

One in a *Ver* Million Meet Matt Olson

By David Lias

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Matt Olson is used to wearing a lot of hats in the Vermillion community.

He has worked at Kalin's Indoor Comfort in the community for years, and decided to step away from his full-time role there recently when he had the opportunity to begin operating the family farm once owned by his grandparents.

He's also been a licensed real estate agent with Premier Real Estate in Vermillion since 2005.

His presence in Vermillion is especially appreciated by Clay County Sheriff Andy Howe.

With all of the other ways Matt finds to keep busy, he has found time to serve as a volunteer reserve deputy sheriff with the Clay County Sheriff's Office since February 1997.

He was one of the first five reserve deputies sworn in by the sheriff's department when the reserve unit was started in 1997. Today, Matt is the only one of those first five original reserve deputies who still serve. His 15 years of experience makes him

one of the longest serving police officers in the county.

"I used to work full-time at Kalin's, and had done that nearly 20 years," he said. "And with my family farm, I was recently given an opportunity to start farming - my uncle, Leroy Larson, decided to retire, so I bought his farm, and that's my grandpa's home place, and this is my first year where I've been in control of the majority of the farm."

Matt recalls how the sheriff's department started the reserve program in 1997 to provide a bit of extra manpower, and have people with the necessary training to be of assistance.

"They had had some incidents where it would have been nice to have some more people around to help," he said. "We went through several evenings of training in the beginning, and you have to be certified by the state to do it. You have to have a minimum of 96 hours (of training) a year to keep your certification up, and we have monthly meetings, and we try to work about 8 to 10 hours a month to maintain that."

Sheriff Howe notes that Matt's

time is volunteered to sheriff's department and he maintains his state certification by meeting training requirements as well as exceeding the required minimum hours worked each year.

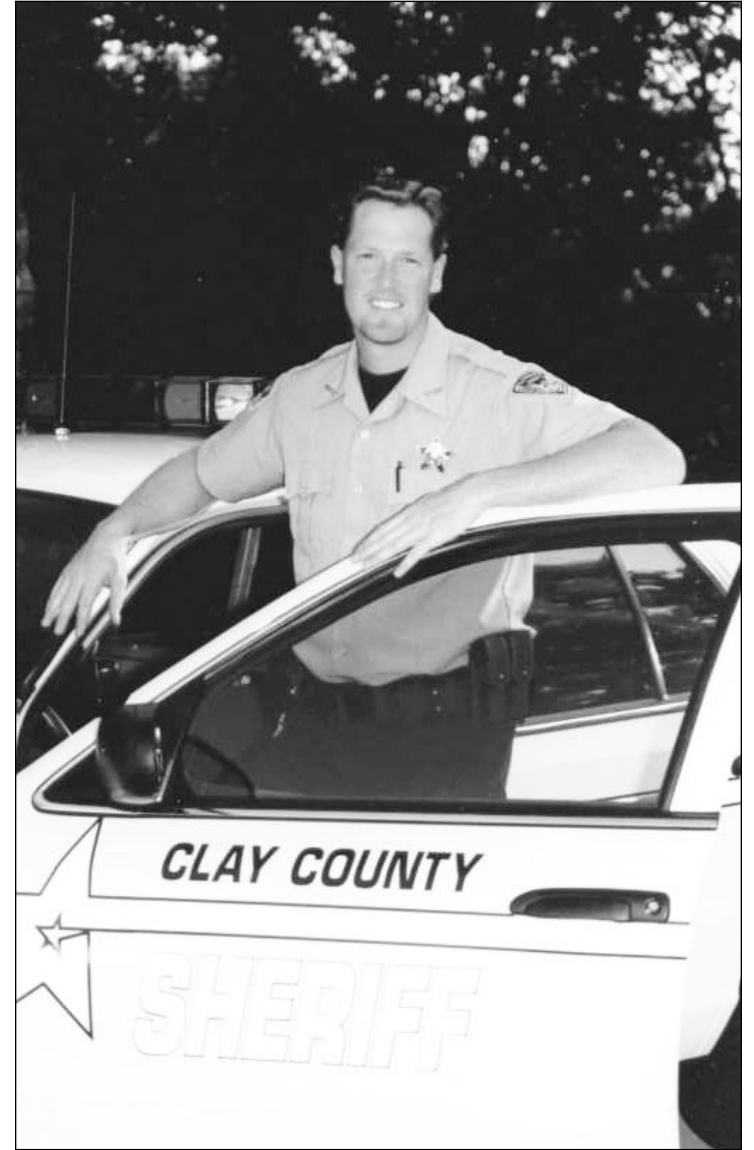
Matt is a sworn deputy sheriff with the authority to make an arrest if necessary.

