

**★ TOP  
of the Week**

**WEATHER**

Ryan Eggleston - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 1.....	81	59	0
Aug. 2.....	74	55	.78
Aug. 3.....	66	52	.03
Aug. 4.....	72	53	0
Aug. 5.....	67	56	0
Aug. 6.....	68	55	.14
Aug. 7.....	74	54	0
2017 precipitation to date	12.80		
2016 precipitation to date	10.96		

**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 18, as the Clark-Willow Lake Cyclones take on the Florence-Henry Falcons that night, at Henry.

Last year Clark-Willow Lake had five (total) home games. This year it evens out with three (total) home games and five on the road.

**PUC public input hearing on Sept. 13**

The three-member South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will hold a public hearing regarding the Crocker Wind Farm on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 6:30 p.m. at the Clark Elementary School. The purpose of the Crocker Wind Farm public hearing is to hear public input comments.

**This is Sturgis Bike Rally week**

On Monday of this week, the 77th annual Sturgis Motorcycle Rally officially began and it runs through Sunday, August 13.

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 16. Clark and Willow Lake both have opening days set for the following Wednesday, August 23.

**Total solar eclipse on Monday, Aug. 21**

On Monday, August 21, 2017, all of North America will be treated to an eclipse of the sun. Anyone within the path of totality can see one of nature's most awe-inspiring sights - a total solar eclipse.

The so-called Great American Total Solar Eclipse will darken skies all the way from Oregon to South Carolina, along a stretch of land about 70 miles (113 kilometers) wide. People who descend upon this "path of totality" for the big event are in for an unforgettable experience. Observers outside this path will still see a partial solar eclipse.

This will happen around dinner time on August 21.

Clark County Rainfall	
8/1 - 8/7	*Bradley 1.40"
*Crocker 1.55"	
	*Garden City 1.1"
*Raymond 1.07"	
	*Henry .12"
*Clark .95"	
	*Vienna 0"
*Carpenter 0"	
	*Willow Lake .97"

**Excellence is what Achievement Days are all about!**

The Clark County 4-H Achievement Days were held August 1, 2 and 3, 2017. A total of 1,011 exhibits were entered by Clark County 4-H'ers. There were many purple ribbons awarded, which are eligible to be entered in the 4-H division of the South Dakota State Fair.

The 4-H Dog Show was held Tuesday evening with eight 4-Hers and their dogs participating in three events, Obedience, Showmanship and Agility. Champion in Obedience B Class was Lane Tarbox and Belle. Champion in Obedience A Class went to Taylor McGraw and Sam. Showmanship winners included Ignatius Fuller and Willow and Cloverbud winner was Taylor McGraw and Sam. Five 4-Hers and dogs were able to participate in the first year of Agility. Winners in Agility included Alivia Gehrke and Minnie with Cloverbud Champion going to Aleeah Green and Pepper.

There were 48 beef exhibits this year, with 48 purple ribbons being awarded. Overall Champion Breeding Heifer went to Wyatt James with his Angus, Reserve Breeding Heifer went to Mitchell Schmidt with his Foundation Simmental. Champion Market Heifer went to Nicolette Schmidt and Reserve to Riley Schmidt. Champion Market Steer went to Conner Mudgett and

**Achievement Days  
(continued on page 6)**



Caught kidding around in the goat barn during Clark County 4-H Achievement Days 2017 are Tye McGraw, left and Lincoln Reidburn. McGraw is the son of Wade and Kim McGraw and Lincoln is the son of Jarvis and Alissa Reidburn.

**As swimming ends, repairs on bath house will begin this fall**

With school starting in Clark two weeks from today, that means summer is coming to a close, as is the Horace Bennett Memorial Swimming Pool, in Clark. After the closing of the pool later this month, improvements will be made to the bath house part of the pool area.

Rotarian Tom LaBrie was in attendance at the City of Clark August meeting on Monday and he detailed what needed upgrading in priority fashion to the council.

