



Clark High School senior John Hollinrake hosted two fitness classes in the Clark Fieldhouse for the community at the end of April. He started each class with a short presentation, as shown above.

## John Hollinrake hosted fitness class for capstone senior project

As the 2023-24 school year approaches its end, seniors are wrapping up their senior projects. John Hollinrake, also known as Jack, was able to complete his senior project a couple of weeks ago.

Hollinrake knew he wanted his senior project to revolve around his passion for fitness and what he could do for the Clark fieldhouse. Originally, Hollinrake wanted to raise funds for a mirror for the fieldhouse, but he was pulled in a different direction; instead, deciding to put together a fitness class.

"The fitness classes were to help the community and students learn more about fitness and everything that goes into it," said Hollinrake of his senior project. Hollinrake began

each of the two fitness classes with a short presentation to provide information about building muscles including: how to build muscle, eating to build muscle and lifting plans for individual goals.

Hollinrake wanted his senior project to bring something to the fieldhouse, whether that was equipment or people. "Lifting in the fieldhouse fostered my love of fitness and lifting. I love learning about lifting nutrition and the anatomy of the human body to further my knowledge and become better for myself and to educate others," said Hollinrake.

Having self proclaimed strong

**Hollinrake**  
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## Nine Willow Lake seniors bid farewell on May 14



Madison Burke



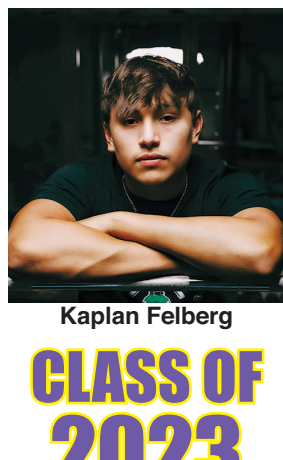
Alicia Vig



Cole Brenden



Chase Chambers



Kaplan Felberg

**CLASS OF 2023**



Mitchell Larson

Cole Brenden will welcome guests to the graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 14 at 2:00 p.m. in the Willow Lake Auditorium. Nine Willow Lake seniors will turn their tassels on Sunday. The valedictorian and salutatorian addresses will be given. Pastor Colin Beveridge will give the Invocation and Benediction. Kristin Vandersnick will be the organist.

Honor students who will be recognized are Madison Burke, Cole Brenden, Chase Chambers, Kaplan Felberg and Mitchell Larson.

Presentation of the Class of 2023 diplomas will be by Superintendent Chris Lee, Principal Linda Merkwand and School Board President Julayne Thoreson. Braeden Johnson will introduce the guest speaker. The guest speaker will be Terry

Schlagel, lifelong Clark County resident, auctioneer and farmer.

Cole Brenden will present the Spade of Knowledge to the junior class. This spade is a symbol of the knowledge that each student has acquired. It is given to the junior class in hopes they will keep digging for the knowledge they need in the future.

Willow Lake seniors are Madison Burke, Alicia Vig, Cole Brenden, Chase Chambers, Kaplan Felberg, Mitchell Larson, Braeden Johnson, Hobbie Johnson and Jeb Wilen.

The 2023 class motto is "If you have a dream, chase it. Because a dream won't chase you back." - Cody Johnson. The class colors are purple and gold, and the class flower is a purple calla lily.



Above, is the last Paulson family photo, with every member present, that was taken at Paige's wedding in September of 2020. From left to right are Karli Paulson, Ty Helkenn and Chelsi Paulson, Ben and Paige

Victor, Kimberly and Doug Paulson, and Jessica Jones with her son, Tren Bernard, hiding from the camera in her arms.

## Mother is the second best title, second only to grandma for Kimberly Paulson

Mother's Day is on Sunday, May 14 this year. It is a day to honor motherhood. According to History.com, "the American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914." Traditionally, Mother's Day involves showering mothers with affection, attention and gifts, like cards and flowers. However, this Mother's Day will not be nearly as joyful for one mother in Clark County.

"This will be my first Mother's Day without my child," said Kimberly Paulson. Her daughter, Jessica Jones, was killed in a single vehicle car accident in Redfield last Sunday. Tren Bernard is Jessica's son and Kimberly's first grandchild. After school lets out for the year, he'll be staying in Clark with his grandparents.

