



# Clark County Courier

Wednesday, July 3, 2013

Hometown Newspaper of Mark Gerhardt, Sioux Falls, SD

\$1.00 Includes Tax Clark, South Dakota 57225

Vol. 133, No. 1

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

## Top of the Week

# Heat units are needed for crops to 'catch up'

▲ Some corn will definitely be knee high by the Fourth of July

Needful of heat units is the common theme of the immediate 2013 growing season as the 4th of July is upon us, summer's mythical half way point.

"I'm guessing one will find a whole lot of knee-high corn in Clark County," said agronomy specialist Mark Rosenberg of the Aberdeen Extension Regional Center. "This should be a pretty good catch-up week."

Corn being knee-high by the Fourth of July in Clark County has been the norm for some time now and 2013 will have most fields with knee-high corn.

"We're coming off a week of pretty rough weather," noted the agronomy specialist. "There were some severe hail events during the last storm and Clark County, especially the southern third of the county suffered hail damage. The rain that accompanied the wind and hail a week ago Friday and Saturday was plentiful and widespread."

Because of a late spring and cooler than normal temperatures, Rosenberg reported that row crops are lagging two to three weeks behind. "We need heat to propel the growth, although some acres are catching up," he said. "This lagging behind is showing up in the countryside. Weed control has dragged out and the grow season has started in somewhat of a stall and needs to pick up and go."

The July weather will be key, noted Rosenberg, and he added that typically July into early August is hot and dry and that is what is

Crops (continued on page 3)



Corn that is knee high to some is chest high when you are only two years old, as evidenced by two year old Aksel and his four year old sister Hadley in their parents' corn field along U.S. Highway 25 and 181st Street. The children, along with their 10 month old sister Sena are the children of Roy and Sara Gjerde of Vienna.

Set back a little by high winds on Friday - this corn field seems to be

progressing nicely. The 175 acre field was planted around the 10th of May.

After the photo, the pair said 'Tusen takk', one of their favorite new sayings learned from visiting cousins from Norway recently. "It means many thanks in Norwegian," said their mother Sara.

### WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
June 25	81	64	tr
June 26	82	63	0
June 27	81	58	0
June 28	77	58	0
June 29	74	58	0
June 30	75	58	0
July 1	78	58	0
2013 precipitation to date	12.41"		
2012 precipitation to date	11.55"		

### 4th of July fireworks and activities are set

Big activities are planned for this July 4th holiday in the county.

On Saturday, July 6 in Clark, the Street Dance, featuring the band Judd Hoos will perform, beginning at 9:30 p.m. Clark Fire Department spokesman Jeff Seefeldt said they're a top notch band and will provide excellent entertainment.

Fireworks will take to the sky at dusk come Thursday night for Clark's 4th of July celebration.

The City of Clark, along with the Clark Chamber of Commerce, Clark Lions and Clark Rotary Club, will make the fireworks display event again a reality and it will take place at dusk at the Clark Golf Course.

### Willow Lake

At Willow Lake, the annual 4th of July Parade begins at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, the 4th. Entries will begin lining up at the football field at 3:30 p.m. Supper will be at the Veterans Memorial Park from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

There is a bean bag tournament starting at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday at the park.

At dusk the Willow Lake Volunteer Fire Department puts on the community fireworks display.

### Color certainly adds to the Clark Courier

As one witnessed in last week's edition, the Clark County Courier now has the ability to run color in its editions and it really adds to the 'readability'. Plus, the color quality looked very nice for the trial run.

With the ability to do full color comes the incentive for the Courier office staff to try and entice the customer base to add color to their advertisement to help bring color to the paper.

This week also has some color as we know this feature will greatly be appreciated.

### Courier office closed July 4th and 5th

The Clark County Courier publishes 52 editions a year as the legal newspaper for the Clark County area.

Having said that, the Courier office will be closed this Friday, July 5, as well as on our nation's holiday, the Fourth of July.

### Gov. Dugaard urges safe holiday driving

Gov. Dennis Daugaard is asking motorists to use caution and make safe choices as they travel South Dakota highways during the upcoming Fourth of July holiday.

"Many South Dakotans will be traveling this week to celebrate Independence Day with family and friends," Gov. Daugaard said. "Because most crashes are entirely preventable, wearing seatbelts, following speed limits and avoiding distractions while driving can go a long way to making the highways safer for all of us this holiday."

## Myra Cluts calls it a career as the Vienna Post Office is officially closed



Myra Cluts of Vienna was appreciated by many last Friday as it was her last day as the community Post Office manager in Vienna. It was also the last day as a working Vienna Post Office with its official closing on June 28, 2013.

Since purchasing the former Omar Aice Grocery Store in 1985, Myra has remodeled and turned it into a very welcoming place to come for the Vienna community residents. Besides picking up the mail, many have gathered to 'shoot the breeze' over the years, keeping up with what's going on in their small town and the surrounding area.

