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## Duenwald Transportation LLC. to provide Clark School bus service

May is always a busy month for school boards, as it is the ending of one school term with the looking ahead to the following year's budget and staff. That was the case at the Clark School Board meeting, Monday.

A five-year school bus contract was signed by the board with Duenwald Transportation, LLC. Dan Duenwald was at Monday's meeting, explaining to the board what this contract would entail and to answer any and all questions regard-

ing bus service. The board approved the contract unanimously. The heart of contract reads: Duenwald Transportation, LLC. will provide School Bus Transportation for the 2012-13 school year, which includes five bus routes. This service will cost the Clark School District \$216,840. The District will be responsible for all drivers' down time at the rate of \$8.25 per hour. Activity trip miles

**Duenwald Transportation**  
(continued on page 8)

## Fourteen Willow Lake graduates bid farewell



Mindy Grensberg



Wyatt Warkenthien



Ben Albers



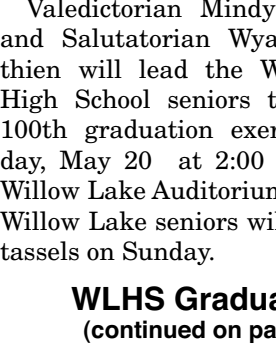
Newt Bruley



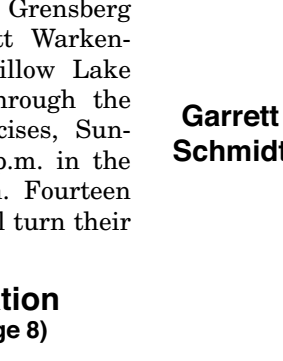
Bailey Bruns



Nahanna McDaniels



Garrett Schmidt



Mindy Grensberg



Wyatt Warkenthien

**WLHS Graduation**  
(continued on page 8)

## Thirty-one seniors to graduate Saturday at CHS



Shantel Warren



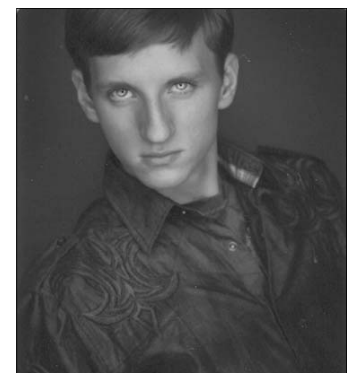
Jenna Varilek



Kendra Stromsness



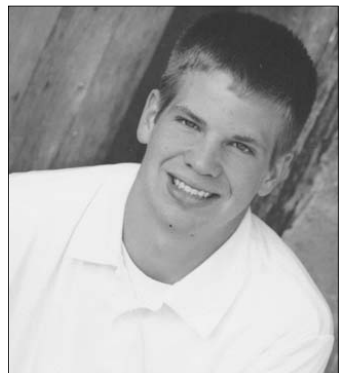
Chase Monson



Justin Meier



Jeffrey McGraw



Samuel Lindgren



Clint Kadera



Ashley Heupel



Morgan Hemmingson

Thirty-one seniors will bid adieu to Clark High School on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. during the commencement exercises in the school auditorium.

The members of the Clark High School Class of 2012 chose Jenna Varilek and Brandi Harrington to give the graduation address and superintendent Brian Heupel will

introduce them. Giving the Invocation and Benediction will be Pastor Kevin Petersen.

Lola Bartels will direct the Clark High School band as they play the

processional and recessional. Special music, *For Good* will be presented by the senior choir members.

**CHS Graduation**  
(continued on page 8)

## Timely rains will be the key to the 2012 growing season

"State wide farmers are ahead of schedule with their planting and locally it's the same with adequate moisture giving everything a good start in the growing season," stated Mark Rosenberg, the Extension Agronomy specialist from the Aberdeen office. By press time, he estimated a majority of the corn should be planted, although some farmers to the north are waiting for the soil to warm up a little. "What's up looks good," he said of those who got their corn in early.

"This should be a good year for hay. If these current conditions continue, we're looking at some pretty good quality hay that will be ready earlier than usual. We could see the first cutting, on the early side around Memorial Day," ended Rosenberg.

Brad Finstad who farms near Bradley, says his pastures are looking really good, the best he has seen this early for quite a while.

**Timely rains**  
(continued on page 8)

### WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official  
Weather Observer

|                            | HI    | LO | PR |
|----------------------------|-------|----|----|
| May 8 .....                | 54    | 42 | 0  |
| May 9 .....                | 61    | 44 | 0  |
| May 10 .....               | 77    | 46 | 0  |
| May 11 .....               | 58    | 37 | 0  |
| May 12 .....               | 64    | 39 | 0  |
| May 13 .....               | 71    | 48 | 0  |
| May 14 .....               | 83    | 51 | 0  |
| 2012 precipitation to date | 7.19" |    |    |
| 2011 precipitation to date | 7.32" |    |    |

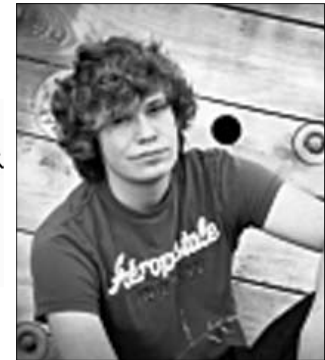
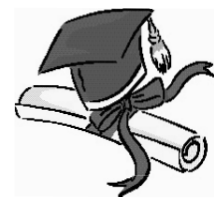
## Fifteen Henry High School seniors will graduate May 19



Sarah Montgomery

The 2012 Henry High School Graduation exercises are slated for 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012 at the Henry High School gym.

