



How concrete can end up inside the base of a tree as well as 18 feet up in the air inside one large branch is one of those strange but true facts. Estimated to have been planted around 1922, this large silver maple stump is what's left of the odd tree that grew with a concrete center in front of the Jerry and Dianne Olson home in Clark.

Olson is shown holding half of the large piece that was inside of a branch 18 feet high in the air as the tree was removed last week, wrecking two chain saw chains in the process.

## This tree's bark had quite a bite (to a chainsaw)

"I remember seeing concrete in the large crack of that tree when I was a teenager," noted Jerry Olson of the silver maple tree in his front yard. "Back then it was at C.A. (Charlie) Larkin's house.

"We had it cut down last week by a tree company and it was a good thing, as it was rotted out inside and hollow above where the big piece of concrete still remains. There was concrete up in the branch too about 18 feet up. The tree company didn't know it was there and broke two chains on their chain saws in the process. We don't understand how concrete got up so high in the branch as well as at the base of the

tree where you can see it." The concrete piece Jerry is holding is what was in the tree some 18 feet high, that surprised the tree removal company.

"It's not unusual I've heard," said Olson. "As the tree grew, I guess it pulled the concrete up with it. I think the tree was planted back in 1922 when Mr. Brown, the Ford dealer back then in Clark built that house.

"My wife Dianne and I will probably be planting a climbing vine around it to camouflage it in the future, as I imagine that stump will be here a while."

## More pheasants are seen in SD in 2014

▲ Brood survey results show a 76 percent increase statewide

The good news is that there are better pheasant numbers than a year ago. The bad news is that the 2013 numbers were the worst in three decades.

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) has completed the annual pheasant brood survey and the results show a 76 percent increase in the statewide pheasants-per-mile index from 2013.

From late July through mid-August, GFP surveyed 109, 30 mile-routes across the state to estimate pheasant production and calculate the pheasants-per-mile index. The survey is not a population estimate, but rather compares the number of pheasants observed on the routes and establishes trend information. Survey routes are grouped into 13 areas, based on a local city, and the index value of each local city area is then compared to index values of the previous year and the 10-year average.

In a Bob Mercer, Capitol Bureau writer story, Mercer noted three general trends from this year's brood survey results:

★ The same number of rooster pheasants were seen as in 2013.

### Pheasants (continued on page 3)

WEATHER			
Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 26.....	63	45	0
Aug. 27.....	72	55	0
Aug. 28.....	70	64	.07
Aug. 29.....	75	56	0
Aug. 30.....	69	56	0
Aug. 31.....	73	58	.03
Sept. 1.....	72	53	.15
2014 precipitation to date	14.14"		
2013 precipitation to date	16.56"		

## Forty-eight year old mile run track record now belongs to Yost

A Clark High School track and field record which had stood for 48 years was broken last spring. Clark senior Rawson Yost ran a 4:34.25 1600 meter run in the South Dakota State Track and Field Meet last spring to break Pat Phillippi's 4:35.9 mile run that he set at the state meet in 1966. Both runners placed third in Class A with their respective times and both were CHS juniors when they set the school mark.

Last week Phillippi, along with his brother Stan, a 1961 Clark High School graduate, came to Clark to reminisce about track, cross country and growing up in Clark.

"Coach (Syl) Egan told me I would probably have more success running in cross country than I would have on the football field, because of my size and I really liked running," said Phillippi. Phillippi described himself as a fairly slender and quiet teenager and he said he really felt comfortable logging the miles it takes to be a successful cross country runner.

Yost and Phillippi have several things in common when it comes to distance running. Both used cross country in the fall to have success in the spring during track and field meets. Both Yost and Phillippi 'blossomed' their junior years, in both cross country and track, while putting on miles and letting others dominate, their freshman and sophomore years.

