

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880

BACK TO SCHOOL

School starts in:
Henry on August 16 (today)
Clark on August 23
Willow Lake on August 23

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 The hometown newspaper of Ken Peterson, Springfield, SD

Planted wheat acres are down in 2017

The spring wheat harvest is coming along but moisture in the fields is slowing things down a bit is the consensus of local elevator managers.

"A lot of the spring wheat is not harvested yet," noted David Karki, South Dakota State University agronomy specialist. "It's not drying down as expected with our high humidity and cooler temperatures. The crop has matured but the combination of high moisture and high humidity with cooler temps has slowed down the harvest. Dew in the mornings is not drying out until 1:00 or later in the afternoons."

For winter wheat, Karki has heard of 80 bu. per acre so far and added that winter wheat results will be posted soon on the iGrow website.

"Producers cut back on planting wheat this year," reported Duane Poppen - Wheat Growers manager of Willow Lake. "Most people are talking in the 45bu. per acre range. There's not a lot of acres in wheat this year. Two fields came in of spring wheat that reached 60-75 bushels per acres. The samples taken in were 12.3 protein count and 60 plus test weight. I'm guessing yields will be in the 60 bu. range."

As of Friday of last week, the Willow Lake elevator has not received any winter wheat yet. "We're just getting a decent start on the spring wheat. Farmers are fighting the moisture in the fields, but the quality seems good of what we've seen

so far," ended Poppen.

At the Clark County Farmers Elevator, 50,000 bushels of winter wheat in total have come in. "There's just not much of it out there," added elevator manager Jeff Olson. "The quality is good and the crop ranges from 30-60 bu. per acre. At the west end of the county, the harvest is winding down but around Clark it's just getting started. Earlier in the season we had more rain in the Clark area and the wheat isn't quite ready. I'd say probably 35-65 bushels per acre will catch most of it."

Rainfall

Month by month City of Clark rainfall since the beginning of the year has been recorded as: January - .17; February - .25; March - .55; April - 1.40; May - 1.74; June - 5.91 and July - 1.83.

For 2016 in comparison totals were: January - .40; February - .92; March - .22; April - 2.51; May - 2.56; June - 1.31 and July 2.94.

Up through mid July this summer, Clark County was in more of a drought situation with no rainfall from June 23 to July 17 in the growing season. Before that May 29 through June 9 were completely dry and from April 20 to May 20 only .47 fell from the skies.

Soybeans/corn

"Soybeans are in the early pod-filling stage right now which is a great time to get those good rains," stated Karki regarding the

soybean crops which are looking great at this time.

Temperatures dropping a little at the last half of July was favorable to both the soybeans and corn mentioned Karki.

"The corn crop seems to be coming along and is doing good. Tasseling is 100% done now and one can see the young ears on the plant which are filling out," continued Karki.

Hay

It's the agronomist's opinion that about 20% of producers in the county got a third cutting of alfalfa this year. Eighty percent got one - maybe two cuttings of alfalfa.

"The heat hurt us a little with that second cutting," noted Karki.

In the Carpenter area, Mike Madsen of the agronomy center there reported that crops in his area look as good or better than last year for

Crops

(continued on page 14)

WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 8.....	76	52	0
Aug. 9.....	78	54	0
Aug. 10.....	72	53	.20
Aug. 11.....	73	52	0
Aug. 12.....	71	57	tr
Aug. 13.....	70	54	.19
Aug. 14.....	70	55	0
2017 precipitation to date	13.19		
2016 precipitation to date	14.48		



Last dive of the summer

The Horace Bennett Memorial swimming pool in Clark will close its doors for the season on Friday, August 18 as students and lifeguards head back to school. The last swimming day at the pool will end at 5:00 p.m. and no Family Fun night will be held due to the Cyclone football game that evening.

Kobe Red Cloud is in the beginning of a one and a half somersault off the low board in the above photo.

Clark's blood drive is Tuesday, August 29

Clark's blood drive, sponsored by the Clark Lions and Clark Lionesses will be Tuesday, August 29, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Clark United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

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.

New blood donors are needed every day to replace those who can no longer donate, however blood centers are seeing fewer people stop forward to roll up their sleeves.

About 30 percent of UBS' blood supply goes to cancer patients across the region and one in seven people entering the hospital will need blood. The only way patients can receive the blood they desperately need is through volunteer donors.

Volunteer blood donors must be at least 16, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good health. Addi-

Blood drive
(continued on page 14)



The new leaders at Henry School for 2017-2018 are superintendent Philip Schonebaum, left and Jon Redmond, K-12 principal, right.

Henry School opened its doors today, starting the new school term.

Schonebaum is the new superintendent at Henry, Redmond the new principal

Last year Philip Schonebaum was the high school principal. With the retirement of long-time superintendent Steve Zirbel after the 2016-17 school year, Schonebaum steps into the Henry School superintendency and he used last year as a stepping stone, or a training year.

"We want to continue to build the Henry community to be one with the school district," said Schonebaum and he also wants to build

Henry School to new levels.

"I'm excited to get the school year started," he continued and one reason for his excitement is the customized learning, taking place in grades 5-12 at Henry School.

"Each student will have the ability to learn at his or her own pace, on his or her own time and at his or her own level. All levels are filled."

The new leader at Henry said he is excited about the customized

learning concept, a changing curriculum, adaptable for students needs.

"I want to be the best leader I can be, continually striving for excellence with both students and staff, pushing and striving to help students achieve at a great level."