"He helps us out as a backup officer on patrol as well as transporting prisoners to and from other jurisdictions when we need help with that. He also helps out with public relations events," the sheriff said.

"I enjoy it. It's just sort of a different thing for me, and it's a lot of fun. It wasn't something that I ever thought to pursue, such as with a degree in college or anything," Matt said. "Being a reserve allows me to get to see what's going on in the community. There are a lot of good people, and sometimes, there are bad things that happen, too, but it's nice to see what's going on."

It's a job that Matt never grows tired of doing, even after 15 years.

"It always amazes me how much goes on," he said, laughing.



"You normally wouldn't think there would be that much, but

there is a lot of stuff happening every day."

AAA predicts strong Labor Day travel

AAA South Dakota projects 69,000 South Dakotans will journey 50 miles or more from home during the Labor Day holiday weekend, a three percent increase from the 67,000 South Dakotans who

traveled last year. Nationwide, the total number of expected travelers - 33 million - is a 2.9 percent boost over year ago numbers and the strongest Labor Day travel period since 2008, marking a new

post-recession high. It's the third increase in holiday travel this year, according to the AAA/IHS Global Insight. AAA's Memorial Day and July 4 holiday travel forecasts projected increases of 1.2 percent and 4.9 percent, respectively.

Across the U.S., about 28.2 million people (85 percent of all holiday travelers) will make their Labor Day holiday journey by automobile. This is a 3.1 percent increase over the 27.3 million people who took to the nation's roadways in 2011. This year's Labor Day holiday travel period runs from Thursday, Aug. 30 through Monday, Sept. 3.

Convocation, Move-In Day, Welcome Week at USD

The University of South Dakota will celebrate the start of another school year and welcome new students with USD Welcome Week 2012, featuring Convocation and Move-In Day events on Saturday, Aug. 25.

Convocation, an invitation of membership to the university's academic community and a celebratory event for students and their families, starts with a procession at 3:30 p.m. from the North DakotaDome. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Chuck Staben, Dean

of Students Kimberly Grieve and USD President James W. Abbott will lead the students in the official matriculation statement.

"Convocation is a special event for our new students, signaling the beginning of their academic journey," described Kimberly Grieve, dean of students at USD. "It also serves as a reminder that we are a campus community invested in student development and learning."

USD Welcome Week 2012 starts with Move-In Day at the DakotaDome parking lot. Students and their families are scheduled to check-in between 7:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. throughout the day. At check-in, all students will receive their information packets, residence hall keys and

instructions on driving to the residence halls - all without having to leave their vehicles. This convenient "drive-through" route eliminates long lines and avoids potential traffic congestion. Volunteers are also available to move student into to their residence hall.

Additional Welcome Week 2012 activities include the Provost's Picnic, a reception for parents hosted by the USD Foundation, a Student Organization Fair, live music, fraternity and sorority recruitment activities, and movies and games. More information about Welcome Week, including a complete list of events, can be found at www.usd.edu/orientation.

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Auctioneer's Note: In August of 2008 we opened the 7 Beer and Wine Bar in Yankton. In July of 2011 the owners of the building refused to renew our lease, gave us 5 days to get out and took it over themselves after all our hard work, so with regret, we are selling our items at Auction.

Most items are like new or in very good condition.



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