

Clark County Airport now has an airpark

▲ Kirkeby doesn't give up on access agreement

After two years of working with 'the powers that be', Dean and Anna Kirkeby are finally the owners of the new Benson Airpark Association located across from the Clark County Airport.

Currently an alfalfa field, construction will begin next spring for Dean and Anna's new home which will have an airplane hanger attached to it.

"We'll be able to walk right from the kitchen to the airplane hanger," said Kirkeby of his future home.

Talking about a new kitchen with his wife Anna was the start of it all - the conversation led from a new kitchen to a new hanger home at the airport. "Marital negotiations" you could call it," chided Kirkeby.

Three years ago, Kirkeby purchased a 1966 Citabria made by the Champion Aircraft Corporation.

It's a tailwheel airplane that is more so able to do loops and spins and is good for landing in places

other than a paved runway. Kirkeby had to increase his 'stick and rudder' skills three years ago, too, to achieve his tailwheel endorsement which he obtained in Madison.

Dean and Anna's son Joseph also has his pilots license he obtained while in the Marine Corp.

Before owning his own plane, Kirkeby flew his uncles'-Dean and Duane Bymers-1973 Cessna 172 airplane. Dean Bymers currently is the sole owner of the airplane of which his nephew Dean sometimes still flies.

For convenience sake, an airpark - where one lives with their airplane - seemed like a great idea for Kirkeby.

Reading up on the process, Kirkeby found that it could be done, after being told once that it was illegal.

The FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012, section 136 permits sponsors of publicly owned general aviation airports to estab-

lish residential through-the-fence access (RTTF) agreements that comply with specific terms and conditions.

The field across County Highway 63 from the airport to the west was the best location considering the airport's runways and surrounding sloughs.

It was two years of dealing with 'Classic Bureaucracy' said Kirkeby. It seemed to take a long time to get things done.

Kirkeby reported that Jessica McBride with Senator John Thune's office, helped a lot in giving them the right direction. Thune is a member of the Senate transportation committee. "She helped to get it going," explained Kirkeby. He flew to Bismarck to meet with an FAA official in person and continued drafting his (RTTF) access agreement.

Eight times he sent in the paper-

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Dean Kirkeby is shown at the site of the Benson's Airpark Association. After two years of diligence, sending in paperwork eight times for example, his efforts were successful in having this airpark come to fruition. Located directly west of the Clark County Airport, the Benson Airpark and its land is owned by Kirkeby with three plots yet available. The land was previously owned by Bob Benson, hence the name - The Benson Airpark Association.



Performers selected for All State Chorus

All State Chorus members have been selected at Clark High School. In the music room at Clark, from left to right are, Sydnie Fjelland, alto; Jordon Dessie, tenor; Katlyn Manyard, soprano and Hudson Fuller, bass.

Chorus selections the group will perform are "The Music of Living," "Tree of Peace," "Truly Brave," "Famine Song" and "Landscapes." The All State Orchestra will perform with the chorus for the songs "America the Beautiful," "Hallelujah" from "Christ On the Mount of Olives" and "The Star-Spangled Banner."

Director Dr. Tim Seelig from Daly City, California is

this year's guest conductor. Seelig has authored seven books and DVDs on choral technique. He began his career as a singer, but is also a conductor, teacher and motivational speaker. He has conducted around the world and regularly at Carnegie Hall for the last 25 years.

The South Dakota All State Chorus and Orchestra will perform on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at the Sioux Falls Denny Sanford Premier Center at 7:00 p.m.

Amy Nelson is the choral director at Clark High School.

Retention pond, drainage issues and Clark Golf Club board top municipal issues for October

The first Monday of each month is when city councils in South Dakota meet. The meeting of the Clark city council, held Monday, lasted roughly two hours, with several important municipal issues being discussed, debated and acted upon.

The retention pond, rain water drainage, Clark Golf Club and budget decisions all are important matters that the Clark mayor and city council dealt with on Monday.

Mayor John Pollock stated that he was not pleased with the progress, or lack thereof, at the retention pond. At the September city council meeting, the council approved October 1 as the completion date. It is now past that date and the project is not completed.

"The project has been slowed by a sub-contractor," said Pollock, and he did not name a particular contractor.

"The gravel road has not been built, as we have an agreement for a four-inch gravel-based road," and that cannot be done until the work has been completed at the pond.

"We have paid very good money for this project," continued the mayor.

"We need to get this finished." Pollock reiterated that no work is being done at this time, as, because

of one contractor, the project is at a standstill. "We're keeping track of it. We need to get the project done as soon as possible. I'm not happy. It's not a good report. It needs to get done."

Drainage

With all of the rainfall in the last two weeks, especially two big rains, several drainage problems were discussed by the council.

Regarding the drainage problem at 7th Ave. N.W. in Clark, Mayor Pollock advised the council that he had gotten a quote for culvert under the road, the building of a berm, increased ditch size, etc., from Clausen Construction. The amount is under \$50,000, so bids are not necessary for this project. Pollock's plan is to make 7th Ave. N.W., west of Smith Street, into a cul-de-sac at the south end of Wookey's Assisted Living.

