



Graduation was Saturday for 20 Clark High School seniors

Twenty Clark High School seniors are now alumni, as Clark High School graduation took place Saturday, at the C.H.S. gym. The weather was cool and windy, feeling like rain, with none coming. Shown leaving the commencement exercises are seniors, front to back, Sarah Weisbrod, Clinton Rutledge and Sadie Streff.

At Clark Elementary, the students will miss retiring administrative assistant Cindy Maffei

At one time or another, every parent usually ends up talking with the elementary school's administrative assistant, often building a relationship over time.

The relationships with the school children, their parents and the supportive Clark School staff is what Cindy Maffei "will miss the most" she says, as she plans on retiring at the end of this school year.

Maffei - (pronounced like the word buffet) was originally hired by Supt. Luanne Warren who will also be retiring at the end of the school year. They join librarian Annette Boehnke and Fordham Colony teacher Joan Boehnke, also retiring from the Clark School system this spring.

"I'll miss all those random hugs from the kids, too," states Maffei who often would get a hug after helping with the lunch program on a daily basis, in the hallway - or after helping one with a bandaid or hangnail or whatever else that would come up.

"I'm not a nurse, but it's like I'm the school nurse, helping with

bandaids, Tylenol or maybe calling their mom or dad when they are sick and watching over them until they get there.

"The kids have really been the best part of this job," continued Maffei. "They've made it a fun job and they keep you young."

She also appreciates the staff and claims that the Clark School is a wonderful place to work.

Early years

Cindy is a 1970 high school graduate from Sioux Center, Iowa. The daughter of Charles and Angie Irwin, her father was the superintendent of her school growing up and for a time her mother worked as a paraprofessional at the school with her husband.

Cindy earned her home economics degree at Arizona State University.

She taught in Hastings, Neb. from 1974 to 1978. Then she began a career as a flight attendant for American Airlines.

Maffei

(continued on page 3)



Since 2015 at the Clark Elementary School, Cindy Maffei has been the friendly voice that one hears first when calling the school. This busy administrative assistant will be retiring at the end of the 20-21 school year. Originally from Iowa, Maffei plans on staying in Clark County in her retirement, enjoying the acreage she and her late husband Peter had worked on since moving there in 2004.

May Clark School Board meeting hears from elementary staff on 'Response to Intervention'

With school officially ending this Friday, May 14, the May meeting of the Clark School Board was an informational agenda, with the RTI growth at the elementary showcase agenda item leading the way.

'Response to Intervention' has been in place at Clark Elementary for five years and the majority of Clark Elementary teachers were in attendance at Monday's meeting to share with the school board just how important and how successful this reading program has been and very worthy of all of the hours and energy invested in this program.

Second grade teacher Melissa Nesheim was the RTI spokesper-

son, explaining the three tiers of the program with documentation and data of the last five years. Tier 1 is the core curricular, or benchmark tier, followed by the middle range where extra help is needed and then in Tier 3, where definite help is needed, the intensive tier.

"Data drives our instruction," stated Nesheim, adding, "our goal is to move from intensive to benchmark."

That goal is easier said than done and the elementary staff spoke highly of this important reading program, noting that Clark Ele-

School board

(continued on page 4)



C.H.S. Girls Staters chosen

Girls State representatives were recently selected at Clark High School. Macy Steen on the left and Teagan Ortberg on the right, will be attending Girls State held at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. Macy is sponsored by the Clark American Legion Auxiliary Unit and Teagan is sponsored by the Raymond American Legion Auxiliary Unit.

Macy is the daughter of Jason and Kylie Steen and Teagan is the daughter of Matt and Lacey Ortberg - all of Clark.

Twenty-three Willow Lake graduates bid farewell on May 16



Valedictorian Trinity Peterson and Salutatorian Morgan Burke will lead the Willow Lake High School seniors through the 109th graduation exercises, Sunday, May 16 at 2:00 p.m. in the Willow Lake Auditorium. Twenty-three Willow Lake seniors will turn their tassels on Sunday.

The valedictorian and salutatorian addresses will be given. Pastor Tia Felberg will give the Invocation and Benediction. Senior class president Chayla Vig will present the Spade of Knowledge to junior class president Maggie Hovde. 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.

Honor students who will be recognized are Caleb Bratland, Morgan Burke, Jaycie Forbes, Emily Hervi, Sam Hovde, Landon Hymans, Erica Juntunen, Allison Kannegieter, Trinity Peterson, Mackenzie Tormanen, Chayla Vig, Brianna Villasenor and Shane Wicks.

Presentation of the Class of 2021 diplomas will be by Superintendent Chris Lee, Principal Linda Merkwand and School Board President Julayne Thoreson. The speaker for the day will be Mr. Kyle Lamb, Willow Lake graduate and former US military personnel.

Kristin Vandersnick will play the processional.

Willow Lake seniors are Jaxon Block, Caleb Bratland, Morgan Burke, Eduardo Garcia, Carter Chambers, Jaycie Forbes, Oscar Garcia Mayorga, Emily Hervi, Sam Hovde, Landon Hymans, Erica Juntunen, Allison Kannegieter, McKenna Kretzschmar, McKenzie Kretzschmar, Trinity Peterson, Aaron Poppen, Annalissa Quintana, Mackenzie Tormanen, Renner Uecker, Chayla Vig, Ryer Vig, Brianna Villasenor, Shane Wicks.

The 2021 class motto is "It's what you do right now that makes a difference." The class colors are navy, black and silver and the class flower is a sunflower.

Nine Henry High School seniors will graduate May 15



The 2021 Henry High School Graduation exercises are slated for 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 15, 2021 at the Henry High School gym. Processional will be performed by Mrs. Deanna Martens. Superintendent Todd Obele will give the welcome.

Tyler Grassel, Dean of Students will present the Class of 2021. Henry Board of Education president Adam Hartley will present the diplomas to the graduates.

The valedictorian for the class of 2021 is Charlie Kelly and the salutatorian is Ryan Stark. Salutatorian Ryan Stark and valedictorian Charlie Kelly will give the senior

addresses. There will also be a class video presentation created by the Senior Class. The speaker will be Mitch Reed.

Father Daniel Smith will give the invocation and benediction.

Henry High School class of 2021 members are: Alexander Foster, Payton Gassman, Charles Hanson, Charles Kelly, Rebecca King, Carter Owen, Ryan Stark, Desi Swedeen and Barret Wanner.

Senior Class motto is "We stand with one foot in the past as we take one step into the future". The Class of 2021 has chosen the sunflower as their class flower and their class colors are blue and black.

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