The voice of Clark County since 1880

### Wednesday, July 3, 2024

Vol. 144, No. 1

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

\$1.00

The hometown newspaper of Megan Muri of Watford City, N.D.



of Commerce members as well as other representatives from Dacotah Bank. They are pictured in front of the newly remodeled Dacotah Bank building in Clark during the ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, June 25. President and Chief Revenue Officer Daryl Ebach of Aberdeen cut

Above are Clark Dacotah Bank employees, various Clark Chamber the ribbon, standing alongside Market President Brandon Herr who is holding the First Dollar Profit given by the Clark Chamber of Commerce. Photo by Carolynn Olson

# Dacotah Bank in Clark celebrates remodeling with ribbon cutting

By Carolynn Olson

Dacotah Bank in Clark held their Grand Opening on Tuesday, June 25 to celebrate the completion of the building remodeling. The event was open to the public from 3:30 to 7:00 p.m. The ribbon cutting was held at

The Dacotah Bank building in Clark underwent a complete remodel of the facility. In November 2022, the 18-month remodel began with Gil Haugan Construction of Sioux Falls completing the work. The structural design was completed

by HTG Architects out of Hopkins, community room as well as two ad-Minnesota.

The overall project was completed in four phases, beginning with the insurance department. The next two phases completed were the main lobby and office areas. The final phase was to renovate the basement.

"On average, each phase took just over four months to complete," stated Market President Brandon Herr. The largest change to the bank was the 1,200 square foot addition, which includes a new

ditional offices that face Commercial Street.

employees had to move to different

During the construction phase,

areas of the bank. At one time, the teller line was shrunk down into one of the old loan offices. "With many construction projects, there can be issues, for ex-

ample, no air conditioning or heat, each happening during the months that we are used to having these amenities," Herr explained.

"The thing I am most proud of is

our staff who endured these last 18 months while we renovated," stated Herr. "There were many times, with the loud noises and dust, tensions could rise, but everyone put their best foot forward and provided exceptional customer service."

Dacotah Bank is looking forward to customers taking advantage of the reinvestment back into the community and continuing to serve their customers in a new facility.



Clark Ace Hardware was ready to celebrate Ace Hardware's 100th anni-

versary on Saturday, June 29 with their block party event.

A free meal was served to the public as well. Pictured above, from eft to right is the Clark Ace Hardware team: Dean Hilmoe, Chad Thom-

### Ace Hardware celebrated 100<sup>th</sup>

By Carolynn Olson

Ace Hardware celebrated their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary last week, June 24 - 29 in Clark. Numerous deals and activities were available throughout the week.

Cayden Binger had a smoothie stand set up offering iced lattes, fruit smoothies and icees on Mon-

Tuesday Alec Porter the Ace Hardware Milwaukee Representative had a booth set up for Milwaukee Booking Days.

The Clark FFA chapter had popcorn, hot dogs and beverages ready to sell as a fundraiser in front of Clark

Ace Hardware on Wednesday. De-Walt and Craftsman representatives visited the storefront as well. They were available for booking

Dawsyn Hilmoe, daughter of Dean and Rhonda Hilmoe, was selling lemonade and cookies on Thurs-

On Friday, the Clark Area Legion and Jr. Legion baseball teams served pancakes and sausage on a Blackstone grill. Tater's Trolley was also there serving beverages.

Saturday capped off the weeklong celebration. Free hamburger or pork butt meals were served to as, Joan Berg, Mary McGillvray, DeAnne Paradis, Lily Ingraham, Sharon Morehouse and Shannon Garduno.

Photo by Carolynn Olson

### anniversary last week in Clark

the public. The Clark Ace Hardware team prepared them on Treager and Big Green Egg grills to show off the products. Numerous children's activities were also available, including a bouncy house, gel blaster shootouts, coloring the sidewalk, and free snow cones for all.

