

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



W H E N
MARCH comes in like a LION
it goes out like a LAMB

Wednesday, February 24, 2021

Vol. 140, No. 35

www.clarkcountypublishing.com

\$1.00

The hometown newspaper of Brian & Gayle Heupel, Sioux Falls, SD

COVID-19 vaccine rollout continues

The COVID-19 vaccine available for the Clark County population is being made available to residents in phases.

"We are currently at Phase 1D now," explained Sanford Director of Clinic operations Cindy Mydland. "Every county has a health care system assigned to it within our state and Clark County falls under Sanford's responsibility."

The vaccine is being rolled out in phases for the population she continued.

If one is currently not in the Sanford system, but lives in Clark County, they will still need to go through Sanford as the vaccine rollout from the state goes through county by county.

Local Sanford physician assistant (PA) Louann Streff advises calling the Sanford Clinic in Clark where they can help with the screening process and get you on the list. "We will vaccinate those individuals," stated Streff. "When it's their turn

to come in."

The Moderna vaccine is the one Sanford is using. Wednesdays has typically been vaccination day at the Clark Clinic but with the largest group (1D) being given now, Tuesday and Thursday afternoons will be a future option.

This largest group 1D (One 'D') follows groups 1A, 1B and 1C. One A was frontline healthcare workers and long term care facility healthcare workers.

One B was long term care residents. One C was other healthcare workers, public health workers, EMTs and emergency medical service workers, law enforcement and correctional officers. One's age also came into play with those 80+ and 70+ in the earlier groups.

Group 1D includes 65 years old and older, high risk patients such as dialysis patients, post transplant and cancer patients, high risk residents in congregate settings, persons with two or more underlying

medical conditions under the age of 65, teachers and school staff and funeral service workers.

The next phase rollout estimated to begin in mid April, is One E (1E) and includes fire service personnel and public facing workers in essential and critical infrastructure. After that, Phase II of that will be all others 16 years of age and older.

"We are allocated 100 doses per county per week," added PA Streff. "It comes from the state to Sanford and then on to us. Tracing devices keep track of the temperature of the vaccine which is important, along its way to us. The vaccine refrigerator we already have takes care of it, once it's here."

"There are 10 doses per vial and all are used once it's opened. We will not waste any doses and will call someone else in if we have a cancellation."

With the Moderna shot, the sec-

COVID-19

(continued on page 4)

Mario Guzman is celebrated with 'dude. be nice' award

Last Tuesday was Mario Guzman's day at the Clark High/Middle School. Guzman was chosen as the 'dude. be nice' dude.

Started in 2014 the dude. be nice (DBN) mission, hosted by the school's National Honor Society (NHS) is to recognize someone who goes above and beyond the call of duty.

Guzman, who is the ITC installation and repair technician in Clark, was awestruck as he entered the Clark High School gym, unknowing that the gymnasium was full with students ready to honor him. He struggled with the humility and was really touched.

As he entered the gym, NHS members greeted him at the door with signs, the CHS band played the school song and the middle school students had streamers and balloons that they waved as one and all in the gym cheered.

"Mario was extremely surprised and touched at the outpouring of school and community support shown to him," said Clark High School National Honor Society adviser Tammie Paulson.

Following his entrance into the gym, a video had been prepared with several community individuals sharing stories and emotions about Guzman. Throughout the video some comments like, "He goes above and beyond", "He comes at the drop of a hat", "He stays until the problem is fixed", "He always has a smile and a kind thing to say",

Guzman

(continued on page 3)



With his right arm, one wonders if Mario Guzman is getting ready to give Tammie Paulson a hug, or thinking, "What in the world is going on?"

The Clark High School National Honor Society awarded Mario Guzman the 'dude. be nice' day, with a half-hour assembly honoring his good works and friendly personality.

Guzman is greeted by Paulson as he enters the gym last Tuesday. His look is 'priceless'. Paulson is the CHS NHS adviser.



Ahrens hired as new Clark School superintendent

New Clark School superintendent/A.D. Travis Ahrens shakes hands with Clark School Board president Robert Steffen after he was hired at Thursday's special meeting of the school board.

Pictured left to right are the school board members and Ahrens, including Malory McIntire, Ahrens, Steffen, Todd Fjelland and Greg Marx. On speaker phone was board member Nathan Luvaas.

Ahrens will be superintendent and athletic director. The school now is looking to replace Ahrens' former position, middle/high school principal. It is being offered with, or without, special education.

C.H.S. Class of 1988 writes thank you notes to the FFA, as first grade students

▲ In honor of FFA Week

In 1977, Clark FFA students visited the Clark first grade classroom of Mrs. Billie Thorne, giving presentations of what Future Farmers of America was all about.

The Clark FFA adviser in 1977 was Terry Week, who now lives in Beach, N.D. Week saved all the hand printed first grade letters and sent them to C.H.S. 1980 graduate Bruce Paulson, who dropped the letters off at the Clark County Courier office.

In honor of FFA Week, Feb. 22-26, it is the Courier's honor to run these letters, signed exactly the way they were signed by the Class of 1988 as first grade students.

Dear FFA Boys,

It was so nice of you to show slides, samples of grains and weeks and talk about farming to our class. We enjoyed it very much. IT was especially thrilling for the children to get to not only see...but touch the baby animals. Thank you so for coming. We appreciated your visit.

