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The hometown newspaper of Ruth Kline, Watertown, SD



The voice of Clark County since 1880

Casey Briggs, Larson Seed Farm operations manager, foreground left, gives the microphone to SDSU Extension Agronomist Specialist David Karki, right, at the Wheat Walk at the Larson farm. Thursday.

The informational and management meeting detailed managing wheat as well as networking with producer colleagues.

Wheat Walk was Thursday at Larson Seed Farm

ty Extension Wheat Walk was held

Approximately 10 SDSU Exten-

As winter wheat was the main topic of conversation, with one and

a field of winter wheat, a key factor of 2021 is that the entire state is either in a drought state or is seeing drought-like conditions.

The Larson winter wheat crop Jonathan Kleinjan, SDSU Extension agronomist indicated, this 90°-100° week of heat is hard on winter

This conversation on heat allowed SDSU Extension plant pa-

to share with the group that winter wheat is good for the soil, as it is planted after early maturity soy-

SDSU has done several studies by winter wheat at the Laird Larson farm.

Different topics were touched upon including: three-crop rotation,

Medical marijuana and semi truck ordinances discussed by city council "once you see these ordinances." ground will be held at the June 21

A special meeting of the Clark City Council is scheduled for Monday, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is to be held to hear, discuss and decide upon two ordinances that were given first reading at the regular June meeting held Monday, June 7.

An ordinance is being drafted whereby the city council will deny any medical marijuana until October 29, when it will first become legal by state statute.

The council moved to set a joint public hearing on June 21 regarding medical cannabis and then host a second reading on June 28. It would fall under the category of an emergency ordinance and therefore would be able to go into effect right

The other ordinance dealt with semis on Clark city streets. The municipality of Clark currently does not have any truck route ordinance. City attorney Chad Fjelland and chief of police Jeremy Wellnitz will be looking at ordinances from models the size of Clark and design an ordinance limiting semis to US Highway 212, Smith Street, N. Cloud St., South Smith Street to its intersection with Clausen Avenue and Clausen Ave. with enforcement powers and the goal of saving city

"We will establish a truck route with signage and we need your feedback," Wellnitz told the council,

The talk then turned to parking on N. Smith Street just north of US Highway 212 in which enforceable ordinance language is also being pursued.

During department updates, Clark lead maintenance employee Darin Altfillisch reminded the council that the water tower will be painted at the end of this month.

"This will take approximately three weeks and we will need water restrictions," he said and repeated, "plan on water rationing."

In other business:

- ▲ Today through Friday, finance office employees Alaina Wellnitz and Rae Jean Flora will be in Pierre for meetings.
- ▲ Twenty-four abatement letters have been sent out.
- lacktriangle The CCR run is this weekend and CCR sergeant at arms Stuart Appland attended Monday's meeting, visiting with the council about the upcoming weekend.
- ▲ A dredging project outside of city limits on land owned by Tom Wookey was discussed. Wookey would like the city to finish the last half mile of a project started over a decade ago. Mayor Kerry Kline stated that it wasn't in the budget for this year and Altfillisch asked council members to check out the map and look to see if this project could be completed in the future.
- ▲ A hay bid for the city hay

- ▲ The Horace Bennett Memoria Swimming Pool is now open and the opening weekend was a big success noted Kline and Altfillisch. Finance officer Wellnitz is looking into a Walmart grant which would help upgrade the swimming pool.
- ▲ Altfillisch and finance officer Wellnitz brought up the water meter(s) issue. Water meters are needing an upgrade. Each meter upgrade is \$175. Both Altfillisch and Wellnitz felt that this should be a budgeted issue and with 27 me ters broken or not registering, the meter situation will be given fur ther discussion.
- ▲ Regarding the city med var being used for nursing home and assisted living trips, mayor Kline City council

(continued on page 4)

WEATHER Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer н го June 2021 precipitation to date

2020 precipitation to date

A South Dakota State Universiall at the Wheat Walk standing in thologist Emmanuel Byamukama

Thursday at the Laird Larson Seed Farm, in Eden Township, in eastern

sion Specialists were on hand to provide management information over a vast topic area regarding winter wheat, spring wheat and other various small grains.

beans are harvested.

looked healthy and strong, but as on early maturing beans followed

Wheat Walk

(continued on page 4)

Clark music teacher Amy Nelson gifts guitar to graduating senior Hudson Fuller It was an emotional time for Amy many instruments, he asked Amy family. In fact her parents met at ing piano - all over the keyboard



Hudson Fuller of Clark was the honored recipient of a bass guitar, formerly used by 2014 Dakota Musicians Associations Hall of Fame inductee Roger W Pearson.

Pearson is the grandfather of Clark's music teacher Amy Nelson and was a talented musician who could play by ear and follow any song once he found out what key it was in. Pearson died in July of 2019. When asked if she knew of anyone who would want a good bass guitar, Mrs. Nelson knew right away who would appreciate and deserve it - Hudson

Nelson at this past year's Christmas concert. She was once again able to hear her grandfather Roger Pearson's bass guitar. At the concert, this time it was in the hands of Hudson Fuller, Clark High School senior, to whom the guitar was gift-

Amy's parents, were also there to hear the playing of the guitar and to meet its recipient Hudson.

"This bass was a truly wonderful gift," said Fuller. "It is really cool to me to receive a little piece of South Dakota music history. This bass guitar is the smoothest playing guitar that I have ever played."

A talented musician and longtime band member of the Harold Johnson band for over 30 years, Roger Pearson was inducted into the Dakota Musicians Association's Hall of Fame in 2014.

