

Clark School Board going forward with lighting and air conditioning project

▲ 5-year contract signed with Duenwald Transportation

At the March meeting of the Clark School Board, held Monday in the high school library, two topics took up over two hours, total, of discussion time. The two matters deservedly needed much deliberation time because of the importance to the school district.

The five-year Duenwald Transportation bus contract and the proposed air conditioning of the elementary and high school buildings were the two lengthy discussion topics.

The school board approved the five-year bus contract with Duenwald Transportation. Owner Dan Duenwald and his three employee children, Kevin, Chad and Mel were also in attendance, Monday. Kevin actually is not an employee of Dan's, as he has his own bus company in Webster, but he works closely with his father and he carried the lead in these negotiations between Clark School and Duenwald Transportation.

The bus contract will be for \$265,033 for next year with a three percent raise every year thereafter.

Board member and transportation committee member Shannon Huber took the lead for the board as she described the lengthy negotiation process.

"It is a long contract," said Huber and she explained many of the issues confronting the transportation committee, including going back to having school-owned buses, something that has been in existence for

almost 20 years.

"I'm glad Kevin (Duenwald) pointed out to me all the pros and cons of us going on our own. When realizing all the work and dollars that go into a bus route, it does add up. Starting over would be spendy."

Superintendent Luanne Warren praised Duenwald Transportation and Dan, in how available and accessible the buses are and Duenwald responded that communication is the key, even if it is at 4:30 a.m. concerning snow day delays or cancellations.

Warren then recommended the five-year plan, as a 10-year plan was also discussed and the board consensus was to approve the five-year plan and it was unanimous. Board member Trudi Gaikowski was absent from the meeting.

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WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Mar. 7.....	43	27	0
Mar. 8.....	32	18	0
Mar. 9.....	23	0	0
Mar. 10.....	13	0	0
Mar. 11.....	14	5	.02
Mar. 12.....	14	10	.44
Mar. 13.....	16	2	0
2017 precipitation to date			.88
2016 precipitation to date			1.35

'Wearing of the Green' is Friday

▲ St. Patrick's Day is for the Irish at heart

St. Patrick's Day is a fun holiday celebrated by the Irish, as well as those who are "Irish for a day".

Many traditions and rituals have been borrowed from the Irish, but St. Patrick's Day is at the top of that list.

St. Patrick's Day is Friday, March 17 and here are a few fun facts to help celebrate this Irish holiday.

St. Patrick's Day was first celebrated in Boston in 1737.

St. Patrick was actually of Scottish descent, not Irish and contrary to popular folklore he never chased any snakes out of Ireland.

Green is associated with St. Patrick's Day because it is the color of spring.

The shamrock is the traditional symbol because St. Patrick used it to explain the connection between the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit in the Christian religion.

It is considered lucky to find a four leaf clover on St. Patrick's Day.

At one time, there were more Irish living in New York City than in Dublin, Ireland.

Corned beef is strictly an American invention, the Irish don't actually eat it to celebrate the day.

St. Patrick's isn't a big drinking holiday in Ireland. In fact, many of the local pubs are closed for the day.

Leprechauns are the official shoe makers of the fairy kingdom.

Don't be fooled by any holiday decorations showing lady leprechauns. In traditional Irish folk tales, there are no female leprechauns, only nattily attired little guys.

Shamrocks are the national flower of Ireland and are picked on

St. Patrick's Day (continued on page 3)



Extremely successful Cyclone season comes to end in Sweet 16

The 2016-17 Clark-Willow Lake boys basketball season is now history. The Cyclones season ended with a 61-39 loss in the Sweet 16 and this defeat will sting for awhile, but once that wears off, the coaches, team and fans will all take pride in the excellent 19-3 season.

Said coach Jerome Nesheim of the season: "I'm very proud of this team. Before the season started no one expected us to shoot, rebound, execute and defend as well as we did. This is an athletic, coachable group, committed to excellence."

Two juniors and three sophomores started for the Cyclones and only one player, Joe Streff will be lost due to graduation. Jacob

Prouty, Bradyn Rusher and Micah Burke were named to the all conference selections in both the Northeast and Lake Central Conferences.

Clark-Willow Lake tied for the NEC crown and finished second behind Sioux Valley in the LCC.

Looking ahead to next year, it looks as if, tentatively, the Cyclones will be in Class B, Region I, no longer facing Class A schools in post season competition for the next two years.

Above, in late second quarter action from the Sweet 16 game at the Swiftel Center, at Brookings, Ntai Stevens tries to lay the ball off to Micah Burke.

Clark County townships all have names that are over 130 years old

The names of places in Clark County - where did they all come from?

In the March 1, 2017 edition of the *Clark County Courier*, we featured the names and origins of all of the Clark County towns in the area.

These were taken from a 1939 masters thesis done by Joseph Molumby at the University of South Dakota. He interviewed nearly 60 people in the county as well as doing research into local county records, newspapers, atlases and local histories. Exceptions are the Darlington, Fordham, Cottonwood and Woodland township. These

histories were taken from the Clark County Centennial history book 1881-1981.

With townships each having their annual board of equalization meetings next week, we will focus this week on where the names originated for each township and the story behind it - if there is one.

Clark County was named for Newton Clark, a member of the legislature at the time when Clark County was created in 1873.

One township started out as Berlin, named by residents at the suggestion of James Downs in 1883 as an honor to a Mr. Bayer who filed

on claims in the southeast part of the township. Bayer's former home had been in Berlin, Germany. Bayer filed claims along with his three sons and two daughters.

Berlin changed to Washington Township in 1918 however when more opposition was felt to the capitol of the German Empire during World War I. Residents of the township, headed up by Mr. Bonebrake petitioned to have the name changed. The name Washington seems to have been proposed by George C. Berry, a Willow Lake attorney and urged by Warren Jolley. It was preferred over Wilson

which was also suggested, as being non-political. The name was officially changed to Washington on Nov. 7, 1918, four days before WW I with Germany ended stated researcher Molumby.

Ash Township's name was proposed by Thomas Jones at a town meeting in 1883 because of Ash Gulch within its borders. It had contained many Indian villages, some still designated by piles of rock and stones and one could still see the marks of the old stage road from Watertown to Grotton. Ash

Townships (continued on page 12)



St. Patrick may have to get a sleigh of his own this year

A March weekend storm shut down the area with snow and wind causing whiteout conditions on Sunday. A little over eight inches of snow was reported, but, as usual when the South Dakota wind blows, there were some impressive towering drifts.

Area schools started two hours late on Monday morning, as one and all had to dig their way out of their homes and driveways.

The temperatures are expected to gradually warm throughout the week, going from the mid-teens to the

mid-40s by the weekend.

Above left, city employee Roger Collins is shown putting the final touches on N. Cloud Street early on Monday morning. Collins and crew had a busy weekend maintaining the streets.

Center and right, one can tell how much snow fell by noticing how much of the ramp at the Clark County Farmers Elevator is covered and by how much is piled against the duplex apartment on Second Ave. S.E. in Clark.