

# Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



Happy Groundhog Day

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The hometown newspaper of Verdon & Marlene (Haug) Lamb, Sioux Falls, SD

## March 29 is the deadline for primary election nominating petitions

Nominating petitions for candidates in the primary election have a filing deadline of Tuesday, March 29. Deadline for nominating petitions for independent candidates for the general election is Tuesday, April 26.

Clark County auditor Chris Tarbox stated that no county offices have been filed for at this time.

### Clark County Constitutional offices

Clark County has six offices with terms expiring.

Terms expiring include Clark County commissioner district one, Francis Hass, district three, Richard Reints and district five, Wally Knack.

The offices of county auditor, Chris Tarbox; county sheriff, Rob McGraw and register of deeds, An-

drea Helkenn have terms expiring.

Delegates to the Republican party state convention and precinct committeeman and committeewoman will also be determined.

Petitions must be filed with the office of county auditor no later than 5:00 p.m. March 29, or by registered mail on that date.

### State and federal offices

Terms of United States Senator John Thune, six years; U.S Representative Dusty Johnson, two years; Governor Kristi Noem/Lt. Governor Larry Rhoden, four years; Secretary of State Steve Barnett, four years; State Auditor Rich Sattgast, four years; State Treasurer Josh Haeder, four years; Commissioner of School and Public Lands Ryan Brunner, four years; Public Utilities Commissioner Chris Nel-

son, four years; Third Circuit Court Judge positions (6), four years, Carmen Means, incumbent, Third Circuit Court Judge.

Petitions must be filed with the Secretary of State at the State Capitol Buildings in Pierre, S.D. 57501 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, March 29 or by registered mail on that date.

### State legislature

With the State legislature re-districting, it's impossible to list the incumbents of Clark County's for State Legislature District 2. The townships of Raymond, Lincoln, Logan, Fordham and Richland will be part of District 22. The rest of Clark County will be part of District 4. This realignment will be used for the November General Election, plus the primary election(s).



Choose Clark County has just completed its second year of staffed operations as the county-wide economic development organization. Starting from the seed of an idea planted in community meetings back in 2018, Choose Clark County has grown into a registered 501(c)3 non-profit with an active board, an Executive Director and a professional office located

along Highway 212 in Clark.

Board members include, left to right, Brandon Herr, treasurer; Greg Janisch, president; Drew Edleman, secretary; Kristin Vandersnick, executive director; Kathy McHenry and Warren Brandlee, vice president. Absent are board members Russ Hurlbert and Rosa Gonzales.

## Choose Clark County hosts annual meeting

### Greg Janisch re-elected president

The mission statement for Choose Clark County, the economic development organization of the county is: "To promote business growth, increase housing opportunities and enhance the quality of life for all residents of Clark County."

On Monday, Choose Clark County held their annual meeting at the Ulyot Building, in Clark and went over business growth, housing opportunities, quality of life and received grants. Then, the 2022 Strategic Plan was outlined and discussed.

Kristin Vandersnick is the Choose Clark County Executive Director. Her office is located at 117 1st Ave. West in Clark. Choose Clark County was able to be an economic development organization for Clark County because of \$25,000 annually from the county of Clark and \$25,000 annually from the city of Clark.

Greg Janisch has been the Choose Clark County chairman since its inception in 2019. Warren Brandlee is the vice president, secretary is Drew Edleman, treasurer

is Brandon Herr, along with directors Kathy McHenry, Russ Hurlbert and Rosa Gonzales.

Several individuals were in attendance at Monday's meeting to see if any grants were available for their respective building projects.

A potential 4-H building at the fairgrounds, was spoken of by building committee member Jenn Severson. She stated that what is in the planning stages is a multi-purpose

Choose Clark County  
(continued on page 5)

## Shortage of classroom substitutes makes teaching and learning more difficult in South Dakota

Bart Pfankuch  
South Dakota News Watch

A shortage of substitutes to fill in for full-time teachers is forcing school districts in South Dakota and across the country to take sometimes drastic measures to keep classrooms staffed, and concerns are rising that the quality of student education may diminish as a result.

Many full-time teachers are losing planning and training time to fill in for absent colleagues. Some classes are being combined, resulting in higher staff-to-student ratios. A few South Dakota schools have closed temporarily or shifted to virtual learning via computer because of teacher absences and limited

substitutes to cover for them.

The number of available substitutes has been dropping steadily for several years in many school districts, as fewer people want to take on the challenge of teaching a group of students they don't know in a subject in which they may not be well-versed.

