



## Hannah Heiman wins Junior Snow Queen Talent Contest

Clark seventh grader Hannah Heiman won first place in the South Dakota Snow Queen Festival and Talent Contest. She won the junior talent division, besting 16 other contestants. Heiman will perform this upcoming weekend at the Senior Snow Queen Festival, in Aberdeen. Hannah is the daughter of Heath and Erin Heiman. She competed in the Jr. Talent Contest with her vocal-ukulele solo of 'Feelings are Fatal' by MXMTOON.

Miss Jr. Clark County Avery Miles, daughter of Preston and Jenny Miles competed in the Jr. Snow Queen Contest.

This Saturday is the Senior Snow Queen Festival. Miss Clark County Saylor Burke, daughter of Ryan and Bobbi Jo Burke of Willow Lake will be competing along with 30 other contestants from across the state.

Hannah is shown performing 'Feelings are Fatal' at the Clark Area Snow Queen Contest where she placed first in the talent competition.

## Herr replaces LaBrie at Dacotah Bank in Clark

Tom LaBrie has announced his retirement as market president at Dacotah Bank in Clark. Brandon Herr, agricultural banker at Dacotah Bank in Clark, has been promoted to the market president position. Herr assumed the role of market president January 1, 2020 with LaBrie continuing to serve Dacotah Bank customers in the Clark location through April 2020 when he will officially retire. Details on an open house will be finalized in the spring.

LaBrie started his banking career over 40 years ago at Peoples State Bank, Conde, in 1975. In 1976 he started working at Citizens State Bank in Clark, known today as Dacotah Bank. He served in several roles including assistant cashier, cashier, internal operations and security and compliance officer.



Tom LaBrie

In 1987 he assumed the role of market president in Clark. LaBrie was instrumental in helping Dacotah



Brandon Herr

Bank expand into the Watertown market with the opening of that location in March 1991.

Tom and his wife, Brenda, have three adult children and five grandchildren. He has been active in many community groups and involved in many organizations. These include Clark Rotary Club, Clark Chamber of Commerce, Presentation Sisters Development Council, St. Michael's Knights of Columbus, Clark Industrial Development Corporation, Clark Housing Development, Greater Clark Area Community Foundation and Clark Potato Days just to name a few.

Incoming market president Brandon Herr is an Ipswich native. He graduated from Ipswich High School in 2004 and from Lake Area Technical Institute in 2007 with an associate's degree in consumer and

Dacotah Bank  
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## January sees routine business handled at City Hall

The first monthly meeting of the Clark City Council was held Monday at the council room within the Ulyot Building.

The meeting began with the council sitting as a Board of Adjustment hearing the Bruce Brekke variance application request. Brekke wants to build a shed on property he owns between N. Commercial Street and

N. Cloud Street.

The reason for a variance is because the proposed shed is larger than permitting zoning allows, as he is building on property where he does not reside.

Brekke was on speaker phone during this hearing and after discussion the council unanimously voted to approve this variance.

City lead employee Darin Altflisch, in his departmental update talked snow removal and the importance of keeping fire hydrants open, visible and available. This is the homeowner's responsibility.

In her departmental update, finance officer Jackie Luttrell shared that Clark was the featured 'City Highlight' in the January, 2020,

edition of the *Municipalities* magazine.

Luttrell also updated the conversion of the water survey update with Brandon Smid of Helms and Associates. That work is ongoing.

Two other items mentioned by Luttrell were: 1) five of the six coun-

City Hall  
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## 2019 Year in Review Part II, July-December

Here is the 2019 Year in Review, Part II. The last six months of 2019 will long be remembered for a cool summer with excess moisture throughout the summer and fall.

Harvest was wet and late and corn was as wet as can be remembered.

Many memorable events took place July - December, 2019.



As Clark Elementary students observed Fire Safety Month a special treat was in order for the students. Clark fireman Tony Werdel was in charge of this project - showing students what happens when a car air bag activates.

Said Werdel, "We wanted to show students how much force an air bag generates when it opens up. Air bags have been very beneficial in saving lives, along with the use of seat belts."

### July

☞ Late planting and wet conditions doesn't keep most corn in the county from being knee-high by the 4th of July. The annual *Courier* tradition continues with Warick, Emersynn and Blakely, children of Jordan and Aleigha Hallberg, being pictured in the corn.

☞ C.H.S. junior-to-be, Sadie Streff, visits Washington, D.C., part of the Codington-Clark Electric Youth Tour 2019.

☞ Terry Schlagel replaces Brian Cook on the Clark City Council, representing Ward I.

☞ The Scotch Pine tree, behind the Jennen Law Office was taken down and photographed, in segments, in the *Courier*.

☞ Robert Steffen re-elected president and Todd Fjelland vice president of Clark School Board.

☞ The Clark FCCLA wins the National Quiz Bowl Championship at the summer Leadership Conference, in Anaheim, Calif. Tavie Guzman won Gold in the Job Interview category.

