

Steve Hennigs owns Wheatland Aviation at the Clark County Airport

Steve Hennigs has been the mechanic at the Clark County Airport since 2010. Recently Hennigs established his own company, Wheatland Aviation and this Saturday, Wheatland Aviation is hosting the first annual 'Summer Fly In'.

The Fly In runs all day, highlighted by a Fairchild PT-26 Aircraft, a World War II warbird, one of Fagens WW II fighters, from the Fagen Fighters WW II Museum of Granite Falls, Minn.

"My pilot friend Dean Kirkeby helped line up the WW II Fairchild plane and the whole goal of having a Summer Fly In is to spur and peak interest in flying," said Hennigs. A meal will be served at noon.

Saturday's event will hopefully be the first of many aviation-related events at the Clark County Airport, if Hennigs has anything to say about it. "I plan on having more aviation based events in the future to keep and get people involved in flying - especially the young people," he said.

Also, a South Dakota Pilots Association representative will be at the airport Saturday to answer any and all questions one has about flying. Lake Area Technical Institute will be bringing two planes to the Fly In festivities.

Wheatland Aviation

If one looks at the Wheatland Aviation ad on page six, at the bottom it shows his telephone number, 605-884-6007, followed by his name, Steve D. Hennigs, followed by A&P IA.

The A&P stands for Airframe and Powerplant (mechanic) and the IA stands for Inspection Authoriza-

tion. "The A&P IA is really what my airplane mechanic position is all about as I have the ability to do annual inspections of airplanes as well as propeller balancing, engine overhauls, general maintenance and major repairs alterations," he stated and further explained that the last two months have been quite busy with annual inspections and repairs. "My last job was removing the tail and replacing the tail on a Cessna 180, due to damage."

Hennigs shop is located at Hangar 12 at the Clark County Airport. Besides working on airplanes he

"My pilot friend Dean Kirkeby helped line up the WW II Fairchild plane and the whole goal of having a Summer Fly In is to spur and peak interest in flying," said Steve Hennigs.

also does bead blasting on the side, such as custom blasting of motorcycle frames and antique tractor parts for restoration. "I also am an Amsoil synthetic oil dealer and Amsoil oil is a general purpose automotive and diesel engine oil."

Hangar 12 is owned by Steve and Susan Berg and Hennigs said that without their support he couldn't have started Wheatland Aviation.

Even though it is not worded as such on the Wheatland Aviation sign, Hennigs is very involved with

pre-purchase inspections of airplanes, where he goes through the paperwork and log books on the plane, then does a compression test and then he looks for any discrepancies that would cost repair dollars. "I've traveled to various states and helped the buyer know exactly what he's getting - plane wise," said Hennigs.

Coming to Clark

When Hennigs graduated from LATI in 2010 with a degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology, he knew he wanted to stay in the area. "I really enjoyed the LATI experience. When I moved up here from the Alcester-Hudson area, I fell in love with the wheat fields" - hence Wheatland Aviation. "I didn't grow up seeing a wheat field ripen and along with being a hunting and fishing paradise, I knew this is where I wanted to start my career."

The soon-to-be LATI 2010 graduate went on the Internet typing in "crop duster" and started checking on contacts within a 100 mile radius of Watertown. "I remember well knocking on Doug Hansen's door, near Garden City in March of that year. It was the airplane offseason and Doug had just built the new building at Hilltop Aerial.

"I remember well that my first assignment was putting a wrecked Piper Brave back together. I really appreciate Doug and Tina giving me my start at the Clark Airport. As soon as I could get my IA, I got it and passed the test. While working for Doug I used the slow time in the winter for annual inspections. After seven years I feel I've built up a pretty good inspection clientele."



Steve Hennigs, owner of Wheatland Aviation, stands next to the newly erected sign at the Clark County Airport. Alongside Hennigs are his wife Nikki and 11-year-old son Christopher.

"I've taken on about five LATI Aviation Maintenance Technology graduates as apprentices the last several years to give them some hands-on experience," said Hennigs and currently, LATI graduate Broderick Everson, of Pipestone, Minn. is helping him at Wheatland Avia-

tion. "I really enjoy having apprentices, as LATI is so close and Broderick has really been an asset."

Increasing airport activity

One reason Hennigs wants to make the airport more activity friendly, is because he knew he was hooked as a youngster and feels

that impressionable youth need opportunities such as Summer Fly Ins to help with making career decisions.

"I was flying remote control mod-

Wheatland Aviation
(continued on page 6)

No need to dig for entertainment during Potato Day celebration

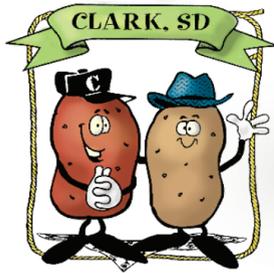
For the 26th year organizers are finalizing plans for Potato Day in Clark. Many of the events will be held on Saturday, August 5, but there will also be things to do and see on Friday and on Sunday. Please hang on to the Potato Day schedule circular inserted in this week's edition.

Friday activities will include a community appreciation lunch at the American Legion Hall from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Trolley Fol-

lies at 6:00 p.m. and Dynamic DJ beginning at 9:00 p.m., both at the golf club.

Early-rising exercise enthusiasts can begin Saturday with the FUN RACE, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Athletes can walk, run or bike through the course.

A perennial favorite event, Mashed Potato Wrestling, will take place on Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Dickinson Park. Before the main event there will be an exhibition by



the Tae Kwon Do students, trained by Michael Sanchez, at 11:00.

From noon to 4:00 p.m. there will be free inflatables set up at the park. Other events to keep the tots occupied include a ping pong ball toss, kids' tractor pull beginning at 9:30 in the Dacotah Bank parking lot, Balloon Atic from 10:00 to 3:00 and Jason the Juggler at 3:00 p.m. Little Miss and Master Tater Tot will be selected in Dickinson Park at 10:45 a.m.

Entertainment

Numerous performers are scheduled to keep event-goers entertained on Saturday and during the weekend. As well as the previously-mentioned Dynamic DJ, potato wrestling and Tae Kwon Do demonstration, the Clark Dance Club will perform at Dickinson Park at 11:00 a.m., Holy Rocka Rollaz has two

Potato Day
(continued on page 6)

Clark Chamber of Commerce

Potato Day - Aug. 5, 2017

Mystery Mr. & Mrs. Potato Head Clue #1

They are Jacks fans
(not the Daniels),
And Vikings fans,

(You should hear them Roar!)

Gentle as Lions, Fierce as Lamb

Eager to help anyone in a Jam.

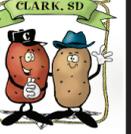
Send answers to:

Cassi Kottke,

604 S. Smith

St., Clark, SD

57225.



The Clark Community Garden, in its first year of operation is coming right along and growing nicely on the southeast side of Clark. With full sun, a nearby water source and fortified soil, all of the vegetables are doing well.

Clark Community Garden boasts 12 plots

City of Clark made garden site available

The Clark Community Garden is looking good nowadays as some of the vegetables are nearing harvest time.

"The 12 plot garden has gotten off to a good start with room to grow in the future," noted garden club member Marcia Helkenn.

"My daughters Lacey Ortberg

and Rachel Morehouse helped me get the ball rolling with the community garden idea," noted Helkenn. Also on the steering committee were Britany Hink and Vickie Orris.

Located in the southeast part of town, the rich black dirt plot has been helped along with sheep fertil-

izer', courtesy of Allen Stern. Dala Albright volunteered in rototilling the garden.

The City of Clark has generously donated the garden site and added three hydrants within the garden for a handy water source.

Community garden
(continued on page 6)

Construction is now complete at the Willow Lake School

When Willow Lake School opens its doors, Wednesday, August 23 for the 2017-18 term, students will see the completed version of the massive construction project.

Said superintendent Scott Klautd, who is beginning his fifth year at Willow Lake in that capacity, "We are very excited to start a new school year with this facility all completed for students, staff and administration.

"We really appreciate the public's role in helping with the planning and the completion phase of this project," he said.

This multi-phase project began in June of 2015 and finished in June of 2017. Business manager Melissa Burke reported that \$3,530,000 was taken out in capital outlay certificates and the project has come in under budget and on time.

The different phases included making middle school classes and library where the older school portion had been, (taking off the second floor and filling in the old school basement); moving the library and replacing that area with new administrative offices; and a new gym, complete with mezzanine area, concessions area and new locker rooms.



Willow Lake School business manager Melissa Burke is seated at her desk in her new office. Willow Lake School administrators moved to the new entrance area at the end of the last school term. All new Willow Lake School construction was completed last month and when students come back to school in three weeks they will see that the entire construction project is now completed.

Willow Lake School will now be able to boast of having two wood floor basketball courts. With the new climate-controlled gym, Willow Lake can now host doubleheaders, where boys and girls play on the

same day in the same site. Physical education classes and student assemblies will be held

Willow Lake School
(continued on page 11)

Sign up for Vroom High-Speed Internet from ITC during August and get a FREE Amazon Echo Dot



Must ask for the promo

Must be a new ITC Internet Customer to be eligible. Will draw from current customers for four Amazon Echo Dots. 1.800.417.8667 or www.itc-web.com