



Pictured above are Raymond area residents, Dave and Robin Woodring in their new business, the Raymond Station. "Come empty, leave full" is the motto for the family's new community focused gas station and bar.

## Woodrings open Raymond Station

Last Friday marked the first day of business for Dave and Robin Woodring at their new establishment, the Raymond Station.

Raymond Station offers fuel, food, booze and most importantly a sense of community.

The Woodrings purchased the building originally for their plumbing business, Woodring Plumbing. Half of the building houses their equipment and fulfills the needs for the plumbing business, but there was a large space left over with which the couple decided to open up to the community.

The gas pumps are fully operational making it the only gas station in the town of Raymond. Next week, the business will be adding video lottery and automated teller machines.

The couple states it is definitely a work in progress, but their vision includes a convenience store in addition to a full kitchen and a patio with fire pits.

Currently, the establishment offers a limited menu with the highlight being Dave's homemade pizzas. Dave stated he loves cooking, and his favorite pizza to make is appropriately called "Dave's Supreme". The specialty pizza comes with a variety of toppings including several kinds of meats, veggies and sauerkraut.

Pizzas will be available for take

and bake, carry-out or dine-in, and there is an option for cauliflower crust.

Currently, the Raymond Station offers a full bar with onsale and off-sale liquor. A pool table and additions of shuffle board, sports channels and darts are planned for the future.

Dave Woodring is a 1987 graduate of Doland, and Robin Woodring is a 1987 Clark graduate. The couple have been living near Raymond since 2003.

They have one son, Garrett who is married to Carly (Mehlberg). Garrett and Carly have blessed Dave and Robin with two grandchildren, Brynn (age six) and Hayden (age three), with one more on the way, due May 31.

The Woodrings say they love talking to and meeting new people and look forward to the comradery and sense of community they hope to create with the Raymond Station.

The current operating hours for the family run Raymond Station are as follows: Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, open from 1:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Thursdays and 1:00 p.m. to midnight on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.

The couple welcomes private events such as showers and parties and will create flexible scheduling for such events.

## Clark 6-12 spring concert is Thursday

The Clark Middle/High School spring concert and awards night is set to be held tomorrow (Thursday), April 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Clark High School.

The sixth through twelfth grade band will perform *Simple Gifts*, *My Heart Will Go On* and *Union March*.

The seventh through twelfth grade band will perform *On a Hymn*, *Song on Philip Bliss*, *The Blue Ridge Reel* and *Arabian Dances*.

The seventh and eighth grade choir will sing *Wade in the Water* and *The Fox*.

The ninth through twelfth grade choir will sing *For the Beauty of the Earth*, *While the Snow Lay Sleeping* and *Lakeside Lullaby*.

Seniors will be honored as well with various awards, including the National Choral Award, John Philip Sousa Award and the Directors Award.

## Clark All School Play is Sunday

"I am Whispering at the Top of My Voice" by Jon Jory will be the Clark All School Play this year.

Synopsis: a young woman is given a warehouse full of money by a genie on a beach, a cheerleader leads cheers for her mother while she hooks rugs, an activist dresses up as the Statue of Liberty to bring world peace, three zombies form a girl-group, and a girl does away with a serial killer at her prom. Nothing in this delightful evening is exactly as it seems, and laughs and tears abound. It is an insightful, eccentric and highly theatrical look at school in a way you've never seen it before.

Starring in the play are Aleisha Naze, Olivia Fuller, Westen Olson, Brianna Dale, Macy Ingraham, Kayla Arthur, Jordyn Repp, Alayna Arthur, Leah Nelson, Waylan Olson, Nevaeh Rusher, Kaden Janisch, Raigan Flatten and Madison Pickrel. Jill Rathe is the director.

The public performance will be on Sunday, April 30 at 4:00 p.m. at Clark High School.



Pictured above are retiring Henry Elementary School teachers Deb Ellinger, Nicki Jurgens and Theresa Weigel. Ellinger teaches first grade, Jurgens kindergarten and Weigel third grade.

## Three Henry teachers who have been carpooling to work together for 35 years will retire in May

Nicki Jurgens, Deb Ellinger and Theresa Weigel have been riding to work together for the last 35 years, and now they have decided to retire together. They work as elementary teachers for Henry School District.

The three teachers have a lot in common as to why they began teaching for the Henry School District. They say the Henry School entrusts them with their decisions as far as curriculum and decision-making in their classrooms.