Steve Zirbel, Henry School Superintendent will present the Class of 2012. Henry Board of Education president Arlen Boehnke will present the diplomas to the graduates.



Jesse Bates

The valedictorian for the class of 2012 is Sarah Montgomery and the salutatorian is Jesse Bates. Salutatorian Jesse Bates and valedictorian Sarah Montgomery will give the senior addresses. There will also be a senior video presentation. The

**HHS Graduation**  
(continued on page 8)

## John Pollock has spent the last 14 years as a Clark City Councilman

"You're representing the public and it's definitely a community event," said John Pollock of his 14 years as a Clark City Councilman. Pollock chose not to run in 2012, saying, "It was time," as far as ending his time on the council.

During Pollock's tenure on the council, two community buildings were erected, the Ulylot Building (city hall) and the Clark Community Clinic. "I'm very proud of these buildings in which we've developed as well as the water/sewer 10-block project by the school. All of these projects have helped in the beautification of Clark and have made things more efficient," he said.

On the opposite end of the positive spectrum was the closing of McCains. "In hindsight I feel that maybe that property could have been developed differently. I'm not sure (Gov.) Janklow's gift has turned out to be an asset for the community. I do know it was costing the city \$3,300 a month just to keep the lights on."

A memory which stands out to the long-time councilman was the way in which the community pulled together during the ice storm following Thanksgiving in 2006. "Everybody, from one end to the other, was so supportive, so helping. It made me feel good of belonging to the Clark community."

When asked about various roles and jobs he fulfilled as a councilman, Pollock answered, "There are lots of one-on-one with city employees as well as many conversations with citizens of the community, often during the evening or on Saturdays."

Pollock stated that he felt going to county wide law enforcement was a plus for the community. "It is tax

**Pollock**  
(continued on page 8)



John Pollock recently resigned after serving 14 years as a Clark City Councilman. Pollock was on several council committees throughout the years including: dump/recycling, streets/sidewalks, sewer and swimming pool

## Clark Wind Farm is a breath of fresh air

It seems as if it is few and far between when a new business wants to begin in Clark County. Bill and Michael Makens comprise Oak Tree Energy and the duo is attempting to create a new Clark County business, a Clark County wind farm.

Attempting to create is a bit of a misnomer as the father and son duo have been jumping through federal and state hoops and circles for several years, starting this Clark wind farm.

The wind farm is being developed locally, north of Clark and Michael Makens explained that most wind farms are developed for a 20-year term, with financial investing, equipment and length of power purchasing ongoing.

"We would set up for even further out than that with a model that could be replicated," said Michael Makens and he explained how land, wind and space will all play a vital role in 21st Century power allocations.

At this point, Oak Tree Energy is waiting for the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission to make a decision regarding a price Oak Tree Energy would receive for the cre-

ated electricity. Dealing with a decision forthcoming from the PUC has been a long, drawn out process, said Bill Makens and he's hoping the decision will come within a month. This viable Power Purchase Agreement is the final step remaining.

"If the go-ahead does come from the PUC in June, we will finalize financing and begin the actual construction phase of the wind farm," said Bill Makens, "to become operational."

The process to this point has been one of multiple studies. A fatal-flaw analysis which contained disciplined step by step requirements, including environmental prerequisites, state laws, setback standards, market for power contracts, transmission availability have all been undertaken and accomplished by OTE, said Michael Makens. A feasibility study and system impact study have followed.

In 2008, Oak Tree Energy began the two-year federal-state process of the aforementioned criteria, to move forward. "We passed with no negatives whatsoever," said the elder Makens.

Two meteorological towers have been up for almost three years near the proposed project area north of Clark. "We have been recording wind data with detailed information about the wind regime, including speeds at various heights," said Michael Makens.

Figuring out which type of wind turbine at which height is a highly technical process and M. Makens explained that expert analysts have overlaid the wind data to the project area in order to calculate estimated energy production from wind turbine generators.

"The wind regime and it's capacity factor looks to be very similar to the Day County Wind Farm and the Buffalo Ridge Wind Farm (in southwest Minnesota)," he said.

The proposed Oak Tree Wind Farm would include up to 13 turbines, totaling 19.5 megawatts. "Everyone on the local level has been very supportive of our Clark Wind Farm project," said B. Makens. The nameplate tax appropriations in combination with gross

**Wind Farm**  
(continued on page 8)

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