



TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Feb. 3	12	2	0
Feb. 4	7	-9	0
Feb. 5	25	6	0
Feb. 6	39	14	0
Feb. 7	45	26	.08
Feb. 8	31	23	0
Feb. 9	28	23	.06
2015 precipitation to date	.47"		
2014 precipitation to date	.24"		

Cracker Barrel is February 16 in Clark

The Legislative Cracker Barrel is set for Presidents Day, Monday, February 16 in Clark, starting at 10:30 a.m. This legislative coffee will be held in the Community Room of the Ullyot Building.

All District II legislators, Sen. Brock Greenfield, Rep. Burt Tullson and Rep. Lana Greenfield have indicated they will be in attendance.

The question and answer session is expected to run an hour or better.

Blood drive is Thursday, Feb. 12

Clark's blood drive, sponsored by the Clark Lions and Lionesses will be Thursday, February 12, at the United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, from 1:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Out of every 100 people needing blood, more than 50 percent will use type O. "That's the reason we are trying to sign up more O-positive and O-negative donors for our upcoming drive," said Joyce Helkenn, coordinator for the event. One can make an appointment to donate blood by calling Joyce at 532-3808.

Volunteer blood donors must be at least 16, weigh at least 110 pounds and in good health. Donors who are 16 or 17 must have signed permission from a parent or guardian.

Luttrell to be in Pierre on Thursday

Clarification: Concerning the proposed \$7,000,000 City of Clark wastewater system retention pond project, it was stated that this is being funded by Rural Development funds. This is false. According to city finance officer Jackie Luttrell, "In reality there is no Rural Development (RD) funding on this project. Initially we were working with RD but due to several factors, that changed to state funding through South Dakota Department of Natural Resources (DENR). At this point, our project is on the DENR Water Funding Bill (SB 173) which is going in front of the Senate Appropriations Committee on February 12. If approved, the Board of Water and Natural Resources will provide funding from the SD water and environment fund, under the consolidated water facilities construction program in amounts not to exceed \$4,000,000 for the design and construction of a waste water treatment facility, a sanitary sewer interceptor and sewer main." Luttrell is planning on heading to Pierre to testify to the committee on Thursday morning.

Schlagel Tourney is Saturday, Feb. 21

Area junior varsity boys and girls basketball players will take to the court Saturday, February 21, at 9:00 a.m. for the 4th annual Lee Schlagel Memorial Basketball Tournament in Clark. The boys teams participating are Clark-Willow Lake, Aberdeen Roncalli, Sioux Valley, Warner, Webster and Hitchcock-Tulare. The girls teams are Clark-Willow Lake, Sioux Val-

Schlagel
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Located at the bottom of 'Warkenthien Hill' along 424th Ave or County Highway #46 is the old 'Thies place', also known as the old 'Harms place' depending in which generation one grew up. Wanting to build a workshop for a while, Kim Warkenthien decided now is the time

Warkenthien to use this lumber to build workshop

"This old house", will soon become 'this new workshop' for Kim Warkenthien who lives about halfway between Clark and Willow Lake. Warkenthien and son Keegan are in the process of taking down and salvaging the wood from the old house that has been there for many, many years.

Known as the Thies house or

the Harms house, (depending on how old you are) the structure was lived in last by Mino Harms in 1970 according to Warkenthien. "The south half of the house may be older than the north half, as we found square headed nails in that part. It seems as if they added on, as the north part is updated a little. Old plaster and lathe were

and will use the full dimension lumber from the old house and nearby grainery for the project. Keegan Swanhorst and Warkenthien, on the right, stopped for a short break on Friday as they worked dismantling the house.

used in the house with back plastering for insulation in one part. It looks too, as if a round window was once put in on the older part. There was no running water it looks like and judging by the walls up under the eaves, the house was a light green color at one time."

Older, full dimension lumber which measures exactly two inches

by four inches was used throughout the house and these boards along with usable two by sixes and two by eights will become a new workshop on Warkenthien's farm. An old grainery nearby will also be utilized for the project as high winds started the job of dismantling previously.

Older, full dimension lumber which measures exactly two inches

Clark School administrators rehired for 2015-16 school term

Often times school boards have lengthy February meetings. Such was the case for the Clark School Board on Monday. The Clark School Board met for six and a half hours on Monday, two hours and twenty minutes in public forum, the remainder in executive session.

An hour and twenty minute executive session was held for the purpose of discussing a personnel matter. No motion was necessary following this closed session.

The board then went back into executive session to discuss administration evaluations. After a two hour and forty-five minute closed session, the board offered contracts, by unanimous ballot, to superintendent and elementary principal Luanne Warren and middle school and high school principal Jerry Hartley and business manager Mary Nelson, with salary to be negotiated at a later date.

Cyclone co-op

Much of Monday's public meeting dealt with the Cyclone sports co-op. In its seventh year of existence, the Clark board discussed 10 various co-op 'talking points' after the recent meeting of the Cyclone co-op board.

