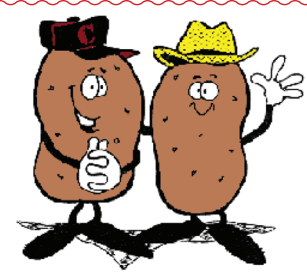


# Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



**POTATO DAYS** start Friday!

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The hometown newspaper of Annette Lambert, Middleton, Idaho

## This weekend will be Spudtacular! ▲ This is the 31st Clark Potato Days

Clark's 31st annual Potato Day is only three days away, and organizers are putting the finishing touches on the many events of the day.

Sponsored by the Clark Chamber of Commerce as well as individual or group sponsorships, events and activities are planned for the entire family regardless of your age or interests.

The Swimming Pool Park will be the prime destination for Potato Days this year. And, as is the norm, activities will be held all over the community of Clark.

### Potato Day Contests

There are several fun and interesting contests for spud enthusiasts of all ages. The Little Miss and Master Tator Tot that will take place at the Swimming Pool Park.

The contest for the best decorated potato will be held at the Corner Diner at 10:00 a.m.

Another event for the children is the coloring contest. Entries may be obtained at Ken's Food Fair.

The tough farmer competition, with both male and female divisions will be held at 10:30 a.m. at Swimming Pool Park.

At 1:30 p.m. at Swimming Pool Park, there will be a mashed potato eating contest.

### Bargains with A Peel

Is the slogan that covers the many different sales downtown merchants in Clark will be offering. Many stores will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and individual retailers will be holding various promotions. Pick up your Downtown Potato Day Passport at the Chamber of Commerce tent at Swimming Pool Park, complete the passport and turn in to Farmer's Daughter Boutique by 3:00 p.m.

Arts in the Park will show case many exhibitors, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Swimming Pool Park and going on until 4:00 p.m.

### Potato Events

Friday activities kick off the weekend. The Dacotah Bank Appreciation Lunch is from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. A bike parade, Wine on Nine golf tournament, a dodgeball tournament and Clark Golf Course DJ will all help get the weekend started.

Saturday begins with the annual pancake and sausage breakfast at the American Legion Hall starting at 7:00 a.m., then the Road Race at 8:00 a.m. There are also youth activities throughout the entire day,

like the Coin Dig starting at 8:45 a.m. and the Kids Tractor Pull at 9:30 a.m., both taking place at Dacotah Bank.

Mashed Potato Wrestling is slated for 12:00 noon on Saturday, at Swimming Pool Park. Arts in the Park will also be at the Swimming Pool Park, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

New events for 2023 include: Mini Golf from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Swimming Pool Park and a Sidewalk Chalk Contest that will be from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in front of Farmer's Daughter Boutique.

There will be a Fun Factory Magic Show at 11:00 a.m., Bubble Extravaganza at 1:00 p.m., Kids Foam Party at 2:00 p.m. and live music on Saturday from 1:00-8:00 p.m. between the Lookout and Sportsman's Bar. Plus, Potato Days organizers Cassi Kottke and Robin Hartley remind all about the other great activities including: the plate/ping pong ball toss, the bean bag tournament, parade, the street dance.

### Cars and Tractors

For the car enthusiasts, the cars will start rolling in before 10:00 a.m. on Sunday to be shined up for the car show in front of the Court House. The show starts 12:00 noon. Awards will be at 4:00 p.m.

The tractor parade lineup begins at Kibble Equipment in Watertown at 8:00 a.m. and is scheduled to arrive in Clark at approximately 2:30 p.m. at Flat Iron Park.

