplaces.

"If your business can use alternative methods of providing services, ie: curbside, internet-online sales, phone, and delivery, please use these methods and ensure you are practicing social distancing.

"If possible limit the number of people in your business per guidelines set forth by the CDC.

"Again social gathering is not recommended and we ask that you refrain from hosting house parties where social gatherings can happen.

"We are recommending, if your family is going to the store for your necessities please have one family member go into the store to do the

shopping.

"If you have the ability to make a monetary donation please don't hesitate to do so.

"Clark County ICAP-Interlakes Community Action Partnership has the following services available. If you need assistance please contact Tia at (605) 532-3722

- Case Management & Protective Payee Services

- Emergency Food and Shelter

- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

- Food Pantries

- Homeless Rent-Deposit Assistance

- Housing Repair-Rehabilitation

- Mutual Self-Help Housing

- Self-Help Rehabilitation

- Thrift Stores

- VITA

- Weatherization Program

- Transportation funds for medical appointments.

"From the City of Clark Wastewater, please remove sump pumps from the sanitary sewers. They are taking in 453,000 gallons of each day through our sanitary sewer system.

"If you are interested in being a volunteer please contact Clark City Hall at (605)532-5665. They are compiling a list of volunteers.

"Together we can make a difference in our communities in Clark County. We appreciate your cooperation during these difficult times."

President Donald Trump is extending the voluntary national shutdown for a month as sickness and death from the coronavirus pandemic rise in the U.S.

The initial 15 days of social distancing urged by the federal government is expiring and President Trump had expressed interest in relaxing the guidelines at least in parts of the country less afflicted by the pandemic. But he has decided to extend them.

Many states and local governments have stiffer controls in place on mobility and gatherings.

The federal guidelines recommend against large group gather

COVID-19
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Emergency Public Health Crisis Ordinance approved by city council

A special meeting of the Clark City Council was called for Saturday afternoon, at 4:00 p.m., primarily to approve with a second reading of Ordinance #562. This ordinance is the Emergency Ordinance to Address Public Health Crisis.

The ordinance was approved unanimously, after brief discussion. Approving by voice vote were Harvey Spieker and Kerry Kline, by speaker phone Belinda Hanson and Andrew Zemlicka. Absent were Dennis Larson and Terry Schlager.

City attorney Chad Fjelland wanted to clarify the ordinance and noted that the prohibitions are in number 1-4. This effectively prohibits the businesses listed. The prohibitions in number five do not apply. Every business not covered can stay open.

The discussion dealt with handling the golf course. Guidelines will be posted. It was (unofficially) thought that the clubhouse will not be open except by phone call. One person to a cart. If managers are available, customers are to call from the outside. Beer could be purchased for on course usage.

The emergency ordinance basically is for indoor facilities. Every business not covered in the ordinance has the ability to stay open.

The council's next meeting is Monday, April 6 and this topic will

be an agenda item and discussed. This Emergency Ordinance to Address Public Health Crisis will be in effect until amended or repealed.

The council also suspended April operating monthly fees for on-sale restaurants due to COVID-19 precautionary closures.

The city also approved working with those residents who lost their jobs or incurred substantial hardship due to COVID-19, regarding water late fees. An application to waive late fees can be acquired by calling the finance office. This will be done on a case by case basis.

Mayor John Pollock, at the beginning of the meeting announced that the west entry doorway to the library will be used to check

Emergency
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WEATHER				
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer				
	HI	LO	PR	
Mar. 24.....	50	23	.11	
Mar. 25.....	56	33	0	
Mar. 26.....	56	26	.34	
Mar. 27.....	38	25	.08	
Mar. 28.....	54	29	0	
Mar. 29.....	46	27	0	
Mar. 30.....	55	29	0	
2020 precipitation to date			1.62	
2019 precipitation to date			4.48	

Bob and Barb Schlueter have celebrated 60 years of marriage

▲ Have much Clark history knowledge

Respect for each other and working things out are two things in which Bob and Barb Schlueter agree are the secrets of a long and happy marriage.

Barbara Mann of Clark and Bob Schlueter of Canistota met at a Playhouse dance in the summer of 1956. Barb was home from Ames, Iowa where she was a junior at Iowa State and Bob was a recent graduate of South Dakota State University and had just been hired as a pharmacist in Clark. Bob was a 1952 graduate of Canistota and a 1956 SDSU graduate.

"A lot of couples we know first met at a dance at the Playhouse in Clark," stated Barb. "Girls would go in groups and the guys would too and we would all do things together quite often. I'm sure Bob asked me to dance as that is how it was done back then."

"I remember they had roller skating at the Playhouse when I first came to town," added Bob. "And I won a live duck that year at the Poultry Party which was usually held there."

The couple dated going to dances and to the Clark Theatre.

In 1957 Bob was drafted soon after he registered and ended up serving in the U.S. Army until 1959. He worked in the Fitzsimmons Hospital in Denver, Colo. and also the



"Living here all of your life, you see a lot of changes over the years," stated Barb Schlueter of her lifetime of living in Clark. Barb and Bob Schlueter recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in Arizona

Fort Clayton Hospital in the Panama Canal zone.

After he was discharged he came back to Clark and to Barb. The couple still has the letters they wrote to each other when apart. Barb had earned her home economics major

with all three children, eight grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Bob's sister and husband, Janice and Sid VanVugt also joined the family in celebration.

with a minor in chemistry at Iowa State and taught in Minneapolis and Denver, Colo. before marriage.

They were married at the Grace Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Neb. on March 19, 1960. A honeymoon was taken to the Ozark Mountains

in Missouri.

The couple started their family, on Christmas Day in 1960 with the birth of their son Jim.

Schlueters
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