



About a month away from opening

"The goal is to be open by the end of October," said Clark Community Oil general manager Troy Grensberg of the opening timeline of the new Big C Travel Plaza, located on the east edge of Clark. He continued, "The structure is finished, we are finishing up cement

work, the canopy and sign will be put up this week and we are finishing up inside details as well as finishing the hiring of staff." Water and sewer have also been hooked up. "It actually is going quite smooth," Grensberg stated.

City of Clark annexes in Midwest Veterinary Service

A special meeting of the Clark City Council was called for Wednesday, Sept. 21, primarily to annex Forest City Enterprises, LLC into the city of Clark. Forest City Enterprises owns Midwest Veterinary Service on the east edge of Clark, south of US Highway 212.

An ordinance was passed, zoning this property as Highway Commercial. A resolution was approved petitioning this property into the city of Clark, by annexation. The results of these actions mean that Midwest Veterinary Service will be located in the city limits in the near future.

City finance officer Jackie Luttrell reported that insurance has

paid \$12,696.50 to repair hail damage on the police vehicles and \$5,739.00 for the scoreboard which was struck by lightning. A July storm caused this damage to both the vehicles and scoreboard. The council gave Luttrell the go ahead to order a new scoreboard and it will be put up in the spring.

Luttrell then noted that city health insurance premiums are going up 27 percent. After discussion, the council agreed to renew Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield insurance to a higher deductible plan, with the renewal date being Dec. 1, 2016.

The next agenda item was the first reading of the 2017 budget or-

dinance. Luttrell spoke of several late changes/increases; the med van (\$37,000) and real estate taxes (\$19,000 plus). She then added that she thought approximately one-third of the contractor's work for the retention pond would be paid this year and that would leave two-thirds to be paid in 2017.

Mayor Larry Dreher stated that retention pond digging could begin as early as Oct. 10.

An executive session for personnel and contractual reasons was held and lasted an hour and twenty minutes.

Following this closed meeting the council had the first reading of Ordinance #540 - rewriting of alcohol-

ic beverages of the city code.

Finance office personnel Luttrell and Rae Jean Flora expressed that the city is cleaning up this ordinance to follow state code. "Much of it was outdated and unnecessary," said Flora the following morning after the meeting.

Council members present included: Kerry Kline, Belinda Hanson, Andrew Zemlicka, Vicki Orris and Dennis Larson. Absent was Louann Streff. Also present were Mayor Larry Dreher and finance officer Luttrell.

The October meeting of the Clark City Council will be held Monday, Oct. 3, at 7:00 p.m.

Val Richter's donation helps another to see



Above are the late Milo and Val Richter. The family has found out since Val's death this spring that a physician/surgeon in South Dakota has been a successful recipient of Val's eye donation. This photo was taken in 2014, in Colorado.

"If there's something they can use, they can have it," was the directive of Val Richter, who decided before she passed away on May 8, 2016 that she wanted to be a donor.

Since then, her family has been contacted by the donor foundation and a letter was received from an eye tissue (cornea) recipient stating how grateful they were for the gift of improved vision.

Excerpts from the heartfelt letter read: "Your loved one has left a gift for which I am so grateful. I cannot thank you and your family enough. I received my corneal transplants this past spring and have really been blessed with improved vision.

"Your gift has also blessed the lives of others since my work is physician/surgeon. With your loved one's donation I am now able to do my work with confidence and hopefully share this treasured gift as I try to improve the lives of others."

The letter was addressed to donor family/friends. "The foundation prefers that letters go through them back and forth so they can remain anonymous," stated Val's daughter Katie Wangsness of Clark. "Unless we want to contact each other, then that would be our decision to make. We've found out that one of her eyes went to a physician and the other one went national - out of state."

Val and her husband Milo Richter - who died on October 24, 2014, are the parents of three girls, Wangsness, Jessica Berg of Denver, Colo. and Amie Stapleton of Centennial, Colo.

"We're all going to be donors now

we've decided," continued Wangsness. "We also donate blood every chance we get. Our dad Milo had 20 blood transfusions in five weeks when battling leukemia," stated Wangsness.

"My sister Amie has even taken it a step further and she is on the national bone marrow registry.

"Our parents were both such generous people. That's how they raised us to be, too," noted Wangsness.

