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The hometown newspaper of Ken Anderson, Lincoln, Neb.

Seven new faces at Clark School greet students today



Jon Redmond

Andrea Begeman

Angie Graves

Shannon Huber

Shelby Rosenau

Alicia Turnquist

Carly Woodring

Today (Wednesday) the 2022-2023 Clark School year kicks off, as the school doors are now open. Superintendent Travis Ahrens and Principal Jennifer Heggelund greeted students as one and all begin a new school term.

Seven new faces will be greeting the students in the Clark school system. New to the Clark School for the 2022-2023 term will be Andrea Begeman, Angie Graves, Shannon Huber, Jon Redmond, Shelby Rosenau, Alicia Turnquist and Carly Woodring.

Jon Redmond

Jon Redmond will be the Elementary and Colony Principal and the Title I Coordinator. He is from Henry and graduated from Henry High School in 2008. Redmond is a graduate of Northern State University with a Bachelor's degree in Social Science Education and a

Master's degree in Leadership and Administration.

Redmond has worked at multiple schools over the years, including Lake Area Technical College for three years, in Madison for two years, in Clark for two years, in Montrose for one year and as the Henry Principal for two years.

Jon is married to Courtney Redmond, they have two children, Jason is seven and Avery is four. The family lives in Henry.

Andrea Begeman

Andrea Begeman will teach High School English and Language Arts and will also be the Head Girls' Basketball coach. She is from Clark and is a 2001 Clark High School graduate. Begeman received her bachelor's degree in K-12 Education with Spanish endorsements from Augustana College in 2006.

She taught for one year in Al-

xandria, S.D. and at Sioux Falls Christian School from 2007 to 2014.

Andrea is married to Brook Begeman and they have four children, Bo is in eighth grade, Shelby is in sixth grade, Sadie is in third grade and Colt is in kindergarten. The family lives in Clark.

Angie Graves

Angie Graves will be a Special Ed aide at the elementary school. She is from Bradley and is a 1998 graduate of Clark High School. She graduated from South Dakota State University in 2003 with a double Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Wildlife and Fisheries Management. Graves worked for one year at the Conde School and has also worked at Scheels, Outdoor Connections, Cabela's and Outdoor Adventures.

Angie is married to Josh Graves, they have three children, Myrissa is

a freshman at Augustana College, Brody is in fifth grade and Piper is in first grade. The family lives in Clark.

Shannon Huber

Shannon Huber will be the middle school English and PE teacher; she will also be the Junior High Volleyball coach and an assistant Girls' Basketball coach. She is originally from Raymond and graduated from Clark High School in 2001. She graduated from South Dakota State University with a degree in Business. She obtained her Teaching Certification from Dakota State University in the fall of 2022.

Huber has been employed with Forest Excavating since 2010. She also worked at the Doland School during the 2021-2022 term.

Shannon is married to Jay Huber, they have three children, Grady is in seventh grade, Easton

is in fifth grade and Nolan is in first grade. The family lives north of Clark.

Shelby Rosenau

Shelby Rosenau will be the High School Dance coach. She is a Clark native and graduated from Brandon High School in 2014. She worked at Building Blocks Childcare in Brandon for four years.

Rosenau is currently in a relationship and has two children, Kamden is in third grade and Hadley is in first grade. They live north of Clark.

Alicia Turnquist

Alicia Turnquist will be the Elementary General Music teacher and the fifth grade band teacher. This will be Turnquist's first teaching job. She is originally from Alta, Iowa and graduated from Alta-Aurelia High School in 2018. She has

Bachelor of Music degree from University of South Dakota.

She is single and lives in Clark.

Carly Woodring

Carly Woodring will be teaching the fifth grade. Her hometown is Raymond and she graduated from Clark High School in 2012. Woodring earned her degree in Elementary/Special Education from Dakota State University in 2022. She also has a Dental Assisting degree from Lake Area Technical College.

She has been a Dental Assistant for the past seven years.

Carly is married to Garrett Woodring, they have two children, Brynn is five and Hayden is three. The family lives in Raymond.



Van Gilder, Arthur prevail in Strongest Farmer competition

Potato Day Strongest Farmers are Dustin Van Gilder, left, and Stephanie Arthur. Van Gilder won the male competition and Arthur prevailed in the female competition.

Other male scores included: Jed Hansen, second place; Rory Forest, third place; Blake Schlagel, fourth place; Jared Forest, fifth place; Mike McPeck, sixth place.

Other female scores included: Shannon Huber, second place; Autumn Platz, third place; Andrea Marshal, fourth place.