Schonebaum, a Bonesteel-Fairfax native, graduated from the University of South Dakota with a de-

Henry School
(continued on page 14)

Clark School Board greets new teachers, looks at new air conditioning updates

The August meeting of the Clark School Board of Education began with new staff members in attendance, meeting the school board. New teachers include: Amy Nelson, music; Greg Ehrke, Fordham Colony grades 4-8; Sam Williams, computer technology; Bobbi Jo Bohnet, fourth grade and Julie Grund, Silver Lake Colony. A new teacher feature will highlight the August 23 edition of the *Clark County Courier*.

An air conditioning summary was next on the agenda, with three members of Allied Climate Professionals (ACP) taking time out of their 15-hour days to give the school board an update.

With school starting in one week, the elementary has been the priority, it was stated by superintendent Luanne Warren, and the ACP employees added, "It has been going pretty smooth. We are right on schedule where we thought we would be."

Both the elementary and high school will have air conditioning and the ACP group detailed the project to the board.

A Clark School food service unpaid meal charge policy was approved. The policy reads: "All students are allowed to eat nutritious meals regardless of ability to pay. When the student's meal balance

is low, a notice is sent home. If the family has a negative balance exceeding \$50.00, they are not allowed to have any seconds. The student is made aware and a phone call is made to the responsible party. If the balance continues, the student could be offered a sack lunch in place of the hot meal."

In other business:

▲ A 10-minute executive session was held for a student mater. After the closed session the board accepted two open enrollee applicants.

▲ Following the executive ses-

Clark School
(continued on page 14)

Judge denies partial summary judgment

A hearing was held Monday in the South Dakota Third Judicial Court, County of Clark, regarding Geronimo Energy and the Crocker Wind Farm versus Clark County Board of Commissioners/Clark County Board of Adjustment.

The hearing on the motion for partial summary judgment was denied by Third Judicial Circuit Court Judge Carmen Means. The judge ruled that the Clark County Board of Adjustment does have the right to amend the setback ordinance.

On March 27 of this year the Clark County Board of Commissioners voted 4-1 to approve a three-quarter mile setback for the Crocker Wind Farm. In May, Geronimo Energy/The Crocker Wind Farm, petitioned the court filing a writ of certiorari,

five pages in length, with several points of contention.

Attorneys on both sides, Brian Donahoe and Brett Koenecke for the Crocker Wind Farm and Jack Hieb, representing the Clark County Board of Commissioners, argued the setback ordinance, with both sides citing the due process, public good/public welfare portion of the ordinance. Donahoe drew distinction to language, as when the Crocker Wind Farm began, the county setback ordinance was defined as no less than 1,000 feet. "Now, we're at three-quarters of a mile and we ask the court to strike that decision," stated Donahoe.

Hieb, in rebuttal cited several similar court cases, asking "can we allow the board (of commissioners)

to look at public health, safety and general morals (in amending the setback ordinance)."

Judge Means denied the order brought Monday to the court, acknowledging that the board of commissioners acted within their authority in this partial summary judgment. The request was (for the judge to rule), "Remand to the Board with instruction to make them consistent with the zoning ordinance at 1,000 feet."

With a five-page petition on file and circuit court in session every two weeks, it is not known what additional petitions or motions will be filed by Geronimo Energy, but as of press time Tuesday, no hearings are on the court docket for Monday, August 28.

Al and Faye owned Knutson Drug

For nearly 47 years, Al and Faye Knutson owned and managed Knutson Drug located where the Ulyot Building/City Hall is currently in the town of Clark.

"Grownups still mention what fun they had picking out their candy from the tall candy case we had in our store," recalls Faye Knutson of Clark.

Purchasing sheet music with their grandmother were also memories of clientele as they visited with Faye. Jewelry including Black Hills gold (which they sold a lot of), engagement rings, watches, cards, flower vases, candy, toiletries and of course prescriptions and remedies were among the many items at the store.

"When you first came in the front door was where we had our cards display," explained Faye Knutson. "So we'd remind you to pick up your greeting or birthday cards as you came in. The south side of the store was all wood cases with glass doors. The pharmacy part of the store was in the back."

"I was the bookkeeper of the business from the start. Al always kidded me that - that was the reason he married me," giggled Knutson.

Faye was a graduate of the Nettleton Business College in Sioux Falls after her graduation from Howard High School. She recalls her penmanship classes using bottles of ink and the pens that went with them.

While in high school in Howard, all four years she worked at the local Rafferty Drug Store which also



This is what Clark, SD looked like during the middle of the last century. Knutson Drug is the building to the right.

Photo courtesy of Greg Furness

had a soda fountain.

Trying to wash ice cream dishes and glasses in cold water was a challenge she recalls as that is how it was done back then. She was happy to hear before they bought the drug store in Clark, that it did NOT have a soda fountain within the store.

Faye's husband Al was an Artesian High School graduate who went on to get his pharmacy degree at South Dakota State University in Brookings. Two weeks before his graduation in 1941, he was drafted into the U.S. Army to serve. He was in charge of the hospital pharmacy at Camp Butler in North Carolina until December of 1945.

The couple was married in Durham, N. C. on August 27, 1942 and made their home there until January of 1946 when they came to Clark and bought the drug store.

"Al had worked at Wilkins Drug Store in Clark the summer of 1940

and liked the friendly people here," continued Knutson. "So when the Wilkins wanted to sell, Al was anxious to buy their drug store in Clark."

"With so many soldiers coming home from the war, there weren't a lot of homes available, so many stores made apartments on their second floors. I'd say there were around 14 families living downtown in upstairs apartments in the 1940s and 1950s."

"Henry Desnoyers, Sr. fixed up three rooms for us to live in above the store. For a while, we lived with E. M. Jones, a widower who had retired when Mr. and Mrs. M. T. Wilkins bought the drug store in 1938."

"We're old fashioned and kept things about the same over the years," recalled Knutson. "We had an old stoker furnace that kept us

Knutson
(continued on page 14)