

The voice of Clark County since 1880

Farmers continue with optimistic outlook as temperatures climb

Warm, humid temperatures are in the forecast this week, with a chance of rain at the end of the weekend or early next week. Hot weather, with highs in the 90's could be here by Thursday.

"I think we are going to skip the 80's," said David Karki, SDSU Extension Agronomy Field Specialist. "Overall, I think all of the corn and soybeans are planted," and that early summer optimism that comes with abundant moisture is now prevalent.

Rainfall amounts from last week are spotty and localized. The rainfall last week for the most part came in two separate events, on Thursday and/or Friday. Clark received .44 on Thursday and .57 Friday. This was one of those weeks when fields a couple miles away from each other had different rainfall amounts, but for the most part everyone received ample rain. One notices that both sides of the county, Raymond and Henry (in Codington County) received over an inch of rain.

It's interesting to note that the rainfall to date, in Clark, is 7.62".

At this time last year it was 7.25". And two years ago this week it was 7.15".

"In our technologically advanced world, we're still highly dependent upon the weather," said Karki. "I think this shot of hot weather this week will be a positive.

"The winter wheat will be affected the most by prolonged heat this week. A couple of days - not that big a concern."

Karki added that the early planted corn was 'zapped' by some cold temperatures, "but that has come out fine. We have been on the dry side this spring, but with last week's moisture, we are adequate for the time being. Timely rains, as always, will be key this summer."

Small grains

The winter wheat is beyond the flower stage, noted the agronomy specialist. "Application for blight or scab could be taking place in the near future and it is very important to continually scout the small grain fields. It is critical to scout fields at this time and it's also critical to have the correct applications."

First cutting of alfalfa is probably

30 to 40 percent complete, Karki speculated and said that the hay crop is looking pretty good at this time.

"It will be interesting to see where we are at a week from now, with multiple days of 90+ heat. I hope the rains continue in a timely fashion," he ended.

Clark County Rainfall 5/31 - 6/6		*Bradley .50"
*Crocker .73"		
*Raymond 1.26"	Garden City .90"	
	*Clark 1.01"	Henry 1.03"
		*Vienna .95"
*Carpenter 1.10"		*Willow Lake .90"

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
May 31	67	48	0
June 1	60	43	0
June 2	72	44	.44
June 3	71	53	.57
June 4	69	52	0
June 5	76	51	0
June 6	66	49	0
2016 precipitation to date			7.62
2015 precipitation to date			7.25



Shown above are the staff who kept the mail coming through the U.S. Post Office in Bradley in 1985. This photo was taken at the time of the Bradley town centennial. From left to right are: Bob Dunlavy, rural carrier; Burdette Wibeto, rural carrier; Pete Hemmingson, rural carrier; Belva Sunne, substitute rural carrier; Ida Yexley, postmaster and Dorothy Springer, post office clerk. The Bradley Post Office has been in operation since 1887.

Ida Yexley and Dorothy Springer are long remembered at the Bradley Post Office

The Bradley Post Office has had a long run delivering mail since 1887 and continues in that capacity to this day.

The current post office is remotely managed under the direction of Postmaster Diane Peterson at the Clark office. Andrea Logan and Kerri Yexley are the most recent workers who are rotating in their position at the desk of the Bradley Post Office.

In 2014 Patty Tarbox retired from her position of officer in charge, a term that has replaced the postmaster title since Curt Lindahl retired in 2009.

Before Lindahl, Tarbox served as officer in charge after the retirement of Ida Yexley in 2003. From July to September, Tarbox served as officer in 2003 and then after Lindahl's retirement in 2009, became the officer again from 2009 to 2014.

"As long as I can remember growing up in this area, Ida Yexley and Dorothy Springer were the ones I

always saw at the local post office. Dorothy was a clerk and both her and Ida worked with Harry Brown. Brown was the postmaster before Ida took the position," recalled Tarbox. Ida had the position until 2003 when she retired at age 83.

According to the Clark County Centennial history book, postmasters preceding Harry Brown were Robert Brown, Dena Tarbox, Bud McMacken, Katherine McMaken, Ross Kinyon, Lester Button, Edith Sproat, H. H. Minthorn, Daniel Trenham, Wilson Kenyon and George Taylor.

The first post office building was built in 1887 which burned in what locals called the First Fire in 1891. (Another fire engulfed Bradley's downtown area in 1916). Post offices were located in store buildings and in 1922, another post office was built by William Hart and George LeCount.

Bradley Post Office (continued on page 3)

Editor's Note: Studying old records and visiting Clark County cemeteries reveals not only the final resting place of hundreds of early settlers, but also gives a partial glimpse of pioneer life when this area was still known as "Dakota Territory". Along with the large town and church cemeteries are those abandoned, forlorn private cemeteries that dot the landscape in this county. The following story is one in a series of histories of the twenty-eight graveyards in Clark County. Persons knowing of cemeteries that might be missed in this report, or have history material connected with cemeteries in the locality are urged to contact the Courier.

Located along an old stagecoach route along what is now 176th Street is the South Elrod Cemetery, located to the west of the former South Elrod Church of Christ, southeast of Clark.

To get there, one would go south on U.S. Highway 25, (off of U.S. Highway 212) about three miles to 176th Street, turn right and go west 1.2 miles.

