



## Memorial Day services set for Monday

Decorating of graves, memorial services and special gatherings are all slated for Monday, May 27. Many communities throughout the county will pause to honor veterans of all wars. Several communities will have guest speakers presenting patriotic addresses as part of their Memorial Day services.

### Clark

The Clark Memorial Day Program will begin Monday at 10:30 a.m. Post Commander Rob McGraw will open with the processional held by the Legion and Auxiliary members.

Posting of colors will be done by the Legion Color Guard followed by the invocation by Post Chaplain, Stan Jongbloed. The audience will recite the pledge of allegiance before performing the National Anthem with the Clark High School Men's Choir directed by Amy Nelson.

Poems written under the topic of "Embracing Our Veterans" will be read by their authors, including Blakely Hallberg and Thomas Dandurand of third grade, Hunter Marx and Eve Gaikowski of fourth grade, McCoy Forest and Paisley Schlager of fifth grade and Faith Roehrich and Grace Arthur of sixth grade. After which "Tell My Father" will be sung by the Clark High School Men's Choir.

School essays written under the topic of "What Does Freedom Mean to Me?" will be read by their authors, including Tess Thomas of third grade and Tatum Ortberg of eighth grade.

Greg Furness will be the speaker followed by closing comments, the Benediction and Retiring of the Colors.

Wreath ceremonies will follow the program at Flat Iron Park, St. Boniface Cemetery and Rose Hill Cemetery. The day will conclude with lunch being served at the Legion Hall by members of the American Legion Auxiliary.

### Willow Lake

The Johnnie Fonken American Legion Post #113 and the Post #113 Auxiliary will conduct the Memorial Day Program in Willow Lake on Monday, May 27. The Memorial Day Program will be held in the Willow Lake High School Auditorium starting at 10:00 a.m.

The Invocation will be given by Johnnie Fonken American Legion Post #113 Chaplain, Pastor Steven Johnson. Post #113 Commander Curtis Lamb will welcome the attendees. Commander Lamb will then lead the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the singing of the National Anthem.

The Memorial Day Program address will be given by Harry Boner of Castlewood. Boner is a Navy combat veteran who served during the Persian Gulf War/Desert Storm. He has held numerous leadership positions in several South Dakota American Legion organizations including serving as the State Vice Commander of the American Legion Department of South Dakota. He is currently

### Little Fellow Services

Residents and those interested will be making the annual trip to the grave site sign this year to remember the Little Fellow.

The services, will be held at the Memorial sign near the Mary Kranz farm located six miles east of Clark. The memorial service starts at 9:00 a.m. with a brief program led by local clergy.

If one needs a ride to the site, contact Greg Furness at 532-5772.

This is the 73<sup>rd</sup> year of the Little Fellow Services.

rently serving as the State Children and Youth Chairman for the Sons of the American Legion Detachment of South Dakota. Bonvoy has recently accepted an appointment to serve as a National Advisory Council Member for Operation Homefront which offers assistance to current military service members and their families.

The Memorial Day Program will continue at the Collins/St. James Cemetery where the American Legion Post #113 Auxiliary will read the names of Willow Lake area veterans who have passed away. The program will conclude by having the Post #113 Honor Guard fire three volleys and play "Taps" in honor of the fallen veterans.

### Raymond

The Memorial Day Program in Raymond will be hosted by the Baker Post #209 Legion and Auxiliary members at the Legion Hall in Raymond on Monday, May 27 at 10:00 a.m. Post Chaplain Oscar Wenholm will provide the Invocation. Post Commander Roger Hurlbert will provide the Commander's Welcome after the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem.

Greg Whitlock will be the Keynote Speaker. He is the Secretary of the South Dakota Department of Veteran Affairs. He was appointed by Governor Noem in January 2019.

Whitlock enlisted in the National Guard when he joined the 153<sup>rd</sup> Engineers in Huron, S.D. in 1975. He began his full time career with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion 147<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery in 1985. He was promoted to Master Sergeant with the 196<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Enhanced Brigade in Sioux Falls. Whitlock retired from military service in 2015 with over 39 years of service. He is a member of the American Legion and a lifetime member of Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Salute to the Veterans - Honor and Remember will be recited by Jackson Schmidt. Then, a Dedication of American Legion Memorials will be presented by Sergeant-at-Arms Ralph Hurlbert followed by musical selections of "In Flander's Feilds" by Triggvie Lien and "America's Answer" by Jolie Lien.

American Legion Auxiliary Mem-

bership Awards will be presented to Karen Kopriva and Janet Hurlbert before announcements, the singing of "God Bless America" and the Benediction. Deb Waldner will be the accompanying pianist for the program.

Following the program, a service at the cemetery will be held at which the following children will decorate crosses: Ivy Brown, Adelyn Brown, Brynn Woodring, Hayden Woodring, Rori Schaack and Harlyn Richie. Lexie Schmidt will be the reader.

After the decorating of crosses, Post Commander Roger Hurlbert will provide a roll call of deceased veterans followed by a salute to the fallen by the Baker Post #209 firing squad.

