

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



August is here and school will be starting soon. School directories for the three area schools are included in this week's issue.

Wednesday, August 5, 2015

Vol. 135, No. 6

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

\$1.00

The hometown newspaper of Connie Bowers, Salem, O.R.

TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
July 28	80	54	0
July 29	78	54	0
July 30	82	59	0
July 31	80	59	0
Aug. 1	83	58	0
Aug. 2	77	58	0
Aug. 3	75	55	0
2015 precipitation to date	14.14"		
2014 precipitation to date	11.39"		

Clark blood drive is Tuesday, August 18

Clark's blood drive, sponsored by the Clark Lions and Lionesses will be Tuesday, August 18, at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall in Clark from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Joyce Helkenn is the coordinator of the drive and one can make an appointment to donate blood by calling Joyce at 532-3808 or go to www.UnitedBloodServices.org. Volunteer blood donors must be at least 16 years old (16 year old donors need a minor donor permit which is available at the blood drive or online) and be in good health.

"Donate blood and you will be entered to win a trip to Hawaii vacation package," said Helkenn. United Blood Services is offering a chance to win a trip to Hawaii to one lucky donor.

School pages are featured this week

All three area schools are running their respective school pages this week regarding the soon-to-be starting 2015-16 school year.

Luanne Warren begins her second year as the Clark School superintendent and Steve Zirbel returns at Henry. Scott Klautd will begin his third year as the Willow Lake superintendent.

Clark will open school doors on Monday, August 24, 2015. Henry opens on Wednesday, August 19 and Willow Lake starts on Monday, August 24.

A new teacher feature story of the new educators at all three school will also be coming.

Clark Traders play Thursday at State

The Clark Traders amateur baseball team won the District 1B championship and will play the Dell Rapids Mudcats at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, at Mitchell.

Four games are slated Thursday, Friday and Saturday and the opening round ends with two games on Sunday. The tourney runs through Sunday, August 16.

This is Sturgis Bike Rally week

It seems as if there are more motorcycles than ever on the road this year. Maybe it's because more cyclists are using U. S. Highway 212 to get to the Sturgis Bike Rally this year.

The Sturgis Motorcycle Rally officially began on Monday and runs until Sunday, August 9.

Maybe the reason one is seeing so many cyclists this year is because this is the 75th Sturgis Bike Rally and over 1 million people are expected.

City council discusses new, as well as lingering issues

The room was full at the August meeting of the Clark City Council, specifically for Chief of Police Jeremy Wellnitz's lifesaving award ceremony.

After the crowd dispersed, the council got into the departmental updates portion of the meeting and several important, but not necessarily new topics were discussed.

Mayor Larry Dreher stated that there is a difference in opinion as to whether or not volunteer fire-

men should use blue lights in their personal vehicles on the way to the firehall. "We will let the fire department decide the blue lights issue," he stated.

Police chief Wellnitz wanted the council to decide what to do with abandoned vehicles. It was more of 'standing behind the police department' than 'what are we to do'.

The issue at hand are the dozen or

City council
(continued on page 14)



Clark native and Clark High School graduate Joe Dalton, right, has been named the South Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education Teacher of the Year. SDACTE President-elect John Rist presented Dalton with his award.

Dalton earns Teacher of the Year Award

The South Dakota Association for Career and Technical Education is pleased to announce that Joe Dalton, exploration career instructor at Northeast Technical High School, has been named the SDACTE Teacher of the Year. Mr. Dalton was selected for this award because he has demonstrated innovation in the classroom, commitment to his

students and dedication to the improvement of career and technical education in his school and community.

Mr. Dalton provides the freshmen and sophomores with exploratory career cluster courses in business technology, working with people,

Dalton
(continued on page 14)



Potato Day is always a fun Saturday!

▲ Potato wrestling, plenty of fun and laughs for all

Under a glorious blue sky, the twenty-fourth annual Potato Day claimed beautiful summer weather for a fun-filled day for young and old alike.

Outside media sources, including TV, radio, print and various social media networking sources have picked up on Clark Potato Day events, including the unique attraction of mashed potato wrestling.