A group including members of the Clark Rotary Club, Clark Lions Club and city officials went through the bath house recently, outlining priorities of need within the bath house, said LaBrie.

These upgrades/improvements involved the floor, plumbing and electrical lighting, fixture and the breaker box.

The city council approved \$11,085 for this bath house improvement project this fall at the swimming pool and councilman Brian Cook was energetic talking about how volunteer labor and getting materials at cost could go a long way to

**City council  
(continued on page 3)**



With cool, non-windy weather conditions, the 26th annual Potato Day was a great day for one and all, young and old alike.

Outside media sources, including TV, radio, print and various social media networking sources have picked up on Clark Potato Day events, including the unique attraction of mashed potato wrestling.

Above, in a tag team affair with six wrestlers, Caleb Orris is ready to give his opponent Justus Reidburn a landing spot in the spuds.

A good crowd witnessed many crowd-pleasing moments, as the kick boxing demonstration and mashed potato wrestling matches continued to entertain at Dickinson Park.

In recent years, Potato Day events such as the Clark Car Club Show and Arts in the Park have really increased in notoriety, bringing in many folks from outside the community. Nice comments were heard about many of the Potato Day activities.

**What a memorable, fun weekend - courtesy of Clark's Potato Day**

Taterific weather added to a very successful 26th annual Clark Potato Day.

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.

**Contest Results  
Potato Decorating Contest  
sponsored by Clark Flower & Gift Shop**

Youth 7 & under: Eduardo Reyes, 1st; Ben Helkenn, 2nd.

Youth 8 - 12: Ryder LaMont, 1st; Garrett Helkenn, 2nd.

Adult 13 & older: Maggie Kats, 1st; Payton Krogman, 2nd.

**Potato Recipe Contest - Heather's Bistro**

Dip: 1st - Tara Thomas, Kate's Game Day Dip; 2nd - Matthew Helkenn, Matt's Refrigerator Door Dip; 3rd - Jack Helkenn, Jack's Ranch Nacho Dip.

**Flower & Garden Show sponsored by Clark Flower & Gift Shop**

**Potato Day  
(continued on page 3)**

**Pesky black bug identified  
▲ Weevil invades Clark County homes**

If one has noticed a small black bug, usually in one's bathroom this summer - they are not alone.

The five-eighths inch long, six legged bug that is black in color has been identified as a Black Vine Weevil after some investigation by the Courier office.

It doesn't bite and cannot fly. It moves by crawling which often brings it wandering into homes. It can scale walls easily and one can even find them on the ceilings.

They seem to like moisture so the bathrooms of one's home are their favorites.

They are also scared easily by light or by being jarred and will drop to the ground.

So if one hears a soft 'tick' sound on their bathroom counter in the mornings, look for a weevil that just dropped from the ceiling or bathroom cabinet door onto the counter.

They are active at night and this is also their feeding time on landscaping plants around the house. They feed on the leaves, leaving notches on the outside of the leaf. The larvae can do damage to young plant roots in the spring.

They return to the soil each day, so sticky barriers on the trunks of affected plants can be a control method. Manually picking them off plants at night when they feed is an organic way to control them. A dim torch must be used though as bright light scares them and they will drop to the ground.

The pest overwinters as an immature larvae in the soil. They hide in dark places during the day. Some landscapers refer to them as the taxus weevil.

According to SDSU Extension Field crop entomologist Adam Varenhorst, one wants to get them away from your house if possible. Powdering ones landscape plants, especially if you see some sawtoothed looking damage on the greenery, will help. Finding an insecticide for weevils in a powder form could be the answer for your control.

"They don't want to come in your house necessarily, once in they will be trying to find their way back out," ended Varenhorst. "Removing them by hand is also a way of control."



**Black Vine Weevil**



**Clark County 4-H Royalty**

For the second consecutive year, the Clark County 4-H Junior Leaders have included the crowning of 4-H Royalty at Achievement Days. Crowned last Thursday evening, left to right, King Cutler Michalski, Prince Parker Schmidt and Queen Jennifer Tonak.