

Alumni to have big Homecoming weekend

Clark High School alumni will enjoy a full weekend of events to celebrate their alma mater and reconnect with friends and classmates during Alumni Weekend. The CHS Alumni Association has added many new activities to this year's festivities. Events will take place Friday, Sept. 10 and Saturday, Sept. 11, in conjunction with Clark School's Homecoming.

The new events include an Alumni Meet & Greet, Tailgate Thru Time, Golf Outing and Open-Stage Musical Jam. The Clark Golf Club will be "alumni central" and the main gathering place for Alumni events.

"It may sound cliché, but there's truly something for everyone to enjoy this Alumni Weekend," board member Cassi (Schlagel) Kottke said. "From those celebrating 50+ year reunions to 21st century Cyclone graduates, we want all alums

to be proud and excited to celebrate Clark's Homecoming."

Many CHS classes will also celebrate their milestone reunions throughout the weekend. Others chose to gather over Potato Days or different dates throughout the year. "Some classes postponed their gatherings last year due to COVID-19 so we have more reunions happening this year than ever. It's such a festive time to catch up with classmates and the perfect occasion to bring our community together, no matter where alumni live now," Kottke said.

Following the Homecoming parade, alumni are invited to gather for a Meet & Greet Open House at the Clark Golf Club from 2-5 p.m. Former graduates can pick up a free commemorative CHS Alumni Homecoming stadium cup and catch up with friends and other alumni. Light refreshments will be

provided.

Tailgate Thru Time is another new event that Kottke and the Alumni Association hope will bring decades of Comets and Cyclones together for Homecoming weekend.

"We'd love to see classes and families show off their tailgating creativity," Kottke said. "Just like a college or NFL game, they can bring their tents, grills, decorations and CHS pride!" Comet and Cyclone colors are welcome, as is the public. A prize and bragging rights will be awarded to the group showing the most team spirit. This will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the north parking lot.

Friday's Alumni events will wrap up with the Alumni Social beginning at 9 p.m. back at the Clark Golf Club.

Alumni
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2021 Homecoming royalty picked!

Anticipation was in the air at the Clark High School gym at Tuesday night's 2021 Homecoming Coronation ceremony. Chosen as this year's Homecoming royalty were Marshal Chad Kolden and Queen Logan Hurlbert. The two will reign over the rest of the Homecoming



Marshal Chad Kolden



Queen Logan Hurlbert

Homecoming Spirit Week

'Spirit Day' helps make Homecoming week special with different themes throughout the week.

Beginning on Tuesday, Sept. 7 the theme will be 'Squad Day'. The fun continues on Wednesday with the theme being 'Celebrity Day' and on Thursday, the theme is 'Throw Back Thursday'. Friday is the traditional 'Cyclone (Spirit) Day' showing the school spirit with the school colors, black, green and silver.

festivities.

The other candidates nominated to succeed 2020 Marshal Hudson Fuller and Queen Charity Kabwe were Chasity Lewis, Teagan Orberg, Emmah Mitchell, Hunter Lee,

Tyler O'Neill and Gunnar Kvistad.

The Homecoming football game will be Friday, September 10 at the Clark High School Sports Com-

Homecoming
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Concrete construction is finishing at Clark School

As school begins some exterior projects are being completed.

Werdel Concrete Construction was pictured last week with the west side of the high school concrete addition.

This week the Werdel Construction crew is wrapping things up with the east side project.

In between these two projects, with the weather cooperating, the base was formed for the FFA Greenhouse, northwest of the Field House.

Pheasant protection by predator removal has mixed results

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

A state-sanctioned pheasant protection program that pays South Dakota youths and adults \$10 for every raccoon, skunk and other predator they trap has led to the killing of more than 134,000 animals in the past three years with no scientific evidence the program is working.

Known as the Nest Predator Bounty Program, the effort to boost pheasant and duck populations by paying trappers to kill animals that eat the eggs and hatchlings of pheasants and ducks began in 2019 and recently completed its third year of operation. The program that takes place for a few months during the spring pheasant nesting season has been approved for another year in 2022.

