

COUNTY

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was done to Marne Creek ... it should be in good shape," Dangel said. "A lot of it will depend on how we thaw."

Isolated flooding could occur in other parts of the county, as well. Yankton County Highway Superintendent Alan Sorensen pointed to past problems with flooding along Deer Boulevard south of Highway 52. The commission said sandbags would be made available to those property owners.

"If anybody is considering flood insurance, the time to do it is now," Dangel said. "This is serious and inevitable. It's a matter of when. I think in three weeks, we're going to have a really good idea of what this is finally going to look like."

On a somewhat related note, Pete Johnson of Johnson Engineering presented a Deer Boulevard drainage study Tuesday that he was commissioned to do for the county.

The news for those hoping that a way to create a better drainage system could be found was not good. Johnson said the grade slopes so gradually there that it is practically flat.

"What we consider to be the three most feasible options, don't really look feasible," he stated. "That's not the news I like to bring."

Commissioner Allen Sinclair asked whether the county would have to deny growth in the area because of the lack of drainage.

"The only drainage out there is percolation into the ground," Johnson said. "The more hard-surface roads, driveways and rooftops ... the less percolation you're going to get, the more runoff you're going to get, and the bigger problems you're going to get."

In other business Tuesday, the commission:

- approved a resolution establishing the charge for insufficient funds checks at \$20 per check;
- appointed four candidates to terms on the county Planning Commission. Six individuals submitted letters of interest: Carl Kretsinger, Joyce Franklin, Michael

Welch, Charles Gilson, Tom Bixler and Butch Becker. Kretsinger, Franklin, Gilson and Becker received the most votes from the commission. The commission also took the opportunity to thank outgoing members Amy Freeburg and Todd Quatier for their years of service;

- heard a presentation from Planning and Zoning Administrator Pat Garrity about a Highway 52 Corridor Development Action Plan;

- agreed to set up a contract with CASA to have office space in the Yankton County Courthouse and Safety Center. The organization, which supports and promotes court-appointed volunteer advocacy for abused and neglected children, is setting up a local chapter;

- was told that the state is waiting on President Obama to sign a presidential disaster declaration for the Christmas blizzard, which would reimburse area agencies for snow removal; and
- was told by Sorensen that all the roads his department is responsible for should be opened within the next couple days.

ENERGY

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Deputy Chief of Naval Warfare Requirements and Programs, has said that the U.S. has less than 10 years to change the course of its fossil fuel dependency.

"Even if those believing in the existence of climate change are proven wrong, renewable energy projects would still mean cleaner air and investments in infrastructure," Gage added. "There is no downside to this."

According to Operation Free statistics, terrorist attacks on oil infrastructure are increasing. In 2006, al-Qaida staged an attack against the oil processing facility at Abqaiq in Saudi Arabia. Although the attack failed, it caused a 3.6 percent spike in global oil prices and proved that the world's oil infrastructure makes America vulnerable to terrorist threats. Fewer than 50 attacks against oil and gas occurred before 9/11. By 2005, 265 major

attacks took place; by 2006 that number reached 344.

"Our military isn't waiting on the politicians, they're already taking initiatives to secure their energy supplies," Victoriano said.

Branches of the military are developing renewable energy projects of their own. The Marine Corps has constructed a hydrogen fuel cell power plant at a base in Twentynine Palms, California. The Navy is committed to getting half of its energy from alternative sources by 2020, and the Air Force is pledging 25 percent from alternative sources by 2025.

"The Army has a strategy in place as well," Bellon added.

"Here at home, it's up to the civilians to get educated, and to carry out energy reform," Victoriano said.

The veterans said the longer the U.S. remains dependent on fossil fuel, the more the country will have to engage in conflict to protect its energy supplies.

Operation Free contends that competition over resources can lead to conflict, and it can lead to fragile or failed states where terrorists and extremist groups can

step in and exploit the situation, establishing safe havens for operations, such as was the case with Afghanistan in the 1990s, and Somalia today.

Of the top 10 holders of oil reserves in the world as of April 2008, all but one are considered to be failed states or in danger of becoming failed states, according to Operation Free. If and when major oil-producing states fail, that is where the U.S. military will have to go next.

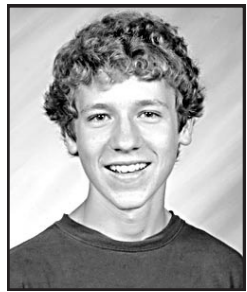
According to records, the U.S. Navy budgeted \$28.1 billion to patrol sea lanes in 2009, and much of that patrolling is to keep trade — particularly oil — flowing.

Bellon said 95 percent of veterans and others support Operation Free's energy independence ideas, even though some are skeptical about climate change.

"In the end, it doesn't matter, he added.

"You can doubt climate change," Victoriano said, "but you can't doubt us getting 60 percent of our oil overseas that is funding terrorist insurgents' efforts that are taking the lives of our friends and family in the military."

A+ Students of the Week



Carl Lehmann

School: Freeman Academy
Age: 17 **Grade:** 12th
Parents: Eloise Schrag and Dennis Lehmann
Academic Achievements: Gold Honor Roll, ACT Score: 28
Extracurricular Activities: Band, Choir, Chamber Choir, Soccer, Track
Favorite Subjects: Science & Music
Best School Memory(s): Chamber choir tour to Pennsylvania, and the All-State Soccer Tournament.



Brittney Ries

School: Freeman Academy
Age: 16 **Grade:** 10th
Parents: Duane & Donna Ries
Academic Achievements: Gold Honor Roll, 4.0 GPA
Extracurricular Activities: Volleyball, All-State Chorus, Oral Interpretation, One-Act, Band, Choir
Favorite Subjects: Math & Bible
Best School Memory(s): Going on all-school trips, traveling to Pennsylvania with the chamber choir, and socializing with friends.



