

Extra second grade teacher hired during October meeting of the Clark School Board

By: Carolynn Olson

The October meeting of the Clark School Board was held in the school library on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was pushed to Wednesday this month because of the Monday holiday. Members attending the meeting were Malory McIntire, Greg Marx, Lacey Ortberg, Todd Fjelland and Nathan Luvass. Those who were also present included Superintendent Travis Ahrens, Business Manager Mary Nelson, Elementary Principal Jon Redmond, Middle School/High School Principal Jennifer Heggelund and other interested patrons.

During the meeting, a discussion took place about putting together a co-op Fastpitch softball team. No decision was made at the time. Superintendent Travis Ahrens does plan to have a meeting with the girls that are interested in participating in fastpitch during the first or second week of November.

The board approved the hire of Jillian Coumos as another second grade teacher. She started co-teaching with current second grade teacher, Melissa Nesheim. Coumos started October 5 and

began co-teaching with Nesheim October 10. Elementary Principal Redmond shared her progress with the board.

Other Reports:

□ Superintendent Travis Ahrens mentioned the increase of students in the district. The number of students in 2014 was 366 and has increased to a total count of 469 for the 2023-2024 school year.

□ The open food service position at the middle school/high school has been filled. Gisel Morales Espinoza started during the last week of September.

□ The school's Cross Country teams qualified for state. There will be a send-off pep rally Friday, October 20 at 11:45 a.m. The public is welcome to attend.

□ ACT testing started Tuesday, October 17.

□ The Clark Lions Club and Beck Seed Company are sponsoring the Clark Elementary's pumpkin patch event this year. The first group will be preschool through fifth grade students, and they will be going to Scott Lindgren's pumpkin patch on Wednesday, October 18. The second group of students will be going to the Gaiowski family's pumpkin patch on

Tuesday, October 17, with those pumpkins sponsored by Collin, Cade and Eve Gaikowski.

□ Red Ribbon Week will be October 23 through October 26. Students are encouraged to participate in the dress-up days.

□ Parent teacher conferences are October 26 starting at 3:00 p.m. and will go until 8:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Executive session was opened at 8:09 p.m., with open session resuming at 8:19 p.m. The board meeting ended at 8:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Clark School Board is scheduled for Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Oct. 10.....	58	36	0
Oct. 11.....	58	32	0
Oct. 12.....	67	37	0
Oct. 13.....	47	41	1.21
Oct. 14.....	45	40	0.12
Oct. 15.....	47	40	0
Oct. 16.....	52	36	0
2023 precipitation to date	18.32"		
2022 precipitation to date	17.10"		

TNRR organization works to trap, neuter/spay and return feral cats

By Carolynn Olson

A TNRR Organization has recently been established in Clark. TNRR stands for trap, neuter/spay, return/rehome. The organization's goal is to bring awareness to the community about the feral cat population that is becoming a problem in the area.

Issues that may arise from feral cat population include the spread of diseases and continuous reproduction. According to Cross Country Veterinarians, local veterinary clinic, common diseases that feral cat colonies may carry are distemper feline leukemia virus, feline immunodeficiency virus, rabies and intestinal diseases.

The TNRR organization is planning to help reduce the feral cat population by trapping the animals and taking them to the Cross Country Veterinarians in Clark, where they will be neutered or spayed, given rabies shots, treated for fleas and ticks, dewormed, ears cleaned and given an antibiotic shot if needed. After the cats are treated, they will either be released back into the community, taken to farms in the area to get them out of the town or rehomed. There will be no rehoming fee if anyone would like to take in a

cat as a pet. The local organization is just hoping to see the cats go to a good home where they will be taken care of and off the streets.

So far, thirteen cats have been trapped, treated and rehomed to farms in the area that were in need of barn/shop cats. One out of the thirteen cats are being housed by the organization and is being treated for mange. Once the treatment is completed successfully, it will be ready to be released or rehomed.

