



TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
June 14	75	53	.27
June 15	75	52	0
June 16	85	59	0
June 17	85	63	0
June 18	81	63	0
June 19	90	62	0
June 20	76	54	0
2016 precipitation to date			7.89
2015 precipitation to date			10.30

Clark School Board election was Tuesday

The Clark School Board election was Tuesday, June 21. Incumbent Robert Steffen ran against challenger Jason Steen for a three-year term on the board.

Because of the earliness of the print deadline, look for these results to be printed in next week's edition.

Clark's blood drive is Thursday, June 30

Clark's blood drive, sponsored by the Clark Lions and Clark Lionesses will be Thursday, June 30, from 1:00 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. at the United Methodist Church fellowship hall in Clark.

Joyce Helkenn is the coordinator of the drive, and one can make an appointment to donate blood by calling her at 532-3808 or 520-9544 or call United Blood Services at 1-800-917-4929 for more information.

Lifeguards aren't the only ones who'll be saving lives this summer. The residents of the Clark community will - by donating blood. Unfortunately, during the hottest months of the year, donors often are in short supply. United Blood Services urges community members who have never given to roll up their sleeves this summer to give blood as new donors are always needed!

Volunteer blood donors must be at least 16 years old (certain ages need a minor donor permit) and be in good health. Photo I.D. is required and volunteer donors are asked to bring a list of any medication taken within the last month. To save time, donors can now fill out their Health History Questionnaire online at www.unitedbloodservices.org the day of their donation.

CCR run event is this weekend at fairgrounds

The 34th annual Clark County Riders Motorcycle run event will be this weekend, June 24-26 at the Clark County Fairgrounds, on the east edge of Clark.

More than 1,500 riders are expected in what motorcycle promoters call the biggest event of the summer, east of the Missouri River. This will be the fourth year that this event is at the county fairgrounds.

Clark Lions fishing tourney is this week

The 27th annual Edwin Seefeldt Clark Lions Club Fishing Tournament is this Saturday, at South Whitlock Resort on the Missouri River, west of Gettysburg.

Probably more than thirty, three-man teams will be in the running to see who can catch the most fish.

Need copy early for July 6 paper

With the Fourth of July falling on a Monday this year, the Courier office will have a very busy Tuesday getting everything ready for the paper.

Because of this National Holiday, please get things to us early, so we can make our deadline.

South Dakota Legionette of the Year Award presented to Bernice Halling



Bernice Halling, center received the South Dakota Legionette of the Year Award last weekend at the state American Legion Auxiliary convention held in Watertown. Halling was presented with this award by Past Presidents Parley chairperson Janet Hurlbert on the left and on the right is State President Jane Benzel.

Submitted photo

The 96th annual convention of the American Legion Auxiliary Department of South Dakota was held in Watertown, June 16-19.

The National Auxiliary President Sharon Conatser spoke to the

group on Saturday. On Sunday the Legionette of the Year Award was presented by State Past Presidents Parley chairperson Janet Hurlbert to Bernice Halling of District 5 of the Clark Unit #60.

Halling was chosen from a field of eight district winners from across the state. She has been a 22-year member of the auxiliary and was an educator in the Clark School for many years. Halling has been very involved in the auxiliary by serving as either chairman or member of the following committees: Americanism, Children and Youth, Community Service, Education, Poppies and Girls State.

"Bernice is a person who loves working with people, enjoys the outdoors and shares a passion for South Dakota history. She has always followed her heart and part of that heart belongs to our Veterans," said Hurlbert.

"It was very humbling to have been selected for this honor. It was such a nice surprise," stated Halling. "I'm so appreciative to my fellow auxiliary members who have supported me over the years in the work that we do in the community."

Halling will be honored at the National Auxiliary Convention which will take place in Cincinnati, Ohio in August.

Heading into summer - crops looking good

"Everything in general is looking pretty good," reports David Karki, SDSU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist regarding the crops in Clark County.

"The corn is soon going to canopy (leaf out) so farmers should be getting that second application of herbicide going before that happens.

"Our warm weather started earlier this year and corn and soybeans are both warm season crops. They really like that 85+ weather and with the rains we've been getting is making for a really good season so far with the corn. In some fields the corn is starting to canopy already."

It should easily be knee high by the Fourth of July, probably higher estimated Karki. The warm weather combined with timely rains has

been good for the corn crop.

Future predictions with El Niño officially pronounced 'dead' this month, show South Dakota to possibly be warmer than average the next three months. Eastern South Dakota is also predicted to be wetter than average with La Niña patterns transitioning from El Niño to La Niña during the summer.

"It's looking to be more dry in July, but time will tell on that," stated Karki.