### Entertainment

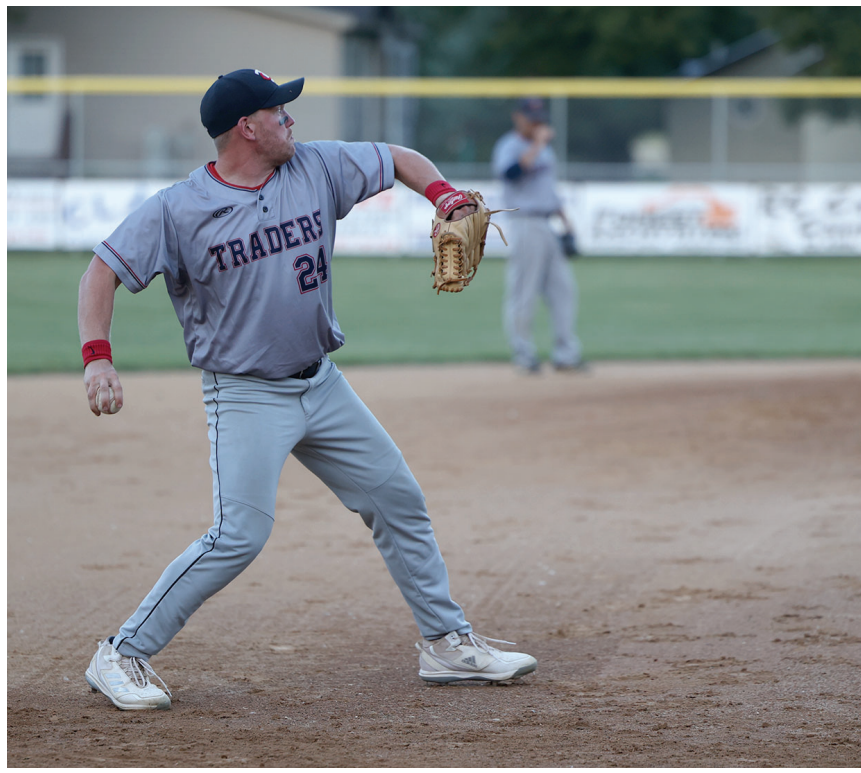
The Clark Chamber is very pleased to have live music between The Lookout Bar & Grill and Sportsman's Bar performed by JAIK Band at 1:00-4:00 p.m. and Darren Beyer from 4:00-8:00 p.m.

The grand finale to the entertainment will be Eclipse, who will perform beginning at 9:00 p.m. in the alley between The Lookout Bar & Grill and Sportsman's Bar. Breakfast will be served at the Clark American Legion from 11:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.

### Potato Day Parade

This year's Potato Day Parade begins at 5:00 p.m. with line up beginning at 4:30 p.m. in front of St. Michael's Catholic Church.

To wrap up the weekend, there will be a Community Church service on Sunday at 10:00 a.m. at Swimming Pool Park and the car show on Commercial Street from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.



The 2023 District 1B Baseball Tournament came to an end last Thursday at Dickinson Field in Clark. The Lake Norden Lakers took the championship over the Volga Cormorants. Both teams will be advancing to the Class B State Tournament, along with the Milbank Firechiefs, Clark Traders and the Elkton Snappers.

The pictures above are of the Clark Traders game versus the Elkton Snappers last Tuesday. At top left is Traders pitcher Hudson Fuller. Top right, Rhett Florey is sliding to third base. Andrew Magedanz, bottom left, is throwing the ball to first base. Bryce DesLauriers, bottom right, is running to third base.

Photos by Heather Jordan

## Clark Traders advance to State Class B Tournament

Heather Jordan

In District 1B action, the Clark Traders defeated the Elkton Snappers 8-7 to qualify as the #3 representative position in the 2023 Class B South Dakota Amateur Baseball Tournament. The Lake Norden Lakers won the District 1B Tournament that was held at Dickinson Field in Clark over the last week. The Volga Cormorants, Milbank Firechiefs and the Elkton Snappers also qualified for the state tournament.

In the Tuesday evening game, The Snappers were the first team to get on the scoreboard, but the Traders fired back with four runs,

including a home run belted in by Bryce DesLauriers to close the inning, putting the Traders up 4-1 early. Elkton was resilient and waited patiently to score, tallying three runs in the top of the fifth and another run in the sixth to tie up the ball game 5 to 5.

The Traders showed determination and grit, scoring three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning and protected their slim lead, allowing the Snappers only two runs in the top of eighth to secure the win and a berth to the state tournament, 8 to 7.