TNRR started with a feral cat colony on North Dakota Street in Clark, and organization is now starting to cover North Smith Street in Clark, where they have set up live traps to capture the cats. The traps are never left unattended. The organization asks that if any of the traps are seen to please let them be, especially if there is a cat in the trap. Other areas in Clark that the organization would like to address in the near future include Roetell's Senior Housing, the grain elevator, baseball fields, Fay Wookey Memorial Assisted Living Center and South Idaho Street. These are all places where there are larger cat colonies.

One of the organization's long-term goals is to financially help cat

owners in the area that can't afford to get their cats neutered or spayed. This will also help to keep the cat population in Clark under control.

If anyone would like to help by donating to the cause, TNRR has an account available at Cross Country Veterinarian in Clark. The organization is now officially a non-profit organization. An account has been set up at Dacotah Bank in Clark, and donations are being accepted under the Clark South Dakota Trap Neuter Return Rehomed account. All monetary donations received will go towards covering veterinary costs. The organization appreciates all donations in any amount.

The TNRR organization encourages anyone to reach out if there are other problem areas that can be added to the list. If the community has any questions or concerns or would like to help with the cause in any way, the easiest way to contact the organization is through their Facebook page: ClarkSD TrapNeuterReturnRehomed. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092362813182>.

"Help control the animal population. Have your pet spayed or neutered."-Bob Barker



Brooklyn Bjerke, Morgan Huber, Laura Alexander, Mackenzie Huber, Coach: Jerry Hartley, Assistant Coaches: Kevin Petersen, Bill Scobbs

Tyler O'Brien, Cole Brenden, Trey Huber, Coach: Jerome Nesheim, Assistant Coaches: Mark Prouty & Butch Brenden

JESS KARRER, WYATT BURKE, CALEB ORRIS, #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #13, #14, #15, #16, #17, #18, #19, #20, #21, #22, #23, #24, #25, #26, #27, #28, #29, #30, #31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #36, #37, #38, #39, #40, #41, #42, #43, #44, #45, #46, #47, #48, #49, #50, #51, #52, #53, #54, #55, #56, #57, #58, #59, #60, #61, #62, #63, #64, #65, #66, #67, #68, #69, #70, #71, #72, #73, #74, #75, #76, #77, #78, #79, #80, #81, #82, #83, #84, #85, #86, #87, #88, #89, #90, #91, #92, #93, #94, #95, #96, #97, #98, #99, #100