Everyone will be invited back to the Baker Post #209 Legion Hall in Raymond for food and fellowship.

### Bradley

Larry F. Hartman Post No. 108 will conduct Memorial Day services on Monday, May 27 beginning at 11:30 a.m. Jack Holmquist will give the Invocation and Benediction. This year's service will be held in tribute to Robert Kirby.

Services will be held at the Prairie Hill Cemetery. Dinner will follow at the Bradley Community Center.

### Telemarken

Memorial Day services will be held at Telemarken Lutheran Church, rural Wallace, on Monday. The service will start at 10:45 a.m. with the Larry F. Hartman Legion Post No. 108. Tanner Christensen will be the speaker.

The program will be held outside; please bring chairs. Lunch will be served at the Wallace Community Center following the program.

### WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
May 14.....	70	47	0
May 15.....	76	53	0.07
May 16.....	59	42	0.02
May 17.....	74	46	0
May 18.....	88	55	0
May 19.....	68	49	0.01
May 20.....	71	50	0.09
2024 precipitation to date	7.36"		
2023 precipitation to date	4.58"		



## Eight graduate from Henry High School on Saturday

The Henry High School graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024 was held Saturday, May 18 in the Henry High School gym. The 2024 ceremony saw eight students graduate. Rebecca Toben was the commencement speaker.

The Florence High School Class of 2024 members are pictured above, from left to right: Jaden Thomas, Tate Hartley, Caylin Kelly, Taylor Watson, Allison Stark, Katelyn Mischke, Carson Riter and Tyler Brown.

Photo courtesy of Michaela Meinders

## Choose Clark County's town forum in Clark focuses on community opportunities

By Catie Noethlich

The initial Clark Town Forum took place last week on Monday, May 13 at Clark City Hall. Choose Clark County Board members and the executive director were joined by 40 community members, including representatives from various groups such as the Clark City Council, fire department, business owners, housing committee, Clark Chamber of Commerce and Clark County Commissioners. The topics covered during the meeting were housing, businesses, city recreation opportunities, childcare and healthcare. All of the topics were discussed in depth with a significant amount of information and input from the attendees.

The discussion on recreation started with the state of the aging pool. One attendee suggested adding a splash pad to the north of the current pool, as it requires no supervision and could work for children of all ages. It was noted that the kiddie pool at the current pool was initially intended to be a splash

pad, but concerns were raised about entry risks due to the incline and slick bottom.

City of Clark Mayor Kerry Kline raised concerns about the high costs associated with maintaining the 65 year old pool which currently requires an estimated \$250,000 per year. The pool is considered an amenity rather than a primary source of income for the city. It is estimated that over \$5 million will be needed to completely renovate the pool into a likely smaller version.

When city officials were pressed for more detailed planning, Kline responded, "Something will get done" regarding the pool. Attendees agreed that the pool should be replaced instead of continually addressing its ongoing issues due to its age. A group has been formed to start planning and looking into the pool project.

The need for new additional softball and baseball fields was discussed, but it was noted that there are more pressing needs in the community at this time, despite the

potential scheduling flexibility and benefits for the teams.

Another significant topic was the need for walking paths in the community. Concerns were raised about people walking and biking on roads instead of using available sidewalks. It was suggested that a walking path be created along the golf course. Questions were raised about the zoning and ordinances related to sidewalks, as many sidewalks have been removed or not installed. The ideal location of the path, whether in town or on the outskirts, was also discussed. The Clark Lions Club mentioned a previous study that estimated a million-dollar cost for the project, not including maintenance.

The meeting also addressed concerns about the local clinic's ability to provide healthcare. It was noted that the clinic does not have sufficient staff to operate when Louann Streff is unavailable. This relates to the lease agreement with Sanford

Clark Town Forum  
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## Florence High School Class of 2024 graduated on Sunday

The Florence High School graduation ceremony for the Class of 2024 was held Sunday in the Florence High School gym. The 2024 ceremony saw 21 students graduate.

The Florence High School Class of 2024 members are pictured above. In the back row, from left to right: Noah Paulson, Trevor Bergh, Daniel Meland, Brett Bunde, Bo Brandriet, Grady Hemmingson, Jordan Endres

and Colton Endres. In the middle row, from left to right: Madelyn Caulfield, Maggie Rami, Kaija Gusso, Kate Hulscher, Aspyn Pahl, Haley Hlavacek, Reese Schmidt and Allison Meland. On their knees in the front, from left to right: Trevor Hagen, Logan Vavruska, Gabe Jurgens, Jordyn Jurgens and James Schroeder.

Photo by EK Photo & Design

**The Clark County Courier office will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday.**

If you have news stories, legals or advertising for next week's edition of the Clark County Courier, please email us at [clarkcountycourier@gmail.com](mailto:clarkcountycourier@gmail.com) or call us at (605) 532-3654

by Friday of this week. Mailed items may not reach us in time for the next publication.

It's easier for us on Tuesday, if we can get the bulk of the work done by Friday night. News correspondents can send their info on Tuesday morning or call Tuesday morning.

**Thank you!**