



## School numbers show stability

### ▲ Area school numbers back over 800

The 2017-18 school numbers show stability, but also show the continued trend that rural schools are lacking numbers and regional centers are expanding. Clark is up one student from a year ago; Willow Lake is up 23 students and Henry is up one student from a year ago.

Enrollment for the three area schools is at 808 compared to 786 a year ago, 798 two years ago and 827 three years ago and 811 four years ago.

#### Clark

Two years ago Clark had 391 students PK-12, last year there were 376 when school started, so the 2017-18 number is very similar to a year ago, with one more student than in 2016-17.

There are 64 students in Clark High School, down from 66 a year ago. The second grade class with 31 students is the largest class, followed by preschool with 28 and fourth grade with 26. The average number of students in each grade at Clark, K-12 is nearly 22 and including colony schools it is almost 27 students.

There are 94 students at colony schools compared to 99 a year ago. "School is off to a nice start at Clark," said superintendent Luanne Warren.

Students at Clark, when they returned to classes in August noticed that both the elementary and middle/high school were air conditioned. The elementary playground has new equipment to go with the renovation. Those who attended the football game last Friday noticed a new concession stand/bathroom facility as well as new ticket booths at both entrances.

Clark	17	16	15	14
Pre-school	18	17	16	15
Kindergarten	28	22	25	34

Kindergarten	18	21	32	21
Grade 1	21	34	20	28
Grade 2	31	19	24	20
Grade 3	18	24	17	21
Grade 4	26	17	20	18
Grade 5	17	19	18	21
Grade 6	19	17	23	20
Grade 7	17	22	18	15
Grade 8	24	17	14	20
Grade 9	19	12	17	16
Grade 10	13	19	13	24
Grade 11	20	13	21	30
Grade 12	12	21	29	24
Hillcrest	26	29	27	26
Fordham	26	26	24	20
Silverlake	42	44	49	46
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>377</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>404</b>

#### Willow Lake

At Willow Lake, school started with 250 students, up 23 from a year ago.

Starting at preschool and going up, there are 66 students in the first four grades and superintendent Scott Klautd said that is "very, very positive."

There are 53 high school students this year, with 19 freshmen, seven sophomores, 14 juniors and 13 seniors.

The three colony schools in the Willow Lake district have 51 students which is up three.

Homecoming is September 22 at Willow Lake. Coronation is set for Monday, September 18 and the parade and football game are on Friday, September 22.

As school started at Willow Lake, students saw the completed version of the school construction project; a new gym, a new library; three new classrooms and a new administrative area (entrance). Also new is the preschool through eighth grade and colony principal, Chris Lee.

Willow Lake	17	16	15	14
Pre-school	18	17	16	15
Kindergarten	14	15	19	11

Grade 1	17	20	10	15
Grade 2	22	9	14	12
Grade 3	11	14	13	10
Grade 4	16	12	10	11
Grade 5	14	9	12	14
Grade 6	10	12	14	13
Grade 7	14	14	16	6
Grade 8	15	16	7	14
Grade 9	19	6	12	10
Grade 10	7	14	10	18
Grade 11	14	12	16	17
Grade 12	13	13	17	8
Shamrock	13	12	11	11
Mayfield	16	16	16	16
Collins	22	20	22	23
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>227</b>

#### Henry

Henry has 184 PK-12 students for the 2017-18 school term, which is up one student from last year.

"School is off to a great start," said new Henry School superintendent Philip Schonebaum. Classes started August 16 at Henry. Also new at Henry is K-12 principal Jon Redmond.

There will be 57 students in high school, 14 in each grade, except 15 in the junior class.

Homecoming is coming quickly at Henry, as it will be Friday, September 22.

The fifth grade with 19 students is the largest class.

Henry	17	16	15	14
Pre-school	13	12	14	14
Kindergarten	15	12	16	21
Grade 1	10	11	17	12
Grade 2	12	16	9	17
Grade 3	15	10	16	8
Grade 4	6	17	10	17
Grade 5	19	10	18	11
Grade 6	10	19	10	15
Grade 7	16	12	15	10
Grade 8	11	11	9	15
Grade 9	14	11	15	13
Grade 10	14	17	15	11
Grade 11	15	14	11	14
Grade 12	14	11	14	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>196</b>

## 2017 Homecoming royalty picked!

Anticipation was in the air at the Clark High School gym at Tuesday night's 2017 Homecoming Coronation ceremony. Chosen as this year's Homecoming royalty were Marshal Mekel Sanchez and Queen Gabby Moes. The two will reign over the rest of this week's Homecoming festivities.

The other candidates nominated to succeed 2016 Marshal Jess Karber and Queen Michaela Flora were Brock Shult, Ntai Stevens, Bradyn Rusher, Karli Paulson, Tania Gutierrez Ramirez and Alexandria Thomas.

The Homecoming football game will be Friday, September 8 at the Clark High School Sports Complex against the Great Plains Lutheran Panthers. The Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone volleyball tournament is



Marshal Mekel Sanchez



Queen Gabby Moes

Saturday in Clark.