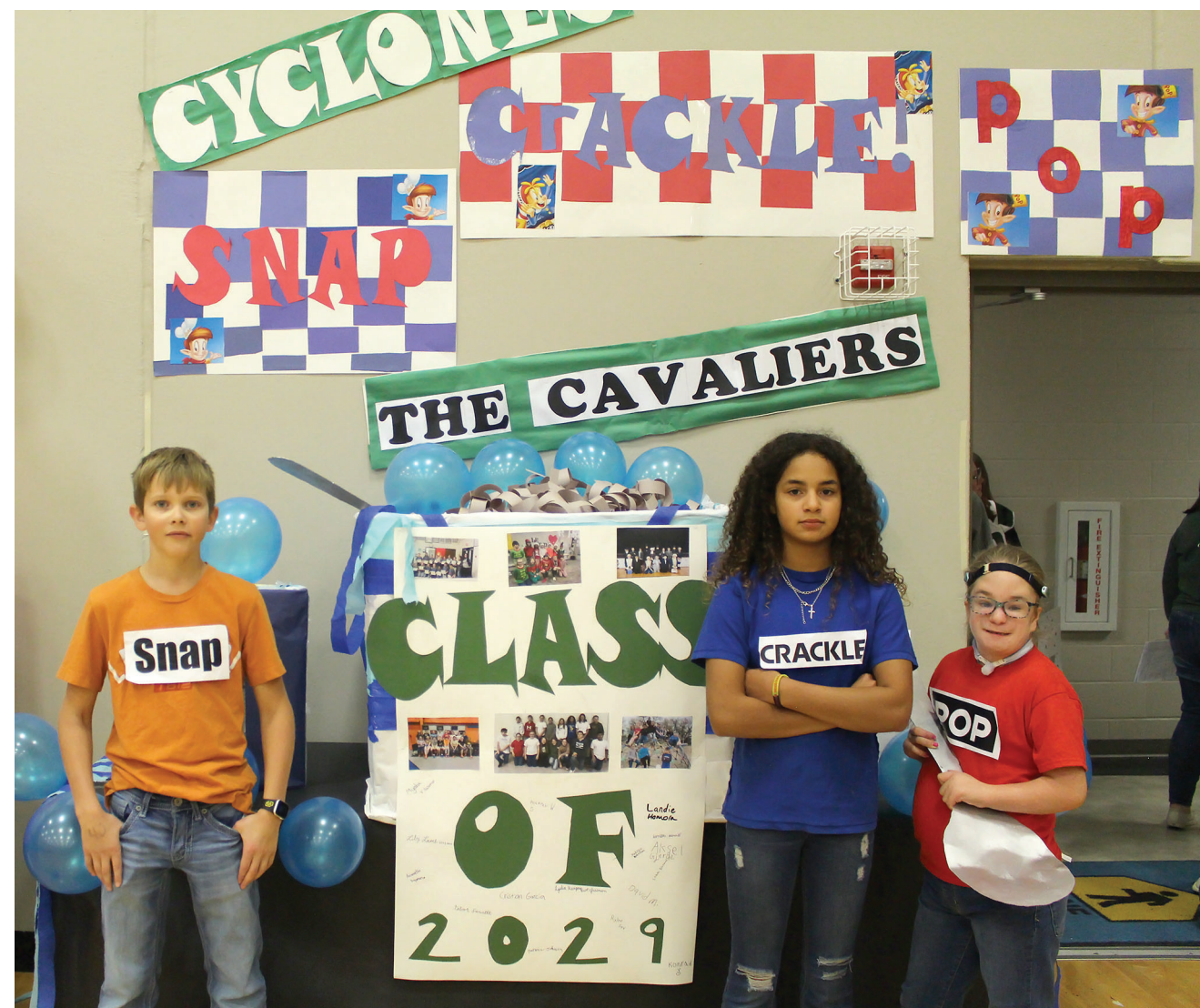


THEY ARE... DORES... CODES...

CLASS OF 2025

THE CYCLONES WILL CRUNCH THE CAVALIERS

THE CAVALIERS ARE TOAST



CYCLONES CRACKLE! SNAP POP

THE CAVALIERS CLASS OF 2029



YABA DABA DOIT STOP NOW BUY THE FRUITY PEBBLES DOIT

DACOTAH BANK WILLOW LAKE

Willow Lake Homecoming indoor parade winners for 2023 announced

For the first time ever, the Willow Lake Homecoming parade was held indoors because of the weather. The rain poured, and the wind blew on both Thursday, October 12 and Friday, October 13. On Friday, at its maximum, the wind speeds were at 26 mph and the rainfall well over one inch. As principal Claire Mohr said, "Our first indoor parade, but hopefully it is our last."

The 2023 Willow Lake Homecoming week came to an end on Friday with the Homecoming football game against the Aberdeen Roncalli Cavaliers, in which the Cyclones lost 7-2.

Judges determined placing of the parade divisions, and the winners were announced. The theme this year was 'Cereal'. Pictured above are the winners in each category.

Top left, the fifth grade class earned first place in the elementary division with their Cap'n Crunch theme, displaying multiple signs and dressed in costume. Top right, the seventh grade class took first place in the middle school division with their Rice Krispies theme. Their sign read: 'Snap, Crackle, Pop the Cavaliers.'

Bottom left, the junior class earned first place in the high school division with their Cinnamon Toast Crunch theme. Their signs read: 'The Cyclones will Crunch the Cavaliers' and 'The Cavaliers are Toast.' Bottom right, Dacotah Bank took first place in the business division with their 'Fruity Pebbles' theme. Their sign read: 'Yaba Daba Do It.'