"I'm planning on writing the recipient a letter back going through the foundation. I also sent their letter to Mom's family members and friends.

"She loved to give to others - this was the final thing she could give."

Val's husband of nearly 38 years, Milo was a 22 year member of the Clark Lions Club which actively supports the Lions Eye Banks over the years. Milo chaired many committees and received several awards in the organization over the years. Due to Milo's situation upon his death, however, he was unable to be a donor.

In Val's case, she made her wishes known to family and later hospice of her wish to become a donor. A representative from the Dakota Lions Sight and Health came to the hospital when she died to help with the process. "Our funeral director Mr. Furness also knew how to handle the process. The foundation (at the Lions Eye Bank) has been good

Richter
(continued on page 3)

Soybean harvest has begun in the area

Autumn began last week and the trees are turning beautiful shades of yellow, red and brown. Fall temperatures have arrived with some 65 and 67 degree days beginning the end of August.

The row crops are getting closer to harvest and in some areas of the county, more on the western edge, the soybean harvest has begun.

Checking with local elevator managers:

Wheat Growers - Willow Lake manager Duane Poppen reported getting in about 50,000 bushels of soybeans by the end of last week. "Most of it has come in from west of Carpenter. So far, we've had between 40 and 50 bushels on average, with some up to 60. Yields have been very good which has some producers being surprised

with the numbers.

"There's some soybeans that are green out there that still have their leaves on. In the next two to three

Soybean harvest
(continued on page 3)

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

| | HI | LO | PR |
|----------------------------|----|----|-------|
| Sept. 20 | 74 | 57 | 0 |
| Sept. 21 | 64 | 55 | 0 |
| Sept. 22 | 59 | 53 | 0 |
| Sept. 23 | 66 | 56 | .22 |
| Sept. 24 | 73 | 47 | .02 |
| Sept. 25 | 61 | 40 | 0 |
| Sept. 26 | 65 | 39 | 0 |
| 2016 precipitation to date | | | 17.04 |
| 2015 precipitation to date | | | 18.86 |

Courier office knows well that the phone works

We hope you received your Clark County Courier last week. If you didn't, please let us know right away and we will get your paper to you. Better late than never!

What happened? As many of you know, the *Clark County Courier* is printed in Ortonville, Minn., at the Ortonville Independent. We sent Ortonville the wrong mailing list.

Wednesday's date last week was 9/21. We sent a 9/24 mailing list,

accidentally, so the 9/24/2014 subscription list is what we ran last week.

Sorry! Every cloud has a silver lining and the silver lining in this - as the phone literally rang off the hook - is that community newspapers still have a place.

What's Black and White and Read all over? It's the *Clark County Courier*!

Ballots now available for Nov. 8 election

Absentee voting began last Friday, for the Tuesday, Nov. 8 General Election. To vote absentee, registered voters can either vote in person at their county auditor's office, or by mail.

If one wishes to vote in person at their auditor's office, one needs: a photo identification card such as a driver's license, non-driver ID, passport including a picture, tribal

identification card including a picture, or student ID including a picture. If a voter does not have a photo ID, they must be given the option to sign a personal identification affidavit and vote a regular ballot.

If one wishes to vote absentee by mail one must fill out an application

Ballots
(continued on page 3)



Willow Lake High School 2016 Homecoming Royalty is Queen Mikenna Burke and King Tanner Nelson. The pair will reign over the remainder of the Homecoming festivities after being crowned Monday night during the WLHS coronation ceremony. Mikenna is the daughter of Chance and Melissa Burke and Tanner is the son of Jake and Chanda Nelson.

Burke and Nelson reign at Willow Lake Homecoming

This is Homecoming week at Willow Lake High School with students and faculty all joining in the fun with special activities to celebrate this year's theme of 'Occupations'.

Homecoming Royalty were crowned at the coronation ceremony Monday night. Mikenna Burke was crowned Queen and Tanner Nelson was crowned King. Other royalty candidates included Kelly Wicks, Brooke Bruns, Colin Pom-

mer and Reis Bruley

The Homecoming football game will be Friday, September 30 against Deuel in Willow Lake. The Homecoming parade is scheduled for Friday at 1:00 p.m. with line up at 12:15 p.m. at the football field. The Willow Lake Student Council invites all area businesses to their parade. For any questions, call the school at 625-5945.