Pearson died in July of 2019 at the age of 83. When Amy Nelson's father Jim was going through his if she knew of anyone who would want a bass guitar. "I think I do," she replied. "I knew that Hudson would appreciate the guitar and use it. The first time I heard him play it, it sounded great and I knew this was where it should go.

"Last year he played the school's Roger W. Pearson's son Jim Pear- bass guitar in the band, so I knew fun that was brought to us before automatically what key a song was on and his wife Gayle of Sisseton, he didn't have his own. I did know grandpa's funeral." he had his own electric guitar however and liked to play," continued Nelson.

"When I started teaching chorus at Clark High School, I only had six boys in the boys choir. Hudson was extremely instrumental in helping to build the boys choir - I ended up with 27 boys in the choir. He's a quiet leader, very thoughtful and a good kid all around. I will miss him

Fuller will be attending DSU this fall going into software engineer-

A musical family

Amy Nelson comes from a musical family on both sides of her

her father's music store in Sisseton. They found out later that Jim's dad Roger had played guitar with Gaywith a smile. "We discovered a photo of them playing together just for and I'd play the piano. He could tell

Nelson's father Jim also played a steel guitar and had an appreciation for a good tune, but more in a private way. Gayle Pearson's siblings - the Etl's, were all in musical groups and a couple of them recorded songs on their own.

Hall of Fame member

Nelson recalls hearing how her grandfather Roger purchased his first guitar from Sears and Roebuck in 1948. He taught himself how to play. He also played the piano and the accordion by ear.

"He didn't read music but could play along with whatever song you requested," recalled Nelson. "He had a Floyd Cramer style of play-

He was more country music than rock and roll. I remember seeing him perform at benefits when I le's brother Gene Etl while still in was younger. We played together high school. "Good musicians usu- at variety shows a couple of years, ally find one another," said Nelson playing the music before the performances. He played the keyboard played in and there he'd go."

In his later years, Pearson took up the retirement hobby of refurbishing stringed instruments such as guitars and violins. In fact at the local music store in

Watertown, Rod Lindner remembered the bass guitar when Hudson brought it in for a new tuning peg. It had one gold tuning peg previously that Lindner recalled finding for Pearson years ago when he had brought it in. He'd had all black pegs except for one gold one and Pearson said "I'll take it," for a per-

Nelson is also musically talented

Guitar (continued on page 4)

Happy Hour Club plays a vital role in establishing the park at Willow Lake

Willow Lake's Veteran's Memorial Park on the west and north end of Willow Lake, had its beginnings 70 years ago. The Happy Hour Club, a group of women who gathered monthly to sew, chat and have lunch at each other's homes, took

on an even bigger project in 1951. One member of the club, Rosetta Kannegieter, knew of some prime land at the edge of town owned by her brother-in-law, Art (Olive) Kannegieter. Seeing the need for a park where the nearly 500 residents could gather together for picnics, rest and relaxation, Kannegieter sold the park land to the group for one dollar, which was located west of his home (most recently the Deb Holmstrom home).

With the location decided, the work began and a group of volunteers was formed who became known in town as the 'Park Ladies', members of the Park Ladies Club.

It was prime real estate, three and a half acres worth with Lincoln Ave. to the east, U.S. Highway 28 to the north, the Dexter land to the west and residences to the south.

The first year, the land was prepared, leaving it black. The second year members planted potatoes in

the area to help kill out the quack grass. The Park Ladies tended to the crop and in the fall harvested and sold the potatoes with the profits being turned back into the 'Park fund' for further development.

The third year in was when the park began to take shape. The group hired Soholt Nursery in Watertown to do landscaping and help with the details. All of the trees in the park are due to the townspeople - donating money or even buying the trees themselves. Some may still have their names on the trees. Club members planted trees along Lincoln Avenue and the highway and shrubs and several rows of tress were planted along the Dexter

A hitch in the get-along happened when some trees were planted too deep when a local plumber's trench was used and the trees ended up being planted too deep, with some of them dying. All turned out well as more trees were donated for re-stocking the area.

The club began to acquire a few pieces of playground equipment to install from local country schools as they closed. One may recall the very tall slides and swing sets in

the early years.

In addition to all of the bake sales, rummage sales, getting donations from clubs, churches and serving lunches for organizations, the ladies took turns watering the park every day to get the grass looking good. A watering system was eventually purchased and completed in 1966. A mower was also purchased.

The vocational ag boys at the Willow Lake School donated benches and tables that they made each year and also a few signs for the

A building structure was built at the south end of the park that houses two bathrooms and the maintenance equipment for the park.

A rain shelter and picnic area was installed in the summer of 1964. Another picnic sheltered area was added in later years and Art Kannegieter's name was added at the top to honor his donation of the land.

In earlier years, a large nativity scene was put up annually during the Christmas season at the park.

City View Park later became Veterans Memorial Park with its dedication of the Clark County Veterans

> **Park Ladies** (continued on page 4)



Approximately 70 years ago, back in 1951, the Happy Hour Club started the ball rolling to what eventually became City View Park in Willow Lake. A group of volunteers for the cause eventually became 'The Park Ladies' of Willow Lake.

Above are club members in 1958 according to local sources. From left to right in the front row are,

Bertha Meyer, Marie Pommer, Sylvia Pommer, Jessie Haug - president, Myrtle Haug, Rosetta Kannegieter, Liz Fonken and Grace Williams. In the back row, left to right are, Grace Tellinghuisen, Mabel Whirledge, Ann Mundhenke, Grace Poppen and Hilda Grensberg. Members not pictured include Marg Denman, Edna Pearson, Tina Mundhenke and Deora Gehrke.