Both the Henry School and the community have treated the three women as family during the many years they have been teaching. The sense of camaraderie and the joy their jobs and each other bring to their lives have been the deciding factors in their choice to stay put in their teaching positions in Henry.

Jurgens, Ellinger and Weigel have been the three musketeers, so to speak, in that there have been others in their carpool that have come and gone, but these three have stuck it out. The only time the trio did not carpool, was the year after the COVID-19 shutdown, in an attempt to prevent all three of them from having to be out sick at the same time.

"At one point, there were six of us carpooling," said Jurgens. "The superintendent shut our carpool down, citing that if there were to be a car accident, the school would seriously suffer without six of their teaching staff."

Jurgens, a native of Watertown,

graduated from the University of South Dakota with a degree in Elementary and Special Education. She has two children, six grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Currently still living in the Watertown area, Jurgens began her teaching career in Wakonda, S.D. in 1973. "My salary in 1973 was \$6,350 a year," said Jurgens. After Wakonda, Jurgens taught for a couple of years in Beresford and then in Iowa before coming back to her roots and joining the team at Henry School District in 1979.

Jurgens started off teaching Special Education and Remedial Reading. When she started teaching kindergarten, it was only half days, a couple of days a week. At the time, she was able to teach all of those classes. However, once kindergarten became an all day, all week class, Jurgens decided to teach it full-time.

Deb Ellinger was born and raised in Scotland, S.D. She attended South Dakota State University and graduated from Dakota State University with a degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Development.

In 1983, Ellinger began her teaching career in a kindergarten class in Ethan, S.D. before teaching for a couple of years in Woonsocket. Ellinger joined the Henry School District in 1985, teaching first and second-grade combination classes.

Around 2010, the combination classroom was split so that each

grade would have their own classroom and teacher again. Ellinger then began teaching first grade, which she still teaches today. "When I started, the district was concerned about having 135 students. Now, there are about 200 students enrolled," said Ellinger of one of the big changes she has witnessed over the years.

Theresa Weigel, originally from Hosmer, S.D., graduated from Northern State University with a degree in Elementary and Special Education. Weigel began her teaching career in Aberdeen where she taught third grade at Aberdeen Roncalli. She then taught Title One in Ipswich for two years.

During her employment in Ipswich, Weigel met her best friend and they have remained best

### Henry Teachers (continued on page 8)

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
April 18	56	29	0
April 19	59	28	0.23
April 20	57	35	0.02
April 21	40	28	0.11
April 22	34	28	0.12
April 23	40	24	0
April 24	47	27	0
2023 precipitation to date	3.71"		
2022 precipitation to date	2.08"		



## Despite less than springlike weather, Clark Elementary spring concert was last Monday

The Clark Elementary School Spring Concert was held on Monday, April 17 in the Clark High School gym. Preschool through fifth grade students participated, and they were directed by Miss Alicia Turnquist, elementary music instructor.

The fourth and fifth graders began the program with their singing and instrumental pieces, "Plant a Garden with Me" by John Riggio, "Waiting for the Spring" by Teresa Jennings and "Spring" by Antonio Vivaldi, arranged by Paul Jennings. The fourth and fifth grade students ended their portion of the program playing "Ukulele" by Teresa Jennings, with their ukuleles.

The preschool through first grade students sang "Hop Like a Bunny" and "Honeybee" (preschool and kindergarten), both by Teresa/Paul Jennings, "Hawaiian Rainbow" (first grade) by Karl Hitzemann, "Humoresque"

by Antonin Dvorak and "Springtime Sunshine" by Mike Wilson.

Second and third grade students then sang their songs, including "Spring Thing" by John Riggio and "Start Your Day with a Song" (second grade), "Spring" (third grade) and "Spring has Finally Come", all by Teresa Jennings.

To end the program, the fifth grade band performed "Centurion" by Mark Williams, "Star Wars" by John Williams, arranged by Carl Strommen and "Eagle Summit March" by John O'Reilly/Mark Williams.

Pictured above are some of the students performing their music. Top left are fifth grade saxophone players Alayna Sass and Grace Arthur. Pictured in the middle, left to right are preschoolers Callie Orris, Oliver Weber and Rowan Tarbox. Top right are fourth graders Kennedy Stern and Emree Werdel, playing their recorders.