"Jesi and I were always close, even when she was determined to go her own way," said Paulson. Jessica

was only nine months old when her parents divorced and a year-and-a-half when her mother moved them to Omaha. "It was just the two of us for a few years. We always knew we could count on each other."

Even when Jessica moved to Oklahoma on her own when she was a teenager, she would always call home to check-in. "One time while she was in Oklahoma, she called to tell me she found a bible verse in a notebook that she had taken from home." Paulson said that she was in the habit of writing down bible verses that struck on whatever piece of paper she had on hand. The bible verse Jessica found in the notebook was Jeremiah 29:11 "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This verse became very important to the pair. Whenever they came across it, they would share it with each other.

Jessica lived in Watertown with her son, Tren, until her death.

Doug and Kimberly Paulson have three other children, Paige, Chelsi and Karli. Paige and Chelsi were born of Doug's previous marriage to Kerry Kline. Karli was born after Doug and Kimberly were wed. Paige and her husband, Ben Victor, live in Boise, Idaho with two children, Josh and Valerie. Josh is Ben's son from a previous marriage. The couple is expecting another baby any day now. Chelsi lives in Raymond with fiancé Ty Helkenn. She is a business owner and cosmetologist in Clark. Karli lives in Clark with her parents and owns the *Clark County Courier* newspaper.

Kimberly grew up in Watertown, moving to Florence with her family when she was 12. She is the daughter of Larry and Joyce Gusso of Florence. She has three brothers, two older and one younger, Scott, Ryan and Kerry. The family moved

to Florence to run the local cafe and grocery store, The Pioneer Cafe.

**Mother's Day**  
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**The Clark County Courier office will have irregular office hours for at least another week due to a death in the family.**

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**Thank you for your understanding**

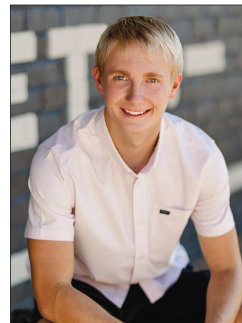
## Eighteen seniors to graduate Saturday at Clark High School



Kiara Bokinskie



Turner Fjelland



Trey Huber



Brady Jordan



Kayla Jordan



Summer Seefeldt



Preston Sundvold

Eighteen seniors will bid adieu to Clark High School on Saturday, May 13, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. during the commencement exercises in the school auditorium.

The members of the Clark High School Class of 2023 chose Summer Seefeldt to give the graduation address. Superintendent Travis Ahrens will introduce them.

Amy Nelson will direct the Clark Concert band as they play the processional and recessional. A picture presentation will be given by the senior class.

Scholarship advisor, Mrs. Tammy Paulson will recognize the sev-

en honor students. Junior pilots Collin Gaikowski and Jack Helkenn will lead the recessional.

The graduates will receive their diplomas from school board president Robert Steffen and school board member Todd Fjelland. Principal Jennifer Heggelund will present the Clark High School Class of 2023.

The members of the CHS Class of 2023 are Kiara Bokinskie, Tiffany Carroll, Turner Fjelland, Audrye Foster, Cole Heiman, Breanna Helkenn, John Hollinrake, Trey Huber, Brady Jordan, Kayla Jordan, Mason McElhone, Tate McGraw,

Kelly Miles, Abigail Reil, Summer Seefeldt, Preston Sundvold, Zedor Tuttle, Hunter Wren and the late Zackery Weber.

An honor student must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher. Honor students this year are Kiara Bokinskie, Turner Fjelland, Trey Huber, Brady Jordan, Kayla Jordan, Summer Seefeldt and Preston Sundvold.

The Class of 2023 has selected pink as their class color. The class flower is a Peony. Their class motto is "Don't think, just do."

### Baccalaureate

A Baccalaureate exercises ceremony will be held tonight (Wednes-

day) at the Plymouth Congregation Church in Clark, at 7:00 p.m.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
May 2.....	55	32	0
May 3.....	61	33	0
May 4.....	75	39	0
May 5.....	79	47	0
May 6.....	77	46	0
May 7.....	65	48	0.29
May 8.....	67	44	0
2023 precipitation to date 4.57"			
2022 precipitation to date 5.15"			