Councilperson Belinda Hanson felt the council needed to bid this project out, as long as there was another local company that could do this work as well.

Councilman Brian Cook wanted this drainage situation solved, but wanted more time to research the problem, bringing about a lesser dollar amount.

Councilperson Kerry Kline com-

mented that she felt Wookey Assisted Living owner/manager Gayle Wookey didn't necessarily want this done. This led to conversation by the mayor and City Street Superintendent Roger Collins that this is a problem area. Pollock said he is interested in still pursuing this project.

The discussion continued about the ramifications of what would happen, regarding liability on the city's part, and the council president Louann Streff stated that she would like Gayle Wookey to be present when the council decided on the drainage solution. The matter was tabled to the November meeting.

The city approved putting in a culvert/ditch/hotmix curb on the north side of 4th Ave. N.W. on the corner of N. Smith Street. This property is owned by Robert and Joie Steffen and they were in attendance at the meeting. The city and the Steffens will split the material(s) cost, 50-50.

Warren Brandlee of NorthWestern Energy was in attendance to discuss the drainage issues at the NorthWestern Energy property. There is a drainage-flow problem at this location that also affects the

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Brian Jenkins traces family back to Plymouth Colony

A chance encounter with Glen Jenkins from Nebraska led to the start of digging into the family history for Brian and Chris Jenkins of Clark.

Brian Jenkins has spent the last six months working on compiling the Jenkins family history matching up photos with names. With help from his cousins, Bernice Halling and Lois Gabriel contributing additional photos and letters adding to the collection he found from his great-grandmother Minnie Bauman (Jenkins), his collection of family photos and information is pretty impressive.

Working with an online photo-book company named Shutterfly - he has had a book printed titled *400 Years of Jenkins in America*, for his family members.

Small photographs that were two inches by two inches big, can now be seen as an 8x8 size in the printed book.

"It's amazing how they could enlarge the photo so much and yet it is so clear," noted Jenkins. "Now we can see the faces better in those small photos."

The start of it all

A chance encounter with Glen Jenkins from Nebraska happened while looking for gifts for their father Jim Jenkins, by Brian's brother Todd Jenkins.

"I wonder if we're related," asked Todd and Glen's reply was "I almost guarantee we are."

Glen had done extensive research on his family tree going back many generations and sent the basic layout of his research to Todd for teaching purposes. Todd teaches social studies at Clark High School.

Todd and Brian soon discovered that they indeed were related to the Nebraska Jenkins. Their great-grandfather and Glen's grandfather were brothers. Glen's research added to Brian's history and photos along with the Ethel Jenkins Jones collection (via Bernice and Lois) made for a complete history tying together the photos, names, family histories and letters written.

One exciting find for Jenkins was the 1867 printing of the book - *The Gettysburg Soldiers National Cemetery at Gettysburg*. It was signed in the front by James Jenkins, Brian's great-great grandfather, who served in the Civil War, enlisting in 1862. "It's kind of exciting to think that it could be that my great-great grandfather was at Gettysburg during President Lincoln's famous address," admitted Jenkins. "His speech is in the book - it was only two minutes long. Before he spoke, the honorable Edward Everett spoke for two hours at the dedication of the cemetery where so many had perished, denoting the cemetery location as it stated in the book."

Grand Army of the Republic (Civil War) reunion medals that

belonged to James G. Jenkins were added to the photo he acquired from Halling to tie it all together. The medals and photo are now together in a frame.

Labeling photographs and writing down family histories as Brian's great aunt Ethel Jones did, was a Godsend in helping with the research mentioned Jenkins. It helped all the pieces fall into place.

Earliest history

Finding early origins with the Jenkins family, John Jenkins was in the original Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts. He more than likely arrived on the ship named "Defense", the second group of English boats that came to America. John, born in 1630, later married Susanna Cook. Susanna's grandfather Francis Cook was one of the original passengers on the Mayflowers.

From his cousin Lois Gabriel, he was given the telbot-type of photographs of his great-great-grandparents, Samuel and Elizabeth (Pearson) Jenkins.

"First in our collection there were the telbot photographs in the 1850s. Then came the calbo type with less exposure time, then the tintype photographs with only 30 seconds exposure time starting in 1864. That's why no one smiles in these big older photographs. It was hard to hold a smile for eight minutes straight which was the exposure time, so

Jenkins
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Within the last six months, Brian Jenkins's research into the Jenkin's family history has revealed 13 generations of the family name in America. Photos and letters from relatives combined with his own research has unearthed the ties of family going back to the year 1630 with John Jenkins at the original Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts.

Jenkins and his wife Chris are pictured with the book he completed - *400 years of Jenkins in America*, Civil War reunion medals from James Jenkins and a telbot type photograph of Samuel Jenkins. Samuel and his wife Elizabeth (Pearson) Jenkins were Brian's great-great-great-grandparents.