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Senior Features of 2012

Foxton Township farmer Melvin Hanson turns 80 this October



Melvin Hanson was a farmer like his father was and both of his grandparents. His father was on the school board for many years and like him, Melvin thought it important to be civic minded. He served 15 years as a Clark County Commissioner and has been a Willow Lake Lions Club member for 30 years. He was also on the Foxton Township board for 20 years. Melvin and his wife Marcene raised four children as they farmed south of Clark.

'One of the Naples boys', that's how Melvin Hanson was explained to his wife Marcene by her cousin Nadine when she wanted her to go with them to the movies on February 10, 1952. Two carloads went to Watertown that day but the next weekend it was just Melvin and Marcene who went to the movies together and the romance began.

Melvin Clarence Hanson was born on October 29, 1932 on a farm a half mile west from where he resides now in Foxton Township.

"I was told I cost \$14.00. That was the doctor's bill and it took forever for them to pay it off was the story I was told," said Melvin. His parents were Arthur and Camilla (Huke) Hanson and their occupation was farming.

Grandparents

Nels and Anna (Hanson) Huke lived one mile away. He was a well known farmer and she was one of the best lefse makers around says Melvin. His mother, grandmother and aunts were all excellent lefse makers according to Melvin.

His grandfather Albert Hanson, who was married to Anna Maria (Anderson) Hanson, died before Melvin was born due to cancer. He saw his grandmother regularly, every three weeks he said. She lived on their farm which was six miles away.

Growing up in Foxton Township

Melvin had a sister Clarine who was seven years older than him and one brother Norris who was four years older. They had cattle, hogs and milk cows and raised various grains, so chores were 'slopping the hogs' and 'picking corn cobs' when they were younger.

Melvin Hanson
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Kyle Lenzner is the new Clark County Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer. He has been on the job since the beginning of the month and he jests that one can tell he is putting on the miles by looking at his pickup. The Antigo, Wis. native replaces Jeff Lautenslager who has transferred back to his home state of Wisconsin.



Dennis Johnson, a consulting contractor goes over information concerning the Clark County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan at an informational meeting held on April 11 at the Clark Legion Hall. A consultant on this project, Johnson will assist the local county emergency management officer, Jason Coenen develop a strategic plan to prioritize activities designed to assist Clark County communities and residents to reduce their risk from natural and man-made disasters.

Seated from left to right are Chris Tarbox, Violet Wicks, Jason Coenen and Gene Furness. All of the Clark County commissioners were in attendance at the meeting. The next meeting, the second of four upcoming planning meetings is planned for May 11, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. in the Clark County Courthouse.

County continues to work on mitigation plan

Clark County is embarking on an initiative to assist communities in reducing risk from natural and man-made hazards.

Last Tuesday evening, Dennis Anderson, a consulting contractor presided over the first of four meetings in Clark to organize and prioritize a multi-jurisdictional All-Hazard Mitigation planning project for Clark County.

'Mitigate' is defined: to lessen in force or intensity; to moderate the severity of (anything distressing); or to make milder or more gentle.

Anderson introduced the plan's time line and meeting overview that will be used to create the county's plan to the Clark County commissioners in attendance and local law enforcement sheriff Rob McGraw, deputy sheriff and emergency man-

agement officer Jason Coenen and others.

"This is your plan," stated Anderson, "and you need to prioritize the hazards that pertain to Clark County".

Several hazards were listed that fortunately do not pertain to our county such as nuclear accidents and civil disobedience/terrorism and earthquakes.

High frequency or re-occurring events such as flooding, winter storms and tornadoes came up in the conversations at the meeting, as these are the hazards that cause the most damage and are more frequent in Clark County.

Another unique aspect of the county is the Northern Border pipeline that runs through the western part of the county. "We need to

look at all of the hazards out there, whether they be man-made or related to the weather," stated Anderson, "and include them in this plan. A mitigation plan in place may help

Mitigation plan (continued on page 3)

WEATHER

Barb Desnoyers - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
April 10.....	42	22	0
April 11.....	52	23	0
April 12.....	47	41	.60
April 13.....	51	38	.47
April 14.....	64	40	1.20
April 15.....	60	36	.63
April 16.....	39	29	0
2012 precipitation to date	-5.35"		
2011 precipitation to date	-5.49"		

Winners declared in area elections

Tuesday, April 10 was municipal election day in South Dakota and there were three elections in the area.

