

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



**Good luck 4-H's
at Clark County
Achievement
Days**



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The hometown newspaper of Megan (Nelson) Muri, Watford City, ND

**★ TOP
of the Week**

WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
July 31	81	57	.02
Aug. 1	86	61	0
Aug. 2	71	48	0
Aug. 3	79	49	0
Aug. 4	90	68	0
Aug. 5	90	61	0
Aug. 6	80	64	.92
2018 precipitation to date	10.79		
2017 precipitation to date	12.80		

**High school football
seems early this year**

One sign that summer is coming to a close is the start of high school sports team practices. Football practice started Monday and the season opens Friday, August 17, as the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones take on the Florence-Henry Falcons that night, at Clark.

**This is Sturgis Bike
Rally week**

On Friday of last week, the 78th annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally officially began and it runs through Sunday, August 12. Many bikers like to use U.S. Highway 212 to get to and from the Sturgis rally.

**Henry School starts
next Wednesday**

Henry School will open its doors one week from today, on Wednesday, August 15. Clark has an opening day set for the following Wednesday, August 22. Willow Lake will start the 2018-19 school year the Tuesday after Labor Day, September 4.

**Traders play
tonight at State B**

Tonight (Wednesday) the Clark Traders take on the Alexandria Angels in the second round of the SD Class B amateur baseball tournament. The game is in Sioux Falls at Ronken Field on the Augustana University campus. Game time is set for 5:30 p.m.

**Rainfall has been
sporadic this summer**

July into August has been quite dry for some in Clark County. Sporadic rains have been timely for some areas while other areas have gone without much measurable moisture. The southern half of Clark County received some mid-summer rains missed by many in the northern part. Monday night, Garden City received 1.6" of moisture. In Clark, .92" fell in about an hour's time. This rain was not widespread throughout the county. Note by the weather box that Clark is about two inches behind this time a year ago.

Location	Rainfall
Clark County	7/31 - 8/6
* Bradley Tr	0"
* Crocker	0"
* Raymond Tr	0"
Garden City	1.60"
* Clark	.94"
* Henry	.52"
* Vienna	.45"
* Carpenter	.50"
Willow Lake	.40"



Dr. Scott and Liddi Elrod stopped in Clark over the weekend. The couple toured the home of his great-grandfather Gov. Samuel Elrod as well as the Clark County Historical Society Museum. Standing on the 'Elrod House' porch are, left to right, Clark County Historical Society president Greg Furness, current owners of the house Nick and Tracy Aguayo, Scott and Liddi Elrod. The Elrods live in Missoula, Mont. where Dr. Elrod practices psychiatry. They were on the way to Des Moines, Iowa to visit their daughter.

Great-grandson of Gov. Elrod makes a stop in Clark

Dr. Scott Elrod along with his wife Liddi spent the weekend in Clark. Dr. Elrod is the great-grandson of Gov. Samuel Elrod, South Dakota's fifth governor, in 1905-07, who was from Clark when he served as the state's top citizen. The *Clark County Courier* caught up with Scott and Liddi Elrod at the Elrod House, now owned by Nick and Tracy Aguayo. Clark County Historical Society president Greg Furness organized this Elrod stop and Dr. Elrod presented both Furness and the Aguayo's with special gifts. For the Clark Museum, Dr. Elrod presented Furness with a 'Shinney' ball. Before becoming the South Dakota governor, Scott's great-grandfather Samuel Elrod was the purchasing agent for the Sioux in the late 1800s, said Scott. This 'Shinney' ball was used by Native Americans in a game and several of these balls are on display in the Smithsonian Institute, in Washington, D.C. Elrod added that this ball was from the Sisseton-Wapeton Reservation, in northeastern South Dakota. The red, white and blue ball is approximately the size of a baseball, hard rather than soft and woven tight so it won't unravel. Dr. Elrod presented Tracy Aguayo with a coffee tablecloth with intricate Elrod (continued on page 3)