The church remains, although services haven't been held there regularly since 1966. When it closed, members continued at the South Lake Church of Christ in Wa-

Heritage Day is this Sunday

Robert Kolbe to speak on the settling of Dakota, South Dakota

▲ And the role transportation played

Heritage Day is this Sunday, June 12, at the Beauvais Heritage Museum Complex. Grounds and all buildings will be open to the public from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. with the opening ceremony slated for 1:00 p.m.

Sponsored by the Clark County Historical Society, Heritage Day annually kicks off the opening of the museum for the year. Society members are hoping for a good turnout with activities planned for a variety of interests.

"Bring a lawn chair and enjoy the opening ceremonies under the big tent," remarked Historical Society president Greg Furness.

This year's program is "Settling of South Dakota and Transportation in Dakota, South Dakota", presented by Robert Kolbe. The program begins at 2:00 p.m. in the historic Crandall Church on the museum grounds.

Kolbe, a former Minnehaha County Commissioner is known as the one to call if your antique clock needs repair or if you find an old bottle in your backyard. He is also an expert on early photography in Dakota Territory, co-author of "They Captured the Moment: Dakota Photographers, 1853-1920", editor of "Minnehaha County Historical & Biographical Sketches," and an appraiser of historical books, documents and photos.

Kolbe is the immediate-past President of the Minnehaha County Historical Society and the mayoral appointee to the Siouxland Heritage



This year's program at Heritage Day at the Beauvais Heritage Museum Complex on Sunday will be presented by Robert Kolbe and is entitled 'Settling of South Dakota and Transportation in Dakota, South Dakota'.

Kolbe is owner/operator of Kolbe's Antique Books and Clocks in Sioux Falls.

Museums Board for 2013. He has been a member of the South Dakota State Historical Society Board of Trustees since 2004. A popular and long-time presenter at the Center for Western Studies (CWS) Dakota Conference, West River History Conference and the State Historical Society History Conference, Kolbe has earned several recognitions, including the Distinguished Contribution Award for Preservation, given by the CWS Board of Directors and the Zoom Zoom Award, given

by the organizers of the West River History Conference. He has also made donations of historical items to such repositories as the Center for Western Studies, Siouxland Heritage Museums and the State Historical Society.

Kolbe is currently conducting research for a new book on stereographic views of the Black Hills Gold Rush, 1875-1879 and planning a second edition of "They Captured

Heritage Day (continued on page 3)

South Elrod Cemetery has over a century of memories



The South Elrod Cemetery is owned by its cemetery association and is located on the grounds of the South Elrod Church of Christ.

Shown above, cemetery board members, left to right, are Terry Fuller, Linda Fuller with husband Wayne behind her and John Maynard.

The Fullers' grandmother Ollie planted the very large cottonwood behind them in honor of her sons. Bill Fuller and Lee Fuller are also members of the cemetery board with Tony Fuller being the caretaker.

The church seen in the background, closed in 1966.

tertown.

The church was dedicated in 1893 by Rev. George Elliott and services continued for some 73 years.

The church was formerly the Elrod School also known as the Beatty School and the 10 acres for the church and its cemetery were pur-

chased from Joseph Beatty for one dollar. This purchase happened in 1890.

Residents of the town of Elrod held church services in the school preceding the official purchase. It took three years to finish the church with George Morrison in charge of

the construction.

The town of Elrod grew rapidly in its early years with high traffic due to the stagecoach station at the Ralph Maynard farm, three miles to the west of Elrod. The stagecoach

South Elrod (continued on page 3)

Summer type questions highlight June Clark City Council meeting

Annually, it seems the June meeting of Clark City Council handles difficult questions, such as animal ordinances, abatements, park and recreation and the like.

This year, the golf course area where bushes were taken out that abuts the dump and property abatements/condemnations were the key topics.

City employee Roger Collins began the discussion of the eighth fair-

way/rough area by the town dump, telling of his renovation plans and what plants and trees would be involved.

Mayor Larry Dreher expanded on this project telling of how he thought it would look really good over time, but he felt something is needed, such as a fence, to block the view of the dump.

His proposal is a 200' L shaped fence, of treated wood, with a price

tag of \$11,600.

Council person Kerry Kline, when Dreher asked the council of their thoughts, wanted to eliminate the lilacs from this project as lilacs were already taken out earlier this spring/winter.

This motion needed four votes to pass, but failed by one vote, 3-2, so it will be re-visited at the July meeting of the city council.

Louann Streff was called out of

the meeting shortly after the meeting started and wasn't present when the vote was taken. Voting for putting up a fence were Dennis Larson, Andrew Zemlicka and Kerry Kline. Against this motion were Belinda Hanson and Vicki Orris.

Streff returned to the meeting and Mayor Dreher asked city attorney Chad Fjelland to research the question as to whether or not the fence motion could be re-voted. Af-

ter Fjelland returned from a brief visit to his office, it was decided to vote on this matter at the July meeting.

Improving the soil is one of the first things that will be done, with or without a fence. Collins will be putting a plan together starting this beautification process and in July the council will re-visit the fence vote.

Concerning abatements and

beautifying the city of Clark, earlier this spring, Mayor Dreher and policeman Jeremy Wellnitz toured the community, urging citizens to clean up their residences, removing eyesores such as junk piles, abandoned vehicles, etc.

A handful of unresolved abatements existed at Monday's meeting and residents were invited to share

City Council (continued on page 3)