The COVID-19 pandemic has turned the substitute shortage into a crisis in some districts.

As the pandemic lingers, and the highly contagious omicron variant of the coronavirus has become dominant in South Dakota, more full-time teachers are out sick with COVID-19 or staying home to care for ill or exposed children than normal, increasing the need for sub-

stitutes. Meanwhile, many former substitutes — especially those who are retirees and at greater risk of COVID-19 complications — do not want to take the risk of teaching indoors with dozens of children. Education experts also say working as a substitute teacher has become less attractive, as some American children have become more assertive and less respectful of teachers than in the past.

Furthermore, a general worker shortage has given potential substitutes far more options to work where and when they want, in some cases for higher pay and benefits.

To attract more substitutes, some school districts have increased pay or reduced educational require-



## Thespians qualify for State One-Act Festival

The CHS Drama Department earned one of two top Region 6B spots for the State One-Act Festival. Clark High School performed *Antigone Now*, by Melissa Cooper. The six CHS students who earned Outstanding Actor Awards include Maddy Pickrel – *Anitgone*, Chad Kolden – *Creon*, Logan Hurlbert – *Ismene*, Emma Rahm, Heath Hemmingson and Nevaeh Rusher for their roles in the Chorus.

"This is the first time back at State for us since 2015. We've been working to make a few improvements suggested by the judges. We are excited to present this play at the State Festival, and we are hopeful to bring home a Superior rating and a number of outstanding actor awards," director Mrs. Cor-

rine Kallemeyn said. The Region 6B schools include Summit, Florence, Rosholt, Clark, Waverly/South Shore, Britton/Hecla, and Northwestern. Rosholt earned the other Region 6B spot at state. The State One-Act Festival will be held in Rapid City on February 3-5, 2022. Clark will take the stage Saturday, Feb. 5, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. MST.

There will be a pep rally on Wednesday, Feb. 2, 2022 at 2:40 pm in the CHS gym.

Left to right: Region 6B Outstanding Actors. Front: Nevaeh Rusher, Maddy Pickrel, Mrs. Corrine Kallemeyn, Logan Hurlbert.

Back: Emma Rahm, Heath Hemmingson, Chad Kolden.

## Municipal nominating petitions may begin being circulated

### Henry School Board, also

Nominating petitions for city government offices and the Henry School Board, which are becoming vacant due to term expirations, may now be circulated. Those petitions are available from the respective city finance offices or the Henry business manager for the Henry School Board position. The petitions can be filed with the finance officer/business manager, no later than 5:00 p.m. on February 25. If needed, city elections or a Henry School Board election would be held on Municipal Election Day, Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

**Clark:** One council position will become vacant in Clark due to the expiration of the present terms of office. In Ward I, there is one, two-year term open, currently held by Brandon Kottke. The finance officer in Clark is Alaina Wellnitz.

**Willow Lake:** Four positions will become vacant in Willow Lake. The present terms of office for council members that will expire are: Ward I - a two-year term held by Matthew Kadinger, in Ward II - a one-

year term currently held by Leland Harding III, and also in Ward II - a two-year term currently held by Steven Johnson. The two-year term of mayor currently held by Delwin Bratland will also become vacant. Heidi Madsen is the Willow Lake city finance officer.

**Henry School:** Henry School District #14-2 holds their election the same time as city elections. One three-year term is open with the incumbent being Nicole Watson. There is also a one-year term open. Gail Thompson is the business manager at Henry School.

Clark and Willow Lake schools hold their school board elections in June.

**Garden City:** One council position will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term. One three-year term currently held by Laina Strohfus is open. Andrea Helkenn is the finance officer for Garden City.

**Naples:** One three-year term position presently held by Leon Redinger will become vacant due to

the expiration of the present term. The secretary for Naples is Hana Redinger.

**Raymond:** One three-year term currently held by incumbent Gail Filipek will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term. Carrie Reis is the finance officer in Raymond.

**Bradley:** One three-year term position presently held by Chad Atfillisch will become open. Jeanette Warkenthien is the finance officer for Bradley.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Jan. 25 .....	4	-14	0
Jan. 26 .....	7	-12	0
Jan. 27 .....	34	7	0
Jan. 28 .....	27	-7	0
Jan. 29 .....	31	3	0
Jan. 30 .....	M	M	M
Jan. 31 .....	35	8	0
2022 precipitation to date			0.30



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