In Garden City, incumbent Erica Benson defeated George MC Thompson 16-13 for a position on the council. Voters in Garden City also voted on a referred ordinance concerning keeping livestock in the city limits. A 19-10 no vote to not allow the town to forbid the keeping of certain animals and fowl, allows

Garden City to keep livestock in the city limits. According to the ballot, a no vote states: Do not allow the town to forbid the keeping of certain animals and fowl. Twenty-nine of a possible 42 voted in the Garden City election.

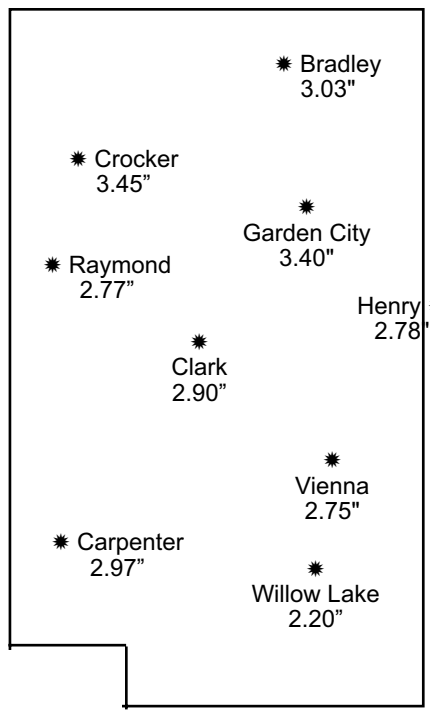
In Willow Lake, the election was held for the position of councilman in Ward II. Vivian Johnsen was challenged by Stanley Zantow and Johnsen won 20-14.

In Henry, there were three indi-

viduals vying for the two positions on the school board. Voters had the choice of Neil Jensen, David Fuller or Arlen Boehnke for the three year terms. Incumbents Neil Jensen and Arlen Boehnke received 60 votes and 32 votes respectively. David Fuller received 55 votes.

Neil Jensen and David Fuller won the election and will be on the Board until June 30, 2015.

Clark County Rainfall Week of 4/10-4/16



Kyle Lenzner is the new GF&P conservation officer

Kyle Lenzner, originally from Antigo, Wis. is the new Clark County Game, Fish and Parks conservation officer. "I was a Park Ranger with the Department of Natural Resources in Wisconsin the past several years," said Lenzner. "I re-

ally enjoyed the position as it was a natural stepping stone to that of conservation officer and a Park Ranger's job is only seasonal," he stated as a motivational factor of

Kyle Lenzner
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WLHS 100th Annual Alumni Celebration is Saturday, July 7

The 100th Annual Willow Lake All-School Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, July 7! Several committees are working feverishly to finalize plans for this event.

The alumni banquet is set for Saturday, July 7, but events will take place from Wednesday the 4th through the following Sunday.

The official schedule of events will be included in the Alumni invitations to all WLHS Alumni in the near future. The Willow Lake website, www.willowlakesd.org has an

Alumni page with a list of events. Some of the events include: a fireworks display by the Willow Lake volunteer Fire Department at dusk on July 4, an open house at the new hotel on Main Street and Firemen Olympics on July 6, a parade at 11:00 a.m. on July 7 followed by the vintage car and tractor show and the WLHS 100th Annual All-School Banquet, and a community church service and potluck dinner on Sunday, July 8.



The Ransom of Red Chief is a big hit

Nice-sized crowds attended the Clark High School performance of O. Henry's *The Ransom of Red Chief*, Friday and Saturday at the CHS gym.

This two-act, seven scene slapstick comedy portrayed the two crooks Levi Seefeldt, center and Jus-

tin Meier, right, trying to get away with the fraudulent kidnapping of Matt Loomis, who played Red Chief, left.

Luanne Warren was the director of this play.

Clark Chamber of Commerce Spring Event
When: Monday, April 23, starting at 6:00 p.m. Where: The Clark Golf Club

Come hear Randy Gruenwald, Riley Dandurand, an ITC representative and Brock Greenfield talk about their respective endeavors