



TOP of the Week

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Apr. 28.....	62	40	0
Apr. 29.....	66	39	0
Apr. 30.....	74	42	tr
May 1.....	72	45	0
May 2.....	82	44	0
May 3.....	69	43	0
May 4.....	67	41	0
2015 precipitation to date	1.49"		
2014 precipitation to date	3.35"		

Legion Government Day is Monday

Clark County American Legion will be coordinating the Clark County Government Day for all senior county government students.

Willow Lake and Clark High School government seniors will check in Monday, May 11, around 9:00 a.m. The morning will consist of observing the circuit court in action. The Clark County Board of Commissioners will be meeting on Monday rather than the usual Tuesday, so students may observe county government first hand.

Clark American Legion Auxiliary will be in charge of lunch at the Clark American Legion Hall.

Legion members from all of the Clark county posts will be participating.

Summer Reading program at library

The Emil M. Larson Public Library is offering a summer library program to the children of the greater Clark area community to encourage them to read for pleasure during the summer and to retain their reading skills. This year's theme is Every Hero Has Story and will run from June 15 to July 24, 2015. The library will be hosting activities each Wednesday afternoon from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. for children to participate in contests and games, enjoy a snack, work on crafts and more. Kim Taylor is the city of Clark librarian.

Clark Band receives superior

The Clark School band received a superior rating from all three judges at the Region II Large Group music contest held on April 29 in Milbank.

"Each of the three judges were very impressed with the musicianship coming from our band," commented Clark director Mrs. Lola Bartels. "The students were able to listen to comments from each of the judges in class and listen as the judges commented on the music."

Very little action for school board filing

Clark and Willow Lake Schools each have a pair of openings on their school boards. In Clark, the three-year terms of Amy Sass and Trudi Gaikowski will become vacant. In Willow Lake, the three-year terms of Caryl Schmidt and Aaron Wicks are available.

The deadline to file is this Friday, May 8 at 5:00 p.m. with the respective business managers. Mary Nelson is the business manager at Clark School and Melissa Burke is the business manager at Willow Lake School.

As of press time, Caryl Schmidt, at Willow Lake is the only one filed.

Informational meeting held regarding building plans at Willow Lake School

An informational meeting was held Tuesday evening at the Willow Lake School Board meeting, held in the Willow Lake auditorium. Approximately 40 people were in attendance, talking about the school's building plan, upgrading the older area of the school as well as constructing a new gymnasium.

The information portion of the board meeting began with Scott Sikkink, of HKG Architects, of Aberdeen, providing an updated summation of this building project. The meeting lasted approximately 90 minutes.

"Many, many people have been involved in this process since the strategic planning committee stage," began Sikkink and he noted that it is a fairly lengthy process, "but we are getting toward the finish line."

Sikkink stated that the next step is that the board receives a set of drawings and then the bid process begins.

In January of this year the Willow Lake School Board approved this building project of renovating the 'old school area', including three classrooms and erecting a 13,762 square foot gym to be added south of the current auditorium. Since this January meeting, several significant changes to the building plan have been made. These changes were explained by Sikkink and are noted in the shaded box portion of this story.

During the question and answer session following Sikkink's remarks, as is often the case, it was

Informational meeting
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Paulson receives FCCLA Spirit of Advising Award



Tammie Paulson

Clark High School Family and Consumer Science Teacher Tammie Paulson received the Spirit of Advising Award at the 2015 South Dakota Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) Leadership Meeting in Sioux Falls last week. The Spirit of Advising Award recognizes chapter advisers who are constantly faithful, often quietly working behind the scenes to ensure the success of their students and is given to one adviser in the state each year. Each state's award recipient will be honored and recognized at the 2015 National Leadership Conference in Washington, DC this July.

Superintendent Luanne Warren stated, "Tammie Paulson does a wonderful job with the FCCLA chapter and our students. Every year she spends countless hours making sure her program is a success. She also works countless hours preparing a student for an office."

"She is a phenomenal individual," commented Clark junior Allyson Monson who served as 2014-2015 SD FCCLA First Vice President and who is the state's candidate for national office. "I have been in FCCLA for three years. She is very humble and always goes the extra mile in sacrificing her time to see students succeed."