### Parade a highlight

The weather always plays a major factor as to the success of the Homecoming Parade. The forecast for Friday is for sunshine with temperatures in the low 70's.

Parade entries are asked to line up on Idaho Street, starting at the Catholic Church, north past the elementary school and around the swimming pool park. Starting at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, the parade route will be south past the Catholic Church to Highway 212, east to Commercial Street, then north

to the Nursing Home. Entries may return on Idaho Street and floats should be dismantled following the parade.

The theme this year is "Disney Movies". Entries will be divided into three categories - A: elementary school walking; B: elementary and middle school floats and C: high school class and organization floats.

The entries will be judged on the basis of originality, beauty and adherence to theme. Winners will be announced at half-time of the football game.

## Homecoming Spirit Week

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

Tuesday was 'Tye Dye Day'. The fun continues on Wednesday with the theme being 'Work Out Gear Day'. Thursday's theme is 'Pajama Day' and Friday, September 8, is 'Cyclone Day'.

## Fiftieth Crocker Trail Ride is this weekend

The Crocker Trail Ride and Western Saddle Club will celebrate 50 years this weekend as the group began their scenic trail ride through the Crocker Hills back in 1967.

That year 45 riders rode and camped out in Wiley's Gulch. They would eat a supper around the campfire and the next morning after breakfast, they would ride on to Oak Gulch.

Dick Wells was one of the original group of five people who started the trail ride tradition in 1967. Others included Vanetta Flatten, Elmer Gross, Alma Regnier and LaVoy Ragels.

"It's been a really well-run club and a good time at the trail rides," stated Wells. "There's a really swell bunch of people that we get to see once a year that come up for the ride."

People have joined them for the ride from North Dakota, Minnesota and they have a faithful group from the Canistota/Harrisburg area that comes every year. One year, this group rode their horses from home to the trail ride for an even longer ride on horseback.

In the earlier years, the group would ride several miles west then south to 'Wylie' Gulch or 'Ralph Stern's Gulch' as it was described



These unidentified riders were lining up for the start of the Crocker Trail Ride in September of 1967.

Flatten's Grocery Store and Post Office are in the background as one looks west in Crocker. The Crocker Trail Ride will have its 50th trail ride this upcoming weekend.

by Wells. Oak Gulch and the Blick farm were also destinations with kerosene lanterns in the trees for light in the evenings and cooking with bottle gas stoves to make breakfasts. Generators were also sometimes brought in for the camps.

Bob Reiners of Hartford drove a team and wagon for many years with his family in tow. He'd have

the American flag - the South Dakota flag and the Crocker Saddle Club flag on the wagon. The flag was designed and made early on by Maxine Valentine and Patty (Stern) Flatten. The flags still accompany the trail ride.

At one time about 130-140 riders

**Crocker Trail Ride**  
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## Grann farm is a Century Farm

Since October of 1917, when Elmer Grann and his bride Gertrude "Gertie" (Wicks) purchased the southwest quarter, Section three in Richland Township, the Grann family members have continued in the farming lifestyle.

Last Thursday the third generation on the farm, Jeff and Crys Grann were awarded the Century Farm and Ranch certification on the opening day of the South Dakota State Fair.

"Back since I can remember, I've always wanted to farm," stated J. Grann. "There was no other job I ever wanted to do. I enjoy the country and the farming lifestyle."

Grann was fortunate that he was able to know his grandfather Elmer and benefit from his wisdom as well as working with his own father, learning from both of them. Jeff

**Grann farm**  
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Jeff and Crys Grann of rural Carpenter were awarded a Century Farm recognition at this year's South Dakota State Fair. Richard and Carol Grann and Elmer and Gertrude Grann were family members who preceded on the century farm located north of Carpenter in Richland Township.

## Frisby Post Office was located north of Raymond

Six and a half miles north of Raymond was the location back in the year 1882 of the Frisby Post Office.

The post office was within a rest area or halfway house which served as a hotel, general store and the first post office in that area.

With the stage coach traveling from Watertown to Redfield or the Groton area, there was a need for a rest stop. This was put into place in Section 20 in the NE 1/4 of Ash Township (north of Raymond). A natural spring was close by which was also a stop for travelers.

Bernice Halling of Clark is Thomas Jones' great-great granddaughter and according to his diary, Jones homesteaded in Ash Township section 20, NE 1/4 and became postmaster for two or three years before

#### Frisby

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## Hibiscus at Post Office is beautiful

Outside the post office building in Clark to the left as one comes in the front door is a very full, very bright red Hibiscus plant.

Looking more like it should be in the tropics - the bright red, large flowers have a yellow center and this particular variety is hardy for Zone Four as needed in this area.

Postal workers Diane Peterson on the left and Shania Johnson have been asked by several patrons as to the type and variety of the large red perennial flower. One hundred and ten flower buds were counted on the plant this growing season.

## WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official  
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Aug. 29.....	76	54	0
Aug. 30.....	78	56	0
Aug. 31.....	74	62	0
Sept. 1.....	69	61	0
Sept. 2.....	78	57	0
Sept. 3.....	80	55	0
Sept. 4.....	70	47	0
2017 precipitation to date	15.16		
2016 precipitation to date	15.87		

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