Door prizes were given out on Saturday during the event as well. The winners were Jim Guest, Tom Wookey, Fred Rosenau, Merlyn Ritter, Jason Rahm and Mike Gravning. Six children's door prizes were also awarded.

"It was super! I'm very happy with the turnout, I think everyone enjoyed the great food, and the kids especially enjoyed the bouncy house," said Ace Store Manager Dean Hilmoe. "It brought in a lot of people during the week; it was a total success overall." Ace store owners Alfredo and Shannon Moorhouse and store manager Dean Hilmoe would like to give a special thanks to Cayden Binger, Clark FFA, the American Legion Baseball Team and Tators Trolly for their time and help last week. And, also thank you to Dawsyn Hilmoe who, despite the rain, had her lemonade stand set up and raised \$142.00.



Ford (11 months) Schmidt, pictured above amongst the cornstalks in their family's southern Clark County field. The Schmidt siblings are the children of Garret and Brooklyn Schmidt of Willow Lake. Grandparents are Bob and Melanie Schmidt of Willow Lake and Bob and Lori Bjerke of

Photo courtesy of Schmidt family

## Corn is knee high by Fourth of July in Willow Lake area

By Carolynn Olson

As of June 1, 2024, South Dakota's corn stocks totaled 301 million bushels, which was 28 percent higher than 2023. Of that total, 225 million bushels were stored on farms, which was a 50 percent increase from the previous year.

As of June 17, 2024, the USDA reported that 100 percent of South Dakota's corn had been planted, and 90 percent had emerged. Additionally, 78 percent of the corn was in good to excellent condition. However, some corn planted in early May had been sitting in moisture and was starting to look yellow.

South Dakota producers planted 6.10 million acres of corn for all purposes, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down three percent from last year. Of the total acres, 96 percent were planted with biotech-

nology varieties, up two percentage points from 2023. Area to be harvested for grain is estimated at 5.44 million acres, down three percent from a year ago.

"The excess rain in June and cool

Children of the Corn (continued on page 10)

#### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	$\mathbf{HI}$	$\mathbf{LO}$	PR
June 25	. 91	66	0.01
June 26	. 86	62	0
June 27	. 75	59	0
June 28	. 69	59	2.16
June 29	. 77	55	0
June 30	. 68	51	0
July 1	. 73	57	0
2024 precipitation			4.49"
2023 precipitation	to d	late	7.75"

## **Clark Area Farmers Market** starting Tuesday, July 9

lyn Reeves have spearheaded the responsibility of organizing the Clark Area Farmers Market for the second year in a row.

Last year, crowds of people lined up on North Commercial Street and were able to purchase produce, handmade crafts, baked goods, lemonade, jewelry, canned goods, home decor, iced coffee drinks, root beer floats and sometimes a ballpark-style meal at the twice monthly market.

The organizers expect growth in the amount of vendors participating this year and an increase in the variety of items offered for sale. Flora and Reeves, along with the community's input, have chosen a new location for the market. Markets will now be held at the west end of Flat Iron Park along Highway 212 for the 2024 market season.

The change in location offers additional shade and cover from the elements during hot or rainy weather and also increases event visibility along the popular roadway.

Markets will take place on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month, beginning on July 9, and

Volunteers Kayla Flora and Jos- will likely go until October 8. Typically, the market runs from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. with flexibility

toward the end. While there are some state health guidelines for selling things like canned goods, baked goods and eggs, the general opportunity to sell products at a farmers market is relatively simple. Flora and Reeves are excited for new growth and recommend that sellers research in advance the state's cottage food laws to ensure that the products prepared for the market meet all state

Local clubs or groups are always welcome to organize a fundraising event during the markets, such as bake sales or burger feeds, for example. If you are interested in selling items at the market for the first time, setting up a fundraising event or are wanting to assist the volunteers in advertising sponsorship, you can reach out to Flora and Reeves through their Clark Area Farmers Market Facebook page or at the following email address: clarkfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

See you at the market!



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