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## Clark School Board approves certified negotiated agreement for 2013-14

At the April meeting of the Clark School Board, the certified negotiated agreement was approved for the 2013-14 school year. The bottom line of this agreement is that all returning certified teachers will receive a three percent increase from their 2012-2013 pay level. The base pay will remain at \$32,800.

The teacher's group signed off on this negotiated package, and items agreed upon dealt with the salary schedule advancements; the sick leave bank, medical insurance and the early retirement policy along with the three percent pay raise.

After some healthy board discussion of the certified negotiated package, keying on the areas of maternity leave and the sick leave bank, the board unanimously approved the negotiating agreement.

After an almost two-hour executive session, the board came out of the closed session and made several motions and approvals concerning staff negotiations. The administration was given a three percent salary increase and classified staff also

received a three percent increase. If an employee has worked for the Clark School for 15 years or more, the salary minimum will be \$13.25 an hour.

### In other business:

▲ The bus contract with Duenwald Transportation was tabled until the May meeting, as the board had some questions about the proposed 3.1 percent increase that they wanted to ask Dan Duenwald and he was unable to be at the meeting as he was teaching a CDL class in Sisseton this week.

▲ Superintendent Brian Heupel discussed the 2013-2014 capital outlay projects and asked the school board for permission to get prices on these projects. The proposed projects include: carpet field house, copier replacement elementary library, curbs around secondary building, athletic uniform replacement, replace school vehicle, roofing project high school, technology replacement, field house equipment replacement, commercial vacuum

elementary, stage curtain replacement, camera system elementary/expand high school camera system, key system elementary, and Heupel will come back in May with cost estimates.

▲ There will be a 10 percent raise in health insurance for certified school employees in 2013-14.

▲ The Clark School Board approved having only one athletic director for the Cyclone Co-op. No name or salary was necessary at this time.

▲ In his superintendent's report, Heupel told the board that he was pleased, "and pleasantly surprised" that no vote was needed for the opt-out resolution for \$300,000.

▲ The school approved paying association dues that directly impacted students.

▲ The board meeting began with Clark School counselor Kandice Schlagel visiting with the board about the junior job shadowing during the school programs showcase.



These two Cyclone seniors had great 2012-2013 high school basketball seasons, and are now reaping the honors!

Chynna Stevens, left, and Skyler Flatten are both: first team Class 'A' All-State; named the Class 'A' Player of the Year and named to the Sioux Falls Argus

First Five list (as one of the top five players in the State of South Dakota).

Stevens is the daughter of Eric and Nichol Stevens and Flatten is the son of Michelle Flatten, both of Clark.

## Stevens, Flatten named state players of the year

If you are a basketball fan and live in Clark County, you have been spoiled in recent years. The Cyclone girls basketball team has been to the state tournament four consecutive years and the Cyclone boys basketball team has been to two consecutive state tournaments and won 11 of the last 13 district tournaments.

The respective leaders of both squads, have been greatly rewarded with prestigious awards recently.

It is difficult to understand just how great these awards are and they are exactly the same three awards for both players. The similarities don't stop there as both Clark-Willow Lake senior stand-outs have been recruited to play basketball at Division I South Dakota State University.

Chynna Stevens and Skyler Flatten are at the top of the first team of the Class 'A' All-State selections; are the Class 'A' Players of the Year; and are picked by the Sioux Falls Argus Leader to be five of the top players in the State of South Dakota as they were named to the Sioux Falls Argus Leader's First Five squad. Plus, they are finalists for the respective Miss and Mr. Basketball.

Six players total were chosen as the 2013 state high school boys and girls basketball players of the year, last week, by the South Dakota Basketball Coaches Association.

Boys basketball honorees include Zach Hanson of Pierre - Class AA; Flatten of Clark-Willow Lake - Class A and Wyatt Krogman of White River - Class B.

Girls basketball honorees are Kerri Young of Mitchell - Class AA; Stevens of Clark-Willow Lake - Class A and Logan O'Farrell of Summit - Class B.

"It's exciting, definitely," said Stevens of her year-end awards. "It's

cool to think that other people appreciated the hard work that you do. I was surprised. I feel honored. It's cool."

Flatten echoed Stevens' comments about how all the hard work has really paid off, and it is exciting. "It's an honor to be chosen for these awards and it's really quite humbling to be selected as one of the top five players in the state. It's pretty exciting."

Flatten averaged 22.4 points, 5.7 rebounds and 2.5 assists per game during the 2012-13 season. Stevens averaged 19.8 points, 10 rebounds and 2.6 assists per game.

### Senior Features of 2013

## Lillian Gross called northwest Clark County and Crocker her 'home'



Lillian (Regnier) Gross was born northwest of Crocker. She later married Raymond Gross and the couple raised four daughters together north of Raymond. Lillian was no stranger to tractor work and worked along side her husband (and father in younger years) on their farms. Now retired, she enjoys her pets and doing embroidery work on dish towels for others as gifts.