Superintendent Warren summarized the conversation, commenting, "Two members of each co-op, along with the administration met on January 23, 2015, to address co-op needs. This was the first meeting of the year for the co-op, which should probably meet in the fall, winter and spring. The need to develop a co-op handbook for athletes is in the works so consistent training rules are made across the season. Coaches can add additional rules as deemed. Mr. Klautdt visited with our school lawyer regarding the definition of home games as it refers to travel...the co-op boards will be discussing this issue further. Numbers for various sports were also looked at. Do we continue to offer some sports to our students

if the numbers are low? We concurred, "yes". We will also be adding competitive dance in the fall to our schedule. At this time we only have performance dance, which is enjoyed by our fans. It was also noted that our grading scales do not match, so to be fair to all our student athletes something needs to be worked out. Also discussed were the number of coaches per sport and number of awards given per sport. Participation of sixth graders was discussed and a recommendation will be given to the co-op board."

Since its inception, the co-op has ironed out specific differences so all competitors have the same 'playing field'. Most time was spent talking of the grading scale at Monday's meeting. "I'd like both schools to have the same scale," said principal Hartley and that will be one of the co-op goals going forward, he surmised.

During the 'delegation' portion of the meeting, the co-op also was the topic. Bill Karber was in attendance and he asked "if the co-op is benefiting either school?" His query was directed both financially and for the good of the student athletes. During this 20-minute discussion, Hartley asked what 'variables could be measured' and following this open forum board president Robert Steffen said that both the financial and student parts would be looked into, going forward.

Strategic planning

Concerning strategic planning and a five-year capital outlay plan, the Clark School Board has been meeting, with the last meeting a week ago. At this meeting, six groups met addressing six different areas. The areas were: Student achievement, curriculum needs, technology, staffing, school and community partnership and facilities. "We will try to address as

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Bud's Barn has over a century worth of history!

At 79 years old, A. E. 'Bud' Houghton started a project he'd been talking about for years. That project was moving and refurbishing a very large, turn of the century dairy barn located about a mile from his house southwest of Willow Lake.

Three years and a lot of manpower and ingenuity later, the barn was completely refurbished and the first barn dance was held there on July 3, 2008. Approximately 275 people attended and danced to music played by Bud's cousin Allan Gehrke 'Al and Vince' on accordion and brass instruments. Willow Lake's 125th celebration was that summer, too, to coincide with Bud's goal of finishing the barn.

"For many years, he talked of wanting to do it, but would say 'I'm just too old,'" stated Bud's wife Elsie. "Then one day, he just decided to do it. He's the type who when he makes up his mind to do something, he finds a way to get it done. He was 79 when he started and the barn was finished three years later in 2008 in time for a barn dance which was something he'd also always wanted. I guess it was a labor of love you could say."

History

The barn's history goes back to the turn of the 20th century or a little before, as it was built on the farm of John and Helene Haug who homesteaded in Collins Township in 1883. No exact date is known of when it was built. Clarence and Belle Haug were the next generation on the farm. During this time a tornado in 1924 took off the roof of the barn and laid it on its side right next to it. The roof or haymow was rebuilt/replaced again in 1925 and the Gothic Arch styled barn was once again complete.

The barn is 40 feet wide, 60 feet



This very large Gothic Arch structured red barn was a three year labor of love. Moved to their farm in 2006, A. E. or Bud Houghton and his wife Elsie, with some help from family members completely refurbished the unique old barn located on their farm west and south of Willow Lake.

Two years later, the first barn dance was held there in 2008, along with celebrating the town of Willow Lake's 125th birthday. Although Bud is gone now, he died in 2010, he was able to enjoy the dances held in 2008 and 2009. Shown above, on the left is Gary Houghton and to the right is 'Bud', with this picture taken before the dance in 2008.

long and the top of the roof measures to 34 feet not counting the two cupolas on the top.

No strangers to rebuilding and refurbishing, (both Bud and Elsie) their work began on the large undertaking. A two foot high foundation was built, so the barn would not rot and be resting on the ground. The barn was purchased from third generation owner Merrill Dean Haug.

The big move happened in October of 2006 when the barn was moved one mile north to their farm-site.

"I remember the barn was so heavy, when they set it down, the semi's wheels came up off of the ground," stated Elsie. "So we had to get a second truck for the job. Bud did all of the siding himself and the

Has your chimney been cleaned this year?

▲ Annual maintenance is the key to preventing fires, officials say

A story by
Dakotafire
dakotafire.net

By Wendy Royston, Dakotafire Media
Additional reporting by Ken Schmierer

Some rural Dakotans have recently taken to burning corn, pellets and wood to avoid burning as much cash for home heating expenses, but doing so must be done responsibly, according to fire officials.

"The main thing is to make sure that whatever heating source you're



Graphic by Dakotafire Media - www.dakotafire.net
Source: http://www.usfa.fema.gov/downloads/pdf/statistics/v1318.pdf

using that it's appropriate for the use or the application, area, building or home," said South Dakota State Fire Marshal Paul Merriman.

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