Some state officials, including

Gov. Kristi Noem, who first implemented the program, and new Game, Fish & Parks Secretary Kevin Robling, see the bounty program as an effective method to reduce predation on pheasants and also encourage young people to move away from playing computer games and take up trapping as a hobby instead. South Dakota is home to a lucrative but steadily declining pheasant hunting industry that generated nearly \$300 million in direct spending in the state in 2016, a majority of that from non-resident hunters.

Noem, Robling and a majority of members of the state Game, Fish & Parks Commission, the policymaking arm of state wildlife management, want the program to continue.

The bounty program has seen a recent spike in youth participation,

Robling said.

"It's really a success story when you look at enhancing our trapping traditions and outdoor heritage," he said.

Robling acknowledges there is no

Pheasant protection
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WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 24.....	89	58	0
Aug. 25.....	91	60	0
Aug. 26.....	74	59	0
Aug. 27.....	74	57	1.00
Aug. 28.....	84	63	.16
Aug. 29.....	77	55	.10
Aug. 30.....	79	55	0
2021 precipitation to date	15.12		
2020 precipitation to date	15.42		

Willow Lake School opens next Tuesday



Anna Konechne



Kimberly Olson



Walter Lawson



Whitney Edleman



Michelle Severson



Lindsay Staudy

The 2021-22 school term in Willow Lake will begin Tuesday, September 7, the day after Labor Day.

Superintendent Chris Lee said he and everyone he has talked to is excited to begin the new term. As he begins his fourth year as superintendent, new unievent air exchangers are in each of the elementary classrooms.

"We are looking at long-range planning," said Lee of the school board being proactive. "With COVID-19 monies we will be looking at areas that could make the

Willow Lake School even better." The school is looking at HVAC and building upgrades.

School numbers are solid, acknowledged the superintendent and all employee positions have been filled. Regarding new students, Lee said 50 new students have been added the last five years. The preschool is being split into two classes this year.

New staff in the Willow Lake School system are Anna Konechne, Kimberly Olson, Walter Lawson, Whitney Edleman, Michelle Severson and Lindsay Staudy.

Anna Konechne

Anna Konechne will be a teacher at Mayfield Colony.

She is originally from White Lake and graduated from White Lake High School in 2017. Anna graduated from South Dakota State University in May of 2021 with a degree in Early Childhood Education. This is her first year of teaching.

Anna is single and lives in Willow Lake.

Kimberly Olson

Kimberly Olson will be the Ele-

mentary Special Education teacher at Willow Lake School.

She is originally from Henry and graduated from Henry High School in 2003. Kimberly attended Northern State University and graduated in 2007.

Olson previously taught in the Doland School District for 13 years. She is single and lives in Clark. She has two children, Miles is 11 and Avery is seven.

Walter Lawson

Walter Lawson is the K-12 music teacher, pep band and march-

ing band instructor at Willow Lake School. He is originally from Valencia, Calif. and graduated from Lar'more High School in 2016. He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a Bachelor of Music degree. He has been on the staff of the International Music Camp from 2016-2019.

Lawson is single and lives in Willow Lake.

Whitney Edleman

Whitney Edleman will be a paraprofessional at Willow Lake School. Her hometown is Wessing-

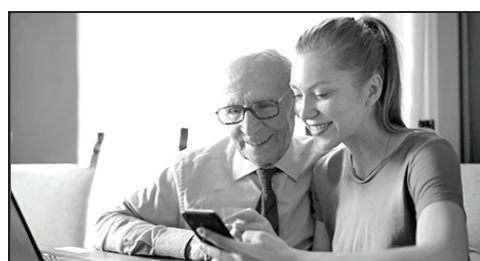
ton Springs and she graduated from Wessington Spring High School in 2017. She graduated from South Dakota State University in 2020 with a degree in Early Childhood Education.

Edleman previously worked at Laura Ingalls Wilder Elementary School in De Smet.

Whitney and her husband Jacob live in Willow Lake.

Michelle Severson

Michelle Severson will be a bus Willow Lake School
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