

Heritage Day is Sunday at Complex



Phyllis Schrag

Heritage Day, sponsored by the Clark County Historical Society, will be Sunday, June 11, 2017 at the Beauvais Heritage Complex.

The buildings on the grounds will be open from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Sunday with full tours available.

There will be a pie and ice cream social beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the lunch stand in the Machine Shed building behind the Clark House.

At 2:00 p.m. there will be a program in the Crandall Community Historic Church. This year's program will feature Phyllis Schrag, a retired educator/speaker/actor/storyteller from Ames, Iowa. She will

present two programs.

The first program is entitled "Home Remedies". During the Great Depression and many years following it, people did not frequent a doctor as much as people do today. Most towns did not have a local doctor and many farm families would not have had the luxury of seeing a doctor. Even if there was a doctor, the trip would be miles away. Audiences find it fun to explore their own home remedies and from where those home remedies originated.

The second program is "Baseball, Preachers and Funerals". This is a presentation in a storytelling format and provides a humorous yet poignant look at small-town life. Its setting is a place where all the town kids were needed to have their own "World Series", preachers had an impact on children's development and funerals were simply a part of life. Lessons gleaned from baseball, preachers and funerals present a child's perspective of life in a small town.



Surrounded by tree belts on the top of a scenic hill in Spring Valley Township near Crocker is the St. Thomas Cemetery. With burials since 1900, the two acre cemetery used to be affiliated with the St. Thomas Catholic Church but has since opened to all denominations.

Members of the St. Thomas Cemetery board shown behind the headstone of Thomas Bjerke, from left to right are, Cathy Bjerke, Christine Meier and Karen and Steve Reppe.

St. Thomas Cemetery is located southwest of Crocker

From 1901 to 1908 the St. Thomas Catholic Church stood at the northwest corner of the adjoining St. Thomas Cemetery.

Overlooking picturesque Mallard Slough (which is now more like a lake) just a couple miles southwest of Crocker is where St. Thomas Cemetery is located.

From the corner of 421st Avenue and 158th Street in Spring Valley Township, one would follow 158th St. going west about a half mile and follow the curve to the right and the

road ends at the front gate of the cemetery.

It's located at the top of a hill on two acres of land surrounded by shelterbelts on the land of Steve Reppe who is also the sexton and caretaker of the cemetery.

Steve's sisters Christine Meier and Cathy Bjerke are also on the cemetery board.

Christine is the board president

St. Thomas
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Words to live by: Reduce, reuse and recycle



There are many good reasons why people should recycle. Recycling saves energy, reduces landfills, preserves our resources and protects wildlife, is good for the economy and helps of climate problem. Within the County of Clark, as well as the City of Clark, all of us can do a better job of recycling and with that in mind, the Courier wanted to key on the recycling topic this week.

"Once we got going with recycling when we first started it, we really noticed a difference at the city landfill," noted City of Clark street superintendent Roger Collins. "There was less out there after people started recycling."

"We could be doing more, though," noted Collins. "If we had a building - that wasn't being used, for a drop

off point, that would be great. We're a little behind in that aspect, looking at what other towns are doing in regards to recycling."

"Just do it," advised city finance officer Jackie Luttrell regarding recycling. "I tell people to put their garbage bags with recycling on the opposite side of the driveway - not right next to the garbage container."

The first and third Fridays of the month are recycling pickup days. Magnets are available in the city office as a reminder with the 2017 schedule for pickup.

On the www.cityofclark.com

Recycling
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One of the key discussion points of Mayor John Pollock during the June meeting of the Clark City Council dealt with the under construction Total Retention Pond located approximately a mile and a half southeast of the city. The completion date is scheduled for the end of August.

Pollock, at the helm for his second meeting, explained to the council that it was very important that the citizenry know that a Total Retention

June's city council meeting keys on Total Retention Pond

A summer Clark City Council meeting is full of 'summery' items and the 90 minute June meeting contained 20 agenda items, keying on water/sewer, swimming pool, golf course and community beauty.

Mayor John Pollock and councilman Brian Cook went out to check on the Total Retention Pond project the city has been working on for much of the last decade. A late August completion date is expected and Pollock explained to the council that an inspection, by the council,

should be done before the city signs off on this project.

Finance officer Jackie Luttrell stated that a CDBG hearing on this project will happen next month and that the pay request for this project is 65 percent complete. At Monday's meeting, two pay requests were approved. Foothills Contracting for \$964,934.55 (\$109,949.50 CDBG grant funds and \$854,985.00 SRF loan) and to Clark Engineering for \$21,870.26 (CWFCP grant).

Luttrell also explained that wa-

ter for this project will be lake water coming from south of the site, as Mayor Pollock shared with the council what he had learned after talking with the lead engineer at the Total Retention Pond in the afternoon.

Pollock told the council that the enormity of the land mass used for this project took him 'a-back' at first so he asked some questions and learned how a Total Retention Pond works. A Total Retention Pond never drains, it evaporates, with little

evaporation taking place in the winter, that is why it is so big. The basins are not very deep, four to five and five to six feet deep.

"It cannot re-use the water," said Pollock, noting why the retention pond is as large as it is.

In other business:
▲ No executive session was necessary.
▲ The meeting began with the

City council
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Railroad Depot items returned to Clark - by Goth family



Joan Goth and her husband Dan Pickett, pictured, made the 700 mile trek from Norman, Okla. to Clark, S.D. to give the Clark County Historical Society several items that were in the railroad depot, at Clark, years ago.

Joan's grandfather, Perry Goth was the Chicago and North Western Railroad depot manager for multiple decades until 1960. Perry Eugene Goth, Jr. was Joan's father.

Goth and her husband came to Clark to bring the old depot lamps, which were in her family, back to their original home, the railroad depot at the Clark County Historical Society (CCHS) Museum.

CCHS president Greg Furness had been in contact with Joan and her brother Tom Goth, who is also bringing one of the telegraph pieces back to Clark, to go in the museum.



"I am very excited to come to Clark and to get these items to the Depot," she said. "My brother and I wanted to get these lamps to their original place. Our father died a few years ago and this is one of the last requests we need to accomplish for him."

Goth continued talking about the lamps. "As you can tell, it is just a hurricane lamp with a pretty brass holder and the hand lamp was probably used on a daily basis by the employees. Nothing really exciting, but we would like to see these items back where they belong."

These lamps and telegraph pieces were contributed to the museum Depot in Perry Goth's name.

Goth and Pickett spent last Thursday in Clark and the word excited has been used several times in this story, but that is how she described the Depot, and her visit.

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