"I think she's one of the smartest grandmas ever!" wrote Caleb Rhody about his grandmother, Lillian Gross. He continued, "She's outgoing, funny and good at telling stories. She's smart and kind when people need it. I also think she is wise because of her age. She taught me to be good to family members and not be annoying to everyone."

Lillian Marie was born on July 6, 1938, to Elmer and Marie (Herr) Regnier, who farmed west and north of Crocker. Her mother went by her middle name Kate.

Lillian was the baby of the family born 10 years after her brother Walter. Her older siblings were Arnold, Pearl, Wayne, Lester, Rosalie and Walter.

### Grandparents

Her mother was from a family of 18 children, born to William and Hulda (Tohm) Herr. They both came over from Germany in 1882 and 1871 respectively. They were a farm family who lived near Butler. Both died shortly after Lillian was born.

Her father was from a family of six born to Calix and Valrea (Laney) Regnier. French and German was their descent. She recalls her grandmother vaguely going to her home in Turton before she died. She remembers her being more of a quiet woman.

### Growing up on the farm

"Being so much younger than everybody, I kind of grew up playing on my own," said Lillian. "I had a small shed that was my playhouse and always enjoyed playing with the cats and our border collies. I had two pet lambs."

### Tornado hits the farm

"Those lambs were the only livestock that survived a tornado that took our barn and the chicken

house. I remember my dad and older brothers holding the door shut to the house. The tornado was very loud. I can remember it like it was yesterday. After everything was over, the chicken coop was gone and all the chickens and the barn. My two lambs were on the steps of the house. We later found our mothers double washtub one mile east of our farm."

### To Madison and back

The family moved to Madison, SD when Lillian was to start first grade. They sold their farm to her older brother. One year later, they moved back to the James River Valley to 14 miles north of Raymond. They lived right across the road from Warren #4 country school where Lillian attended through the eighth grade. She recalls in 1948, for two weeks, the teacher and her were the only ones in school due to a big snow event and the teacher Miss Eunice Hill stayed at their farm. Living so close to the school, Lillian was able to walk home for dinner.

Lillian didn't care much for the chickens on the farm and was a little scared of them pecking at her. "Geese are even worse yet," she claimed. They had horses on the farm in the early years for farm work. One harrowing ride with her brother Walter on a horse made it uncomfortable for her to sit for a while. "There was a storm coming so the horse really went that day. I never rode much after that."

In school Lillian enjoyed the company of Doris Boynton, Rose Marie Heath and Catherine Walters who were a little older than her.

High school was attended in Conde. Lillian enjoyed 'tumbling' in school (similar to gymnastics) and they played basketball in gym

class. She wasn't real fond of algebra and chemistry she reports.

### Meeting Raymond

In the town of Crandall, located four miles north of Highway 20, on the continuing Raymond oil road going north, was where dances were often held that area folk attended. It was at a dance when she was 16 years old, that she met Raymond Gross. He was nine years older than her and had spent time in Korea while serving with the Army from 1951 to 1953. She'd seen him before as he had come to their farm shearing sheep, a profession he continued for a while after they were married. He farmed with his father. He asked Lillian to dance and they danced together from then on. "He wanted to take me home that night but I didn't think my parents would have liked that so I rode home with my brother and his wife. The next week, he came to our farm to see me. From then on, we went together and dated the next couple of years as I finished my schooling."

### Getting married

Lillian and Raymond were married at Lillian's church, the Crocker Lutheran Church on February 3, 1957. Elmer Gross and Marcella Gross stood up for them at the wedding. A wedding dance was held after the wedding at the Crocker Legion Hall.

### First home

Four miles north of Crocker, they rented a farm for their first home. Daughters Linda and then Donna were born during this time. Lillian's parents moved to Crocker in 1960, after which Ray and Lillian and the girls moved onto and years later they purchased the farm Lillian grew up on.

"We had a couple Roan cows we milked, chickens and a few Herefords. Our cream and egg money was used to buy groceries and Raymond continued to shear sheep for others. I remember once seeing Linda out in the pasture trying to milk the cow. Thank goodness they were really tame, she was only about two years old," chuckled Lillian.

Gross  
(continued on page 10)

### WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
April 2.....	37	16	0
April 3.....	58	24	0
April 4.....	38	23	0
April 5.....	44	24	0
April 6.....	52	29	0
April 7.....	46	28	.05
April 8.....	37	17	.10
2013 precipitation to date	1.97"		
2012 precipitation to date	2.45"		



## Saturday was Prom Night with 'Forever in the Twilight' as theme

April 6 is a little early as far as junior/senior Proms go, and the weather was fairly chilly, but everyone looked so nice inside the Clark High School gym, as Prom Night 2013 is now history.

Junior classes do much of the decorating work for Prom and above is a sampling of juniors at the CHS Prom, right before the Grand March