Year in Review  
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## Chris Sass elected chairman of county commissioners

Chris Sass was elected chairman of the Clark County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting Tuesday. Wallace Knock was elected vice chairman.

Commissioner committee assignments for 2020 were made and these include: Mental Health - Sass; Extension - Richard Reints; Weed and Pest - Knock; Airport - Robert Bjerke, Sass and Francis Hass; ICAP - Hass; First District - Reints; Glacial Lakes - Bjerke; Legislative Contact - Knock.



Even with wet conditions in our unusually wet spring planting season, the corn was playing catch-up pretty fast with recent rainfall in the area.

Above the children of Jordan and Aleigha Hallberg sit amongst the healthy looking corn stalks approximately four miles east of Clark. Young soon-to-be three month old son Warick - looks content in the arms of his sisters. Emersynn on the left is two and a half and Blakely on the right will soon turn four years old.

## Crocker Wind Farm is largest construction project in Clark County in 2019

Clark County tallied \$160,489,266 in estimated building project costs in 2019. This figure includes 67 permits total, 48 in county and 16 within the city of Clark and three in Willow Lake.

This compares to 94 permits in 2018 with 65 in the county, 25 in the city of Clark and four in Willow Lake.

The largest project in 2019 within the county was the Crocker Wind Farm. Building permit numbers show that \$150,755,066 was spent on the 77 turbines that went up in the northern end of the county.

The totals with the wind farm totaled \$160,489,266. This number is a building permit calculation only. Sans the wind farm, totals in the county in construction were \$9,734,200.

In the city of Clark, according to the 16 permits taken out, \$262,550 was spent adding on to properties in Clark.

In the city of Willow Lake, three permits were taken out totaling \$50,450.

It must be reiterated that these numbers are approximations in estimating the cost of construction and it is more often than not on the low side.

These are amounts estimated by property owners when taking out their permits in advance and not the assessed values of the finished projects.

In the county of Clark, outside of city limits, D.S. Batchelor Holdings, LLC built the Powder River Precision building which was estimated at \$392,000. The manufacturer of

firearms parts began production in 2019 at the Clark Industrial Park, located east of Clark.

Construction in the amount of \$1,600,000 was ongoing at the Hillcrest, Fordham and Collins Hutterite colonies. The Fordham school is the most expensive ticket item followed by two new homes on the Hillcrest and Collins colonies. A batch plant and a new grain bin are being built at the Collins colony and at Hillcrest, they are working on a new pump house.

Two towers had some additions and update work done in the county. American Towers (T-Mobile) and Velocitel did work on the towers just west of Clark and near Garden City. These amounts totaled \$20,000 in estimation.

New grain bins in the county last

year totaled three in addition to the one being built at Collins Colony. New bins were built by Cody Wook-ey, Chris Arthur and Dwight Wook-ey.

Ten permits were taken out for houses built in 2019. New homes were built for Aaron Hemmingson, David Severson, Drew Edleman, Valorie Flatten, Jason Severson, Jared Knock, Justin Olson, Jared Terhark, Allen Kretzschmar and Ronny Walker. The totals for the 10 permits came to \$2,030,000 for the new homes.

Home additions for Kim Nelson, Steve Weerts and Dominic Wieseler totaled \$260,000.

Nine storage sheds totaling \$446,200 were built for Rick Sundvold, Darlys Homola, Chris Lamb, David Paulson, Laird Larson, Jared

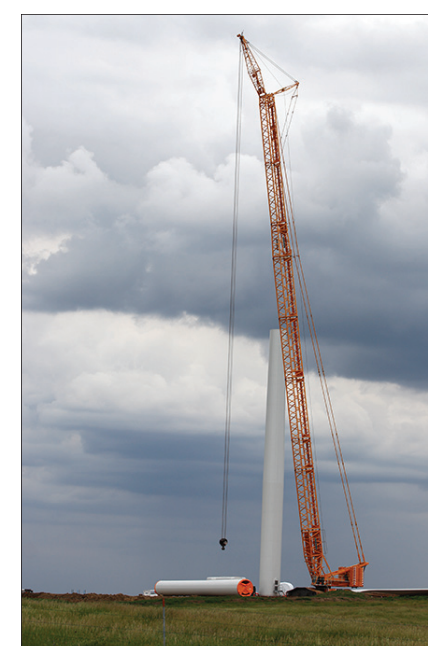
Brenden, Heath Seefeldt, John Arthur and Eugene Heitland.

Two garages built in the county totaled \$55,000 on the properties of Brian Thonvold and Ramsey Knutson.

A machine shed and two shops were built for Steve Kannegieter, Nicole Nelson and Brad Larson. These came to a total of \$285,000. A pole barn and hoop barn totaling \$100,000 were built for Gannon Florey and Nicole Nelson.

Building for swine production in the county came to \$2,210,000 with the hog barns for Jeff Terhark and Alliance Family Farms.

For the beef industry, cattle sheds totaled \$1,734,000 with three in total being built for Dwight Warken-



Crocker Wind Farm

Construction 2019  
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