Observe one-way for a block for one hour, twice a day

Clark schools opened today. If one has an elementary student, one knows the traffic gridlock at drop-off and pick-up times on the west side of Clark Elementary School.

The Clark Police Department and Clark School came up with a plan last winter to help alleviate the traffic jams. The west side of Clark Elementary will be a one-way street on the school block of Idaho Street from 7:30-8:30 a.m. and 2:30-3:30 p.m., or at any early outs, on school days. This one-way will be in effect Monday through Friday.

"You will be required to come from the south and travel north on Idaho street. You will utilize two lanes running near the curb. Once the curb side is full, you can create another row. Please keep the area open by the stop sign so vehicles can exit. Also, please keep the far west lane open for emergency vehicles."

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
August 9.....	78	53	0
August 10.....	85	62	0
August 11.....	83	63	0.03
August 12.....	77	66	0
August 13.....	89	67	0
August 14.....	76	61	0
August 15.....	78	63	0
2022 precipitation to date	16.87		
2021 precipitation to date	13.51		



The baseball season is over and off season maintenance has begun

The baseball season, locally, has ended. Outfield banners will be taken down and stored for next year. Many groups and individuals put in many hours of volunteer service to keep Dakota Style Field, at Dickenson Park, in great shape.

The Clark Rotary Club, in conjunction with the City

of Clark, maintain this beautiful facility. Last Friday, Clark Rotarian Dr. Craig Spieker, with help from Noah Boykin, left, and Jackson Werdel, top dress the infield. This top dressing coat of sifted dirt helps level the playing field and is done annually after the season is completed and no more games will be played.

Fraud and weak USDA oversight chip away at integrity of organic food industry

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

Trey Wharton of Sioux Falls has made numerous sacrifices in his life in order to maintain a healthful lifestyle centered around a vegan diet and consistent consumption of organic foods.

To afford organic products that are sometimes double or triple the cost of conventionally grown foods, Wharton works two jobs, doesn't take vacations and drives a dented SUV.

"I'm investing in this vessel," Wharton said, pointing at himself, "rather than in that vessel," he added, motioning toward his 2011 Hon-

da. "I pay more and sacrifice to invest my money in the foods I want."

Wharton, 31, acknowledges that he is forced to trust the organic industry to uphold its promise that the foods are minimally processed, are grown without chemicals or additives, and are truly more healthful than non-organics.

Like other consumers who buy organic, Wharton sometimes wonders and worries if he's actually getting what he believes he is buying. He is well aware of a few high-profile cases of organic food fraud — including a recent multimillion-dollar fake organic grain scam in South Dakota — in which unscrupulous

producers made millions of dollars by illegally selling conventional grains packaged and sold as organic.

In the 2018 case in South Dakota, farmer Kent Duane Anderson of Belle Fourche made \$71 million in fraudulent income by selling thousands of tons of conventionally grown grain falsely labeled as organic. Anderson then used the proceeds to buy an \$8 million yacht, a \$2.4 million home in Florida, and a Maserati, among other extravagant items, according to a federal indictment. Anderson is now in federal prison.

In July 2022, a Minnesota farm-

er was charged by federal prosecutors in a \$46 million grain fraud scheme. In a federal indictment, authorities say James Clayton Wolf bought conventionally grown grain and resold it as organic over a period of about six years. Wolf has pleaded not guilty and will fight the allegations in court, his lawyer told News Watch.

Those cases of fraud or alleged fraud have caused uncertainty and mistrust among some consumers in an industry that relies largely on the honesty of producers, processors and packagers to maintain the integrity of the industry and, ultimately, to allow consumers to feel

confident they are actually getting organic products for which they pay a premium price.

"If there's more money in it, there's more people looking at the dollars aspect and not the moral aspect," said Charlie Johnson, a longtime organic farmer who grows soybeans, corn, oats and alfalfa southwest of Madison, S.D. "Those types of people and operations need to be pointed out and prosecuted, because they can bring down all of us if we don't keep the system clean and honorable."

In many ways, the organic food industry in America — which topped \$63 billion in sales in 2021 — is re-

sponding to negative publicity from fraud cases and other weaknesses in the organic regulatory system by pushing for more stringent requirements and stronger enforcement of existing rules to protect the industry's reputation long term.

The organic food industry has exploded in roughly the past 30 years as a growing number of Americans and people around the world seek more healthful foods grown with fewer chemicals and less-invasive agricultural practices.

South Dakota has been slower than other states to take advantage

Organic Food Integrity
(continued on page 2)