Brent Griffith also had a scoring highlight for the Traders, connect-

ing to score a second home run for Clark. Grayson Florey, Rhett Florey and Griffith each scored two runs followed by DesLauriers and Jeffrey Paulson with one each to pace the Traders. R. Florey, Griffith and DesLauriers each added a pair of RBIs.

Pitcher Hudson Fuller earned the win, pitching 7.2 innings, allowing nine hits, seven runs, five errors and six walks. Brent Griffith contributed 1.1 innings on the mound with one hit and one walk.

The Traders will face the Alexandria Angels in round one of the State Amateur Baseball Association Tournament on Friday, August

4 at 7:30 p.m. at Cadwell Park in Mitchell, S.D.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

|                            | HI     | LO | PR |
|----------------------------|--------|----|----|
| July 25.....               | 90     | 63 | 0  |
| July 26.....               | 92     | 69 | 0  |
| July 27.....               | 99     | 70 | 0  |
| July 28.....               | 94     | 68 | 0  |
| July 29.....               | 85     | 60 | 0  |
| July 30.....               | 79     | 59 | 0  |
| July 31.....               | 80     | 61 | 0  |
| 2023 precipitation to date | 11.96" |    |    |
| 2022 precipitation to date | 14.86" |    |    |

## Clark preschool numbers leveled out after worry of high enrollment

It's still early, but the Clark preschool enrollment numbers are in for now. The total number of preschool students enrolled at Clark School for the 2023-24 school year is 27.

Current class structure for preschool and Clark Elementary School is divided into two sections, Group A and Group B. Group A meets Mondays and Wednesdays for a full day of class, and Group B meets Tuesdays and Thursdays for a full day of class.

Given the current numbers available, that leaves one group with a class size of 13 students and the other with a class size of 14 students. This number is significantly lower than the anticipated enrollments at the beginning of the year.

There were several students with mid-to-late summer birthdays, which most often implies the student will attend a second year of preschool to ensure they are academically, physically and emotionally ready enough to move on to kindergarten.

Fourteen students that were enrolled for the upcoming school year fell into this category of late

or mid-summer birthdays. Parents of these students, when asked by school officials, decided to wait to enroll their children until the 2024-25 school year.

Before this solution, there was potential need to reconfigure the entire structure of the preschool class as it has been for many years. There were several ideas floated around including: charging for a second year of preschool but maintaining that all Clark residents would be guaranteed one year of preschool free of charge or expanding preschool to three classes rather than two, which would also include hiring additional paraprofessionals.

While the numbers are not yet finalized, Clark School superintendent Travis Ahrens states that the four-year projections of enrollment show approximately 28 students per year over the course of the next four years.

Ashley Dandurand remains the preschool director in Clark and is looking forward to another year of helping young students learn and grow and ready them for the next level in their education.



## Clark County 4-H Achievement Days 2023 come to an end today

Clark County 4-H Achievement Days started on Monday, July 31 with the swine show at 7:00 p.m. at the Clark County Fairgrounds. The three-day event ends today, Wednesday, August 2 with round robin at 2:30 p.m. The beef show was at 9:00 a.m. this morning.

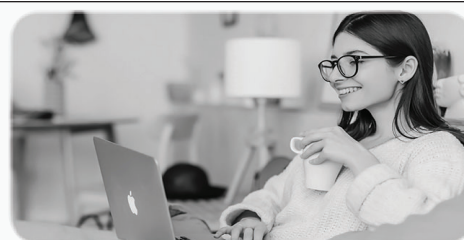
Tuesday was by far the busiest day for all of the 4-H members, which included the poultry show, goat show, rabbit show, sheep show, fashion review and the famous annual BBQ supper.

The pictures above were snapped on Monday afternoon, while the

4-H'ers were preparing their animals for showing. Raymond 4-H Club member Sawyar James, left, is washing down her angus steer named Lightening. She is the daughter of Darci and Chad Ford of Estelline. Her grandparents are Rod and Mary Hurlbut. Tye McGraw, right, who is also a member of the Raymond 4-H Club, is shown grooming his goat Roxy. His parents are Wade and Kim McGraw.

Photos by Karli Paulson

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