Jaime Tschetter

School: Freeman Academy
Age: 15 **Grade:** 10th
Parents: Pam Tieszen, Gary & Jennifer Tschetter
Academic Achievements: Gold Honor Roll
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Soccer, Track
Favorite Subjects: Biology & Spanish
Best School Memory(s): Social times with friends.



Kristin Waltner

School: Freeman Academy
Age: 16 **Grade:** 11th
Parents: Don & Sonja Waltner
Academic Achievements: 4.0 GPA, All-State Orchestra, South Dakota Honors Choir, Regional Honors Choir
Extracurricular Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Oral Interpretation
Favorite Subjects: English
Best School Memory(s): Having a "community building" session where the whole high school played lots of games and activities together.



Lori Rensink

School: Freeman Academy
Age: 18 **Grade:** 12th
Parents: Les & Mary Rensink
Academic Achievements: Gold Honor Roll, Volleyball, All-State Academic Award
Extracurricular Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, Track & Field, Cheerleading, Oral Interp, Chamber Choir
Favorite Subjects: Art & Chemistry
Best School Memory(s): Traveling to Rapid City to compete in the state track meet.

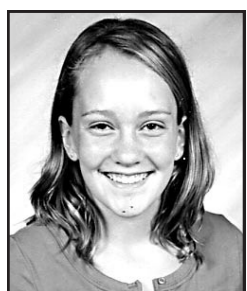


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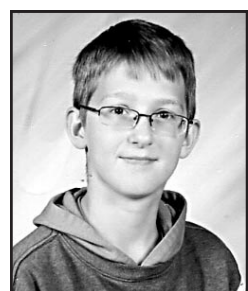
Kyleigh Melstad

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 12 **Grade:** 6th
Parents: Brad & Beth Melstad
Academic Achievements: Honor Roll
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Swimming, Volleyball, Reading
Favorite Subjects: Math & Science
Best School Memory(s): All of our field trips.



Morgan Lee

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 16 **Grade:** 10th
Parents: Kim & Tina Lee
Academic Achievements: "A" Honor Roll since 7th grade
Extracurricular Activities: Volleyball, Basketball, Track, Dance, Student Council, One-Act Play, Oral Interp, All-School Play
Favorite Subjects: Science & Math
Best School Memory(s): When my friend Luke fell and broke a desk trying to get his pencil on the floor.



Jordan Jorgensen

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 13 **Grade:** 8th
Parents: Cory & Loretta Jorgensen
Academic Achievements: "A" or "B" Honor Roll since middle school
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Football, Golf
Favorite Subjects: Science
Best School Memory(s): In elementary, when Daniel made Justin laugh so hard he had apple sauce come out of his nose.



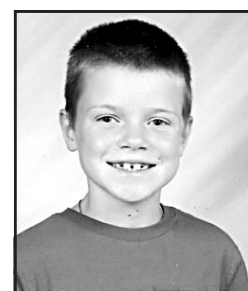
Jessica Johnson

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 12 **Grade:** 7th
Parents: Brandi & Sheldon Johnson
Academic Achievements: "A" Honor Roll in 1st semester, Honor Roll in 6th grade
Extracurricular Activities: Band, Chorus, FACS, Student Council, Spanish, Keyboarding
Favorite Subjects: Spanish, Keyboarding & Math
Best School Memory(s): In 4th grade, there were only 5 people in our class. Mrs. Hansen, my 1st grade teacher, was and still to this day is my favorite teacher.



Adriana McDonald

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 11 **Grade:** 5th
Parents: Jay & Brandy McDonald
Academic Achievements: Honor Roll 1st & 2nd quarter, A+ Club Winner for Spelling, Straight "A's" 2nd quarter
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Softball, Piano, Band (Drums), Eagles Dance Team
Favorite Subjects: Science
Best School Memory(s): For the Honor Roll Reward Party, we got to watch a movie. I also liked a presentation done by PBS Nature Adventures where I learned about and touched snakes.



Mikey Sees

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 10 **Grade:** 4th
Parents: Mike & Kris Sees
Academic Achievements: Honor Roll
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Baseball, Mass Server
Favorite Subjects: Math
Best School Memory(s): Playing basketball and baseball with my friends.



MacKenzie Huber

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 15 **Grade:** 9th
Parents: Lucky & Stacy Huber
Academic Achievements: "A" Honor Roll, Quiz Bowl Team, Won Writing Contests, Math Counts Team
Extracurricular Activities: Basketball, Track, Volleyball, Cross Country, Student Council, FCCLA, Oral Interp, One-Act Play, Band, Chorus, TATU
Favorite Subjects: Science
Best School Memory(s): In 6th grade, my teacher took some time away from school to get eye surgery. While she was away, my class used our free time to organize a "Welcome Back" party. When she finally returned, we all wore eye patches that day.



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Carly Wilson

School: Irene-Wakonda
Age: 16 **Grade:** 11th
Parents: Gene & Janice Wilson
Academic Achievements: "A" Honor Roll since freshman year, Academic Letter, Governor's Luncheon
Extracurricular Activities: One-Act, School Play, Choir, Oral Interpretation
Favorite Subjects: Psychology, Art & Choir
Best School Memory(s): When I do strange, random things. For example, at lunch we had apple sauce jello and my friends were biker with each other. So I took my fork and stabbed the jello, yelling "Attack the blob!!" My friends gave me a strange look and started to laugh.

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