

Karli Paulson is the new Clark County Courier owner, editor and publisher

As of this edition, the new owner/ editor/publisher of the *Clark County Courier* is Karli Paulson.

Paulson, the daughter of Doug and Kimberly Paulson, officially became owner of the *Clark County Courier* last Friday, December 30, 2022.

The new *Clark County Courier* owner is home-grown, a 2018 graduate of Clark High School and a 2021 graduate of Minnesota State University Moorhead with a bachelor's degree in animation and minors in english writing, media arts and graphic communications.

Paulson has worked at the *Courier* since January of 2022. Her staff will include Emily Yexley and Trudi Gaikowski.

"The community of Clark County, and everyone who reads this should feel very fortunate and honored that Karli has agreed to take over the *Courier*," said retiring publisher Bill Krikac.

"It is well documented that Clark County needs and deserves the newspaper to continue providing news, advertising, promotions, public notices and a continuing printed

weekly newspaper for everyone's 'right to know.'

"I'm very lucky and appreciative that Karli was interested in becoming the new publisher/editor, and she has all the competencies and qualities that will make an excellent newspaper owner.

"As times change, so must the newspaper. Being a baby boomer, the computer and digital age has been more of a challenge and a chore for me. Karli, with her college education background, is very adept with computer formatting, and I'm sure many changes will be seen on both the printing and digital side. Plus, Karli is a gifted photographer.

"As my 27.5 years at the *Courier* have ended, it is very important that Karli is successful, and just as important that I say Thank You to one and all for all the loyalty