The Clark FCCLA chapter, under Paulson's leadership, has produced nine state STAR Event winners which have then gone on to compete at the national level, six state officers, and 15 district officers. Paulson is an SDSU graduate and this is her 18th year at Clark. She and her husband David are the parents of two grown children, Briana and Tanner.

2015 could be a very dry year

As South Dakota transitions from April to May, warmer than average air and soil temperatures are prevalent throughout the state. However, spring precipitation has failed to appear across most of the state creating winter wheat and forage issues, explained Dennis Todey, SDSU Extension Climate Specialist & South Dakota State Climatologist.

"Lack of precipitation has led to a number of agricultural issues," said Todey. "If we don't receive adequate moisture in May, the issues could increase."

To clearly explain the climate outlook, Todey begins by taking a look back at the year-to-date conditions.

A look back

April was very dry across most of South Dakota, with only a few weather locations to the west recording slightly above average precipitation. Total precipitation across the state ranged from 0.11-inches to just over 2-inches. The largest deficits were in the southeast where April was 2 inches or more below average, Todey said, referencing

precipitation totals in Chamberlain, 0.41 inches; and Mellette, 0.11 inches; which ended with their driest April on record.

Madison, Roscoe, and Big Stone City recorded their second driest April on record, and another 11 weather stations recorded April 2015 among the top five driest on record.

"The dry situation has been a continuation of a weather pattern that set up in February, which resulted in longer term precipitation deficits," Todey said.

Records for low precipitation are much more apparent looking back for the year-to-date, explained Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist.

She went on to say that as of Jan. 1, 2015 several weather stations in the middle of the state documented January 2015 as the driest on record including: De Smet, Forestburg, Murdo, Kennebec, Pierre, Wessington Springs, Madison and six others. "A few stations accumulated less than an inch of precipita-

Dry year
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Ann Schmidt of Raymond thoroughly enjoys being called 'Beeba', the name for grandma according to grandchildren Parker, Lexie, Jackson and Allie. Allie was just born on April 23 and the children's parents are Ryan and Amanda Schmidt of Raymond who live just down the road from 'Papa' and 'Beeba'. Bruce and Ann Schmidt are also the parents of Sara (Jacob) Ebbers who live in Lake Norden. Schmidt is holding Allie Rae and to her left is Parker and in front are Jackson and Lexie.

Ann Schmidt's favorite saying about family

"The things that matter most aren't really things at all"

With Mother's Day coming up on May 10, 2015, area mothers and grandmothers often reflect on their families and how they are blessed.

Ann Schmidt of Raymond has a favorite wall hanging with family photos on it in her home that reads: *Our Blessings - When we think about our family and our blessings, great*

and small. We know the things that matter most, aren't really things at all.

"I'm really all about family," says Ann Schmidt of Raymond. "My family is the most important thing." Ann and her husband live on a farm north of Raymond and are the parents of two children, Sara and Ryan.

Ryan and his wife Amanda live just down the road from his parents. Ryan farms and is also a crop adjuster and Amanda works part-time as a dental assistant in Redfield. They have four children, Parker is eight, Lexie is five, Jackson is three

Mother's Day
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City is beginning bid process for new clubhouse building



Clark city finance officer Jackie Luttrell, left, swears in new city councilman Andrew Zemlicka. Zemlicka will serve a three-year term and represent Ward III, the northernmost section of Clark.

The top 'news' story coming out of Monday's May Clark City Council meeting is that the city of Clark is moving forward with 'new clubhouse specs and bids'.

In layman terms, the city is pursuing a new building, to be built to the east, or in front of the current Clark Municipal Golf Course clubhouse.

Clark finance officer Jackie Luttrell handed out floor plan diagrams of this potential 96' x 82' building, which would face the #1 tee box. "If we are serious about this, we have to take the next step," said Luttrell, "and the next step is the bid process."

Clark mayor Larry Dreher said he looked at this from a community perspective and that there are many 'needs' on the long list, including a location large enough for gatherings, meetings and receptions.

"We looked at the most economical building type and we definitely want to involve our local workforce," said Dreher and he stated as far as how much this building would cost; "It's in the very preliminary stages,

City
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