This Potato Day wrestling match was a tag team affair between wrestling and basketball cheerleaders. The six cheerleaders were Kathryn Paulson, Lauren Fjelland, Audrey Hanson, Emily Binger,

Hannah Gruenwald and Sydney Fjelland.

A good crowd witnessed many crowd-pleasing moments, as the kick boxing demonstration and mashed potato wrestling matches continued to entertain at Dickinson Park.

In recent years, Potato Day events such as the Clark Car Club Show and Mud Drag Races have really increased in notoriety, bringing in many folks from outside the community. Nice comments were heard about many of the Potato Day activities.

Clark County 4-H Achievement Days are today and tomorrow

August means 4-H Achievement Days and beginning today, August 5 and running through tomorrow, August 6, will be the main part of Clark County 4-H Achievement Days.

"Wouldn't you know it, we've scheduled Clark County 4-H Achievement Days and there is a fifty percent chance of rain for today and tomorrow," said Clark County 4-H program advisor Kim McGraw. "When we schedule Achievement days, it rains. But, that's alright. We really could use the rain."

McGraw is the 4-H advisor for



Spink and Clark counties and she is in charge of all 4-H activities along with the Clark County 4-H leaders.

This is the 87th annual Clark County Achievement Days with McGraw and staff busy finalizing plans. Many exhibits, livestock shows, programs and entertainment will be featured.

St. Michael's Altar Society will be running the lunch stand this year. The chicken barbecue, served by the 4-H Leaders will be Thursday, August 6 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The program featuring the style show and exhibit showcase will follow the barbecue at 7:15 p.m.

4-H Achievement Days
(continued on page 14)

Saving Seth happened on July 9

It was a big night at City Hall Monday, as Clark Chief of Police Jeremy Wellnitz recognized six "Citizen Life Savers", presenting them with awards at the August meeting of the Clark City Council.

"On July 9, we had a bad incident which turned out really well," began Wellnitz, as he described the near-drowning of Seth Tarbox at the Clark Swimming Pool.

"The pool was crowded and Seth was swimming. As he was unresponsive, three girls swimming near him, Emmah Mitchell, Ashleigh Moeller and Macy Steen saw this. Lifeguard Kandace Kolden pulled Seth from the pool. Lifeguard Braxton Hartley also played a role.

Off duty nurse Michelle Flatten was at the pool this memorable afternoon and her CPR efforts, "were very, very important," said Wellnitz.

At Monday's meeting Flatten told the large group in attendance for this awards ceremony, "My daughter begged me to go to the pool that afternoon as I really didn't want to go and once there I wanted to leave. My daughter was persistent that



These six individuals were very instrumental in saving the life of Seth Tarbox, front. Pictured along with Clark police officer Jeremy Wellnitz, back left, include, Braxton Hartley, Kandace Kolden and Michelle Flatten. In the middle row, left to right, Emmah Mitchell, Macy Steen and Ashleigh Moeller. In the front is Seth Tarbox.

This near-drowning happened July 9, at the Clark Horace Bennett Memorial Swimming Pool. The plaques read: "Citizen Life Saver Award".

August could be wet and cooler than usual thanks to El Nino

Throughout July 2015 conditions were quite variable across South Dakota, said Dennis Today, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist.

"Early July started off fairly cool across the state," said Today, explaining that warmer temperatures during the mid and latter part of the month helped to bring temperatures closer to average for the month. "Throughout most of South Dakota, temperatures were within about a degree of average - making the overall climate conditions generally good for crop development and livestock," he said. "A few extreme events did occur, but were not long-lived."

Precipitation helped prevent drought

During July, several areas of the state went two to three weeks with little to no precipitation resulting in dry conditions developing. However, Today pointed out that late-July precipitation, along with other isolated storm events, during the

August
(continued on page 14)

Roku-Rama

- 1) Sign up for ITC Vroom High-Speed Internet.
- 2) Or, upgrade your current ITC Internet.
- 3) Get a FREE Roku Streaming Stick.
- 4) Or, a FREE \$60 Netflix Gift Card.
- 5) Get movies, TV series, more!

Must ask for the promotion, Internet Speeds depend on location. Offer expires 9/30/15, Call 1.800.417.8667 for more info.