Yost calls it 'growing into his body'. "Every morning I work out, both with weights and a brisk three to four miles. I decided early on with my running that you get out of it what you put into it." Yost loves competition and it shows. As a sophomore in cross country, during the first race of the season at Redfield, he proved to himself that he can 'run with the big boys' and he has been improving ever since.

Last year Yost finished third in Region IA as a junior and his goal for cross country this year is "be the best that I can be. To improve I feel



"No hard feelings that I broke your 48-year-old mile run record?" Clark High School senior Rawson Yost might have been saying as he shook Pat Phillippi's hand last Friday, at Clark High School. Phillippi set the CHS mile run record in 1966 and Yost broke the mark (1600 meter run) last spring.

you really have to compete against yourself and not be satisfied with being 'an also ran'. You run to win the race and if that isn't possible, you push yourself to the limit."

Phillippi noted that it's hard to remember back almost 50 years ago, to bring about details of his running. "My running buddy was Ed Elkins. He was a year ahead of me in school but he knew how to make running fun." Phillippi, whose dad managed the Jack and Jill store for

a 10-year period, roughly 1960 to 1970, in Clark, lived in the northern portion of Clark, on North Commercial Street.

"I would run that four-mile section just north of Clark, by the cemetery and the airport," he said.

In the 1960's, Clark competed against the bigger schools in the state and track and field has

### Mile run record (continued on page 2)

## Life-saving rapid response is critical in all communities

A story by **Dakotafire**  
dakotafire.net

By Mary Ann Gadberry, Dakotafire Media

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When a medical emergency happens, it's as if a clock starts ticking.

"The world of EMS revolves around the concept of the 'golden hour,'" said Corsica (S.D.) Ambulance Director Karen Johnson, "meaning patients have one hour from the time of injury/cardiac arrest to be able to get sufficient help."

Whatever the emergency, what happens in that golden hour can determine the prognosis: Whether a patient lives or dies. Whether that person recovers fully, or lives with permanent damage.

"Especially with a cardiac arrest, we have only minutes to get there and save a life," Johnson said. "In a trauma, it's that 'golden hour' that we have to get to the patient and get them to the hospital to give them the best chance. Once that golden hour is gone, the chances of survival go way down."

As rural ambulance services struggle to find enough volunteers to maintain their services, it's the moments of that crucial golden hour that tick away when help takes longer to arrive, or even fails to arrive.

### Widespread shortage

Because rural ambulance services often have low call volumes and limited reimbursement from transports, they have relied on the subsidy of donated or volunteer labor to make their operations possible. For years, this model has worked.

For a variety of reasons, including demographic and commuting pattern changes, it no longer does.

"This is a problem nationwide," said Marilyn Rutz, director of South Dakota Emergency Medical Services. "It is not unique to South Dakota."

Rutz said that of the 123 ambulance services currently licensed in the state (not including air ambulance services), 25 have hardship exemptions, meaning they can respond to a call with just one drive and an EMT.

The volunteer shortage has caused the state to make exemptions to the rules," Rutz said. "South Dakota normally requires a minimum of 2 EMTs on all service calls."

Tom Nehring, director of the N.D. Division of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma, said about 134 licensed ambulance services, 10 air ambulances and 88 Quick Response Units response units are currently operating around the state. Of the licensed ambulance services, 21 are Advanced Life Support, 108 are Basic Life Support and 5 are Industrial ambulances.

### Ambulance (continued on page 3)



Shown above are some of the members of the Clark County Ambulance crew. "Every Monday morning the group gathers to visit and talk about the work week and if any changes need to be made, so we start out the week on the right foot," said Ambulance Administrator Pam Grensberg, fourth from the right. "Clark County is really lucky, we have a great

EMS system here."

Shown above left to right are Deputy Mike Graving, Coral Berg, Clark City Police Officer Jeremy Wellnitz, Marlys Benson, Katie Wangness, Jerry Bowers, Randy Angermeier, Sheriff Rob McGraw, Grensberg, Deputy Gail Smith, Justin Bowers and Mike Geise.

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