**Economic development funding in
Clark is started by the city council**

Economic development is the topic which brought 17 Clark residents to the Clark City Council meeting Monday, at the Ulyot Building. Clark Mayor John Pollock began the economic development discussion saying that a very positive meeting on this topic was held last Tuesday at the golf clubhouse. Pollock then asked councilman and economic development enthusiast Brian Cook to share a little of this Tuesday meeting. "Rita Anderson, the finance officer/economic developer of De Smet and Scott Amundson from the state economic development office were in attendance," said Cook. "They are both willing to help Clark set up an Economic Development plan." The mayor then opened discussion to the floor and those in attendance all seemed to want to see something done in this area. Pollock said that Clark already has an Economic Industrial Development Board and the direction could be heading toward a broader, economic development board with the industrial board under this larger economic 'umbrella' and the hiring of a professional. "Both individuals, Anderson and Amundson said a local person would really help make this work." Pollock was speculating that a whole new board could be put together. "It was Rita Anderson's opinion that \$50,000-\$60,000 would be needed annually to make this work," he said. Everything the mayor has been hearing has been positive, he said, as was last Tuesday's meeting. "It's wide open right now and we would need support from the county as everyone would benefit. We would collectively put a board together, hire someone as an economic development person and get them an office. It would be a salary, not an hourly wage. We as a greater community would need to support this individual." Council president Harvey Spieker made the motion to budget \$25,000 to get economic development started. Spieker repeated, "My proposal is just to get started. We will start small and grow. We need to put a board together." The board approved the \$25,000 for economic development. **Preliminary budget** Finance officer Jackie Luttrell spent over half an hour going over the 2019 preliminary budget. The council will give the budget first reading at the September council meeting. **Department updates** Water/sewer superintendent Darin Altfillisch shared with everyone at the meeting that the reason that there are fluorescent X's over manhole covers is so that they will not be blacktopped later this summer when the respective projects start. That led to the discussion on chip sealing. Street superintendent Roger Collins is on vacation this week and was not at Monday's meeting. The street budget has exceeded what has been budgeted in 2018 and the upcoming chip sealing project agreement is for \$46,000. After much discussion and a motion, **Economic development** (continued on page 3)



A fly-over, right, dropping paper plate coupons and T-shirts, added to 2018 Potato Day festivities. Piloted by Jed Hansen with Mike Geise in charge of dropping the aforementioned items out of the plane, those at Dakota Style Field in Dickinson Park, in the outfield, were treated to the prizes. At left, mashed potato eating proved to be a big hit, as contestants took less than half a minute to clear their plates. It was a hotly contested battle to see who was the first one done. It was the contestant second from the right.

Potato Day 2018 - As good as it gets!

Pretty nice summer weather added to a very successful 27th annual Clark Potato Days. Great family entertainment from early morning through evening hours had Potato Day spectators having a good time, with many activities and events. This year's event seemed very well attended, with positive comments heard about everything from the parade to the car show to the mashed potato wrestling to all of the entertainment and kid activities. **Contest Results**
Strongest Farmer Winners
Male - Joseph Kirkeby, Female - Sabrina Blair
Potato Day Passport Winners
Al Forbragd, Emily Schierrnbeck
Mr. & Mrs. Potato Head
Jason and Kylie Steen. Jessica Nordhus guessed correctly.
Little Miss Tater Tot
Isabelle Reyes
Little Master Tater Tot
Hunter Marx
Best Dressed Potato Sacks
Jocie Broz and Waylin Odegaard
2018 Button Winners
Michelle Flatten, \$400 Clark Bucks
Gift Certificates: Jeannette Brannan, Colleen Hoefert, Sturdevants, Nate Merkel, Joe Herr, Margaret Wirkus, Gail Temple, Susan Berg, Sally Waterfall.
Turtle Races
Kayden Wheeler
Coloring Contest Winners
Fidelia Rasmussen, Bergan Musser.
Potato Decorating Contest
Age 6 & under Best Decorated Potato: 1st place, Waylan Mar- (continued on page 3)