Spring/Winter wheat

"So far we're doing alright moisture-wise. We're sitting in the adequate zone in Clark County I believe," continue Karki.

Regarding the wheat crops, the winter wheat crop is coming along to the point that in three weeks or

so, farmers will be talking harvest with mature fields.

Spring wheat is close to or is heading out now. "One doesn't want a lot of 85+ degrees in a row however, which may affect the seed fill process with the wheat. So far we're doing good in our area. We haven't seen signs of any stress with our moisture in the ground.

Karki stated he saw some aphids in the wheat about a month ago, but the recent heat spell could have helped bring down the population.

Hay

The first cutting is winding up with most producers being 80-90% done. It looks to be in good shape was the report. "To the north of us, it seems a little drier though," ended Karki.



Wyatt Warkenthien, (a 2012 WLHS graduate) purchased the former senior citizens building at 302 Lincoln Avenue in Willow Lake, last October. Along with family members Kerry and Paula Warkenthien and Kurtis and Bonnie Siebrands the building has been renovated and 'upcycled' to house a tanning bed business as well as being available for family reunions, birthday parties, showers, graduation receptions and similar gatherings. Wyatt's family also makes their unique wooden sandboxes and tables at this location.

Former Willow Lake Senior Center is now 'The Building'

In October of 2015, the owner of Smoot's Grill and Chill in Willow Lake purchased the former Little Red schoolhouse/senior citizens building in Willow Lake.

Both have a 302 address, one being along U.S. Highway 28 (Smoot's) and 'The Building' at 302 Lincoln Avenue.

"My mom went to kindergarten there," noted Warkenthien of the period of time starting in 1966 when 'The Building' was painted red and known as the 'Little Red Schoolhouse'. For a time, it was also the location of a special education class, both part of the WL School system.

According to Clark County courthouse records, 'The Building' was built in 1960. A community funeral home, the Willow Lake clinic where Dr. Malters practiced and a

senior citizens center were former occupants in the building besides being used by the school. The city of Willow Lake was the previous owner before Warkenthien and also offered it for office space.

"When it came up for sale on bids, my family members talked it over as a possible investment. My mom mentioned that there was no longer a place that offered tanning beds in town," continued Warkenthien. "So we thought that location would be good to fill that need, as well as another place to hold birthday parties, showers, family reunions and other gatherings right in Willow Lake."

Warkenthien's parents are Kerry and Paula (Twait) Warkenthien. His aunt and uncle Kurtis and

Warkenthien
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Security buzzer system now in place at both Clark Schools

Clark School District has added additional security measures at both of the facilities in Clark. A buzzer system has been installed at door #2 at the elementary and the east door at the high school. School personnel, from the office, will be able to see and talk to anyone who would like to enter the building. This project was made possible through a Homeland Security grant in cooperation with the Clark Police Department.

Clark School superintendent Luanne Warren shows how entrance can be obtained at the high school building. One can no longer just walk in. Entrance must be obtained through this buzzer system.

Willow Lake High School principal Hector Serna sees self-growth with trip to Israel

Have you ever wanted to do something a little bit 'outside of the box', or outside of your comfort zone, or something a little scary?

That's exactly what Willow Lake High School principal Hector Serna did last December, into early January.

Early in the interview one would get the impression had Serna been born a century ago he'd have been a prime candidate for the French Foreign Legion.

That wasn't in the cards, or the timing didn't allow that to happen so what could he do to calm that adventure bug which had been growing stronger and stronger within him?

"There is more to life than the educational world. I needed to have a different perspective...For me, going to Israel and doing what I did helped complete me as a person at this time in my life," said Serna.

He said he really enjoys education and his career but this trip opened his eyes to so many things. "There's a big, ever-changing world out there - and this trip allowed me to experience those 'things'."

It gets a little tricky in explaining exactly what the description of Serna's Israeli trip was, but for three weeks he was an Israeli army employee during the week and a tourist of Israel on the weekends.

"I wanted to do this, but really had no expectations whatsoever going in, but knew I would be on the low end of the employee level when I reported to the International Arrival Hall at the Tel Aviv airport, in Israel.

"There were 23 people in my group and we were quickly split up into work detail groupings, and we had to sign a 'code of conduct' - rules of the country, as a guest - sheet."



How many clues do you need to tell that Hector Serna, on the camel is in Israel/Mid East? Serna spent time in Israel last winter and is shown on one of his tourist trips. The two obvious clues are, 1) he's at or near the Dead Sea, the lowest body of water on Earth and 2) he's riding a two hump camel. African camels only have one hump.

Serna was sent to northeast Israel, near Tiberias, for a supply logistics job. He also was a painter and a cleaning person.

When asked - "Why would you

spend your Christmas break working in a foreign country - out of the

Serna
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