"Today's the day...I'm done," says Myra Cluts with a chuckle regarding the end of her longtime commitment to the Vienna Post Office on Friday.

Passing the average retirement age a couple decades ago, Cluts has been going strong the last 28 years as Vienna's Community Post Office manager.

A representative of the U.S. Postal service arrived on Friday morning to collect the scales, the sorting table, various records and other items, as the Vienna Post Office was officially closed as of Friday, June 28, 2013.

An open house was held with many in attendance to show their appreciation on that final day. Bouquet after bouquet of flowers came in the door for Myra along with many gifts and cards that morning

as the regulars who came in the door greeted their hostess of the last 28 years.

More than a post office, it has been a gathering place for area residents to come and 'catch up' with one another over the years. "The coffee pot was always on," said Cluts. "I'm not planning on going anywhere. Vienna is my home as it has been for the last 50 years. I'm not planning on selling this building."

The Vienna Post Office has been under the official management of the Willow Lake Post Office and Postmaster Kathy LaBay. LaBay adds, "There is interest in a village post office, but it has yet to be finalized within the system, and they are checking into it."

"It's been most wonderful working with Kathy LaBay," states Cluts. "She's been awesome to work

with and has made it very easy for me to do my job."

"I also appreciate Bonnie Vrondran who has been my assistant whenever I needed her to fill in for me when I needed to keep an appointment."

Vrondran also calls Vienna home, being born and raised southeast of town. "It's been fun helping her out now and then when she needed me," returns Vrondran.

Cluts purchased the building in 1985, the same year as the town's 100th anniversary she said. It was formerly a grocery store. For the last 28 years, Cluts has had the post office under contract with the U. S. Postal service. Running the businesses previously were Basil and Rita Englert, Norris and Phyllis Hanson and Bill and Leona Mellem. Gary Owen was the last official Postmaster in Vienna.

Don Berg was the Willow Lake Postmaster who hired Cluts. Mike Korbel was Postmaster after Berg and LaBay took over after Mike's retirement as Willow Lake's postmaster.

After purchasing the building in 1985, Cluts remodeled the building to be a post office only, but added tables for area residents to gather in a very home like atmosphere. She remembers the Post Office being in the bank building in Vienna in her early years in Vienna.

Cluts came to the community 50 plus years ago after her marriage to Gordon Cluts in November of 1962.

Myra grew up in Watertown, the daughter of Elmer and Lillian (Schutt) Dougherty. She had one brother Robert.

She graduated from Watertown High School with the class of 1946. Following graduation, she worked at Gowan's Photo Shop in Water-

Cluts (continued on page 9)

## Clark School 2013-14 budget is \$4,276,185

All 13 years of the new millennium, there had been talk of the Clark School opting out of the tax freeze. Well, that scenario played out last year with the Clark School Board opting out for \$300,000 for five years.

"I'm sure there were some who doubted that we needed it (the \$300,000 for the opt-out) when we went through this process last spring, but had we not had an opt-out it would be real scary this next school year," said Clark School superintendent Brian Heupel. Busi-

ness manager Heidi Sigdestad concurred.

At 6:45 p.m. next Monday, July 8, the Clark School Budget Hearing will be held and the Clark School Board will go through in depth, the 2013-14 school budget.

The beginning Clark School fund balance a year ago, on 7/20/2012 was \$542,288 with projected revenues of \$2,269,827 and projected expenditures of \$2,431,591, the estimated ending fund balance on

Clark School (continued on page 3)

	General Fund	Capital Outlay	Special Ed
2013-14	\$2,597,446	\$514,106	\$531,374
2012-13	\$2,447,258	\$415,160	\$443,370
2011-12	\$2,330,235	\$248,584	\$282,855
2010-11	\$2,536,580	\$434,830	\$282,169
2009-10	\$2,578,280	\$261,508	\$359,216
2008-09	\$2,527,214	\$269,122	\$394,165

## Kim Kaufman wins first professional tour title

Sunday was a benchmark day in the life of Kim Kaufman. Kaufman, a 2009 Clark High School graduate and 2013 Texas Tech University graduate, won her first professional title, on the Symetra Tour.

Kaufman won the Island Resort Championship in Harris, Mich. on Sunday, beating Japan's Mitsuki Katahira with a two-putt par on the first hole of a playoff. She made 20-foot birdie putts on the final two holes in regulation for a 4-under 68 to match Katahira at 3-under 213 on the Sweetgrass course.

Kaufman won in her third start on the tour. She jumped from 60th

Kim Kaufman



to ninth on the money list with the final top 10 earning 2013 LPGA Tour cards.

As the Courier goes to press, Kim is home visiting her parents in Clark, Terry and Teresa Kaufman.



# WW Tire: Now open in Clark, north side of Cenex

Open: 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Mon.-Fri. & 7:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon, Sat.

Phone: 605-532-5900 (Ask for Matt)