

'A Heavenly Night' is the theme of the Clark High School Prom

The Clark High School junior-senior prom is on Saturday, April 13, 2024. The theme for the evening is 'A Heavenly Night'.

The evening will begin at 4:30 p.m. with couples walking through each of the three senior care centers in Clark. Catie of Catie K Photography will begin photos at 5:00 p.m. with the junior class, followed by couples. The senior pictures will begin at 5:45 p.m. with couple and individual photos following.

Dinner will start at 6:30 p.m., catered by Dakota Butcher. Doors open to the public at 7:30 p.m., with Grand March starting at 8:00 p.m. Doreen Foster will be the MC and DJ for the night. All are welcome to attend the Grand March.

After prom will follow the dance. The junior class parents will host prom-goers at the Clark School Field House with games, activities, food and prizes.



Jack Helkenn, a senior at Clark High School, is pictured in the photos above with students at Clark Elementary School as part of his senior project. Left, fellow senior, Christian Gonzalez, works with Helkenn to



read books to the library class. Right, Helkenn is helping two fifth grade students complete literacy activities.

Submitted photos

Public meeting held regarding County Road #17 reconstruction

By Carolynn Olson

IMEG Corporation, a construction engineering company from Aberdeen, South Dakota, held a public meeting Tuesday, April 2 in the basement of the Clark County Courthouse in Clark. The meeting started at 1:00 p.m. and lasted approximately one hour.

IMEG Project engineer Adam Polley was the speaker and IMEG Civil Project Engineer Troy Nelson ran the PowerPoint presentation.

During the eight-slide presentation, three phases were discussed. Phase One consists of the pipe culvert work for the entire project. Corrugated metal pipe will be put in the south 12 miles and reinforced concrete pipes will be put in the north five-and-a-half miles. As long as the weather cooperates, this phase should begin May 6 and run through June 7. "Please keep in mind that these dates could change if we get quite a bit of rain in April," Polley emphasized.

During Phase One, there will be small road closures throughout the area of the project, with multiple closures happening throughout the duration of the project. The work will

start at the north end of County Road #17 by U.S. Highway 212.

Phase Two is set to start June 10 and run until August 26. The road will be closed to through traffic and open to only local traffic during this time. This will include the structure replacement south of 176th Street, with roadway work north for five-and-a-half miles.

Phase Three is slated to start August 26 and go through October 9. During that time, the road will be open with flaggers and a pilot car. "Keep in mind, there will be a delay in travel due to it being a one lane road as the pavement is being laid," said Polley. "No wide loads are recommended during this time, but if you have to be traveling this road with a wide load, please let us know ahead of time so we can have a heads up," he added.

Polley stressed, "Communication is huge during this time and much appreciated." This project has been in the making for about three-and-a-half years. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Troy Nelson at (605) 351-3663 or Adam Polley at (605) 660-9180.

Literacy bingo event held for Jack Helkenn's senior project

By Carolynn Olson

Jack Helkenn is a senior at Clark high school. He is the son of Chad and Beth Helkenn of Clark and has two younger brothers; Lucas is a fifth grader and Nate is a fourth grader.

Helkenn's senior project, Title One Family Bingo Night, took place on Thursday, March 21 at the Clark Elementary School. A free meal of hotdogs and chips was offered to participants. The groups were split into two by ages for several rounds of bingo. There were 97 school age kids who attended and around 175 people total, counting parents and siblings.

Each child that attended the event was guaranteed to take home at least one brand new book, donated by Dacotah Bank in Clark. "Craig Spieker volunteered to call bingo that night for one of the groups, which was

greatly appreciated," said Helkenn. Amy Sass called bingo for the other group. She is the Title I Coordinator at Clark Elementary School and also Helkenn's project mentor.

"I knew from the beginning that I wanted to do something with kids," he said, when asked about his project. "My original idea was to have a football camp, but due to the weather being too unpredictable, I chose to do something different," Helkenn explained.

Beth, Helkenn's mom, is the librarian for Clark Schools and she proposed the idea of taking over the literacy night at the elementary school. "Administration later told me that I should go down and read with the classes prior to the event," he stated.

Helkenn and a few other high

school students visited the elementary school a week prior to Bingo Night to read to some of the students during their library hour. "I loved spending time with each class at the elementary," Helkenn shared. "I got to know so many of the young kids and it's kind of cool to be able to grow relationships with kids whose parents I know well."

Helkenn participates in football, basketball, baseball and track. When he does have free time, he enjoys hunting, fishing and hanging out with his friends.

After graduation, he plans to attend South Dakota State University in Brookings and major in agricultural business and economics.

"Reading is so important for young children," Helkenn stated. "Also, a huge thank you to Craig Spieker who

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
March 26	26	15	0.22
March 27	21	4	0.02
March 28	28	4	0
March 29	37	14	0
March 30	47	28	0
March 31	38	30	0
April 1	38	29	0.09
2024 precipitation to date			1.54"
2023 precipitation to date			2.03"

Family Prom to be held at Clark High School on Sunday, April 14

By Carolynn Olson

The Clark High School sophomore class is putting on a family prom Sunday, April 14 at the Clark High School gymnasium.

The family prom started two years ago when the then sophomore class at CHS put on the event as a kick-off to their prom fundraising effort. The family prom was not held in 2023, but it is back this year.

Line up will start at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, with Grand March starting

at 2:00 p.m. The dance will start after the grand march and will end at 4:00 p.m.

RSVP's were supposed to be turned in by Friday, April 5. If you would still like to attend, you may pay at the door on Sunday. The cost will be \$30.00, which covers flowers and a photo. Snacks and drinks will be provided.

All are welcome to come and join in on the fun.



'Jump into Spring' chamber event held on Saturday

The Clark Chamber of Commerce held their second annual Jump into Spring event on Saturday, April 6. The event was held at the Clark High School. The fun started at 3:00 p.m. and ended around 6:00 p.m. Despite the red flag high winds outside Saturday afternoon, there was a great turn out, with many families enjoying the event.

Located in the field house, were three bounce houses for children of all ages. In the gymnasium, Chamber members held a free two-card bingo. People of all ages came to join in on the fun.



Good family fun was had at the Clark High School on Saturday afternoon. In the photos above, the bounce houses in the field house were a popular spot for children to jump off some energy indoors on a very windy afternoon.

The Clark Chamber of Commerce hosted the event, with bingo prizes sponsored by local businesses.

Photos by Carolynn Olson



'Saturday Night Fever' prom held in Willow Lake

Saturday, April 6 was Willow Lake High School's Junior-Senior prom. A large crowd gathered to watch the students in their Grand March Saturday evening. The prom took place in the new gymnasium due to the ongoing construction at the school.

Members of Willow Lake's senior class that attended the prom are pictured above on the left. Left to right are: Landon Villaseor, Emma Nichols, Shelby Anderson, Jalen Hohm, Emma Peterson, Haylee Tormanen,

Macy Bocek and James Poppen.

Picture on the right are Willow Lake juniors that attended the prom. From left to right are Joshua Kannegieter, Kaylyn Hofer, Kate Larson, Shay Michalski, Ginny Warkentien, Samantha Brenden, Tehya Vig, Nora Terhark and Elliot Bratland.

Photos by Catie K Photography

CLARK AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
LEAVING A LEGACY

Give a lasting memorial in honor of a relative or loved one.
Sympathy envelopes are available at Dacotah Bank in Clark.