Mrs. Thorne

Dear FFA Boys,

Thank you for talking to our class. We liked to pet the animals. It was fun. Your friend, Randy Gene Helkenn

Dear FFA Boys,

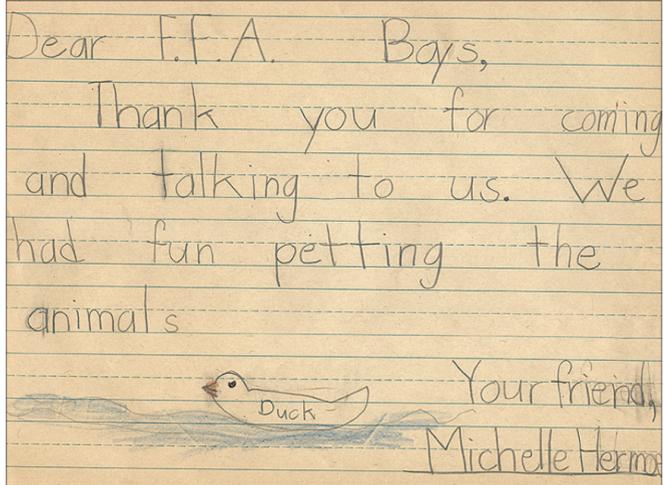
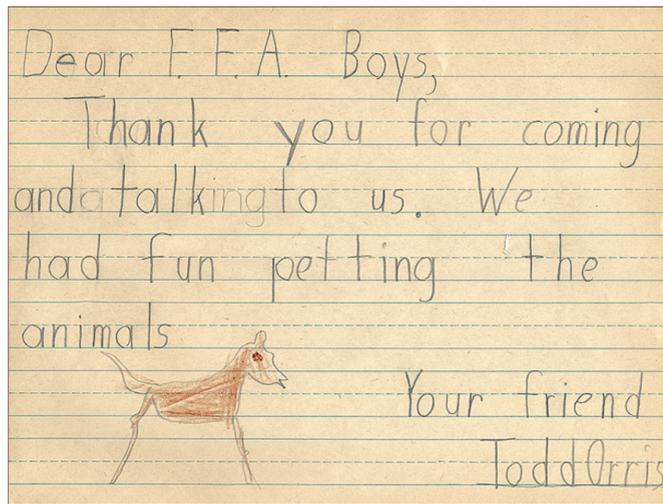
Thank you for talking to our class. We liked to pet the animals. It was fun. Your friend, Scott Campbell

Dear FFA Boys,

Thank you for coming and talking to us. We had fun petting the animals. Your friend, Joel Brekke

Dear FFA Boys,

Thank you for coming and talking to us. We had fun petting the animals. Your friend, Michelle Herms



Spring climate outlook unclear amid drought concerns

In like a lion, out like a lamb? The climate forecast for March appears to be up in the air for both temperature and precipitation, with the potential for some swings in either direction. According to the latest National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) outlook, there is no clear, consistent signal if South Dakota will end up warmer or colder than average, or wetter or drier than average next month.

SDSU Extension State Climatologist Laura Edwards says this, equal chances forecast is not uncommon for March, as the transition from winter to summer patterns are often difficult to forecast with many ups and downs.

One factor in the spring forecast is the role of LaNina, as February has finally brought the cold temperatures that often accompany this ocean-atmosphere weather pattern,

Edwards says. As the spring season progresses, however, the strength of LaNina will wane and is expected to turn to neutral conditions. This means the sea surface temperature in the Pacific Ocean near the equator is likely to return to average by the end of May and will have less of an impact on the jet stream pattern over the United States.

For March through May, Edwards says there is more confidence that most of South Dakota will be warmer than average.

The area favored to be warmer includes all but the far northern tier along the North Dakota border, Edwards says. This outlook looks more promising in April and May, given the uncertainty in March.

Looking ahead to summer, the NOAA report anticipates warmer than average temperatures for the middle of the year across the entire

state of South Dakota.

Similarly, drier than average conditions seem more likely in the southern half of the state in mid-to-late spring, Edwards says. This is not good news for pasture, grass,

Climate outlook (continued on page 3)

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Feb. 16.....	-4	-25	0
Feb. 17.....	-1	-18	.02
Feb. 18.....	8	-5	.02
Feb. 19.....	15	-5	tr
Feb. 20.....	24	6	0
Feb. 21.....	30	12	.18
Feb. 22.....	34	24	--
2021 precipitation to date			0.84
2020 precipitation to date			1.04



Five wrestling Cyclones State B bound

These five Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone wrestlers qualified for the South Dakota Class B Wrestling Tournament, this Thursday through Saturday in Rapid City.

In order to wrestle this coming weekend, at State, each wrestler had to place respectively in the top four of the weight class at Region IB, at Groton.

Three Cyclones won Region IB championships Gunner Kvistad at 120; Lucas Kannegieter at 170 and Gage Burke at 182. Avery Nichols was third at

285 and Chase Chambers was fourth at 145.

Cyclone wrestlers who will be in the State B tourney this coming weekend include, left to right, Chambers, Kvistad, Kannegieter, Burke and Nichols.

Abi Reil in the Girls Division, qualified for the State Tournament a week ago at the Harrisburg Tournament. She also will be competing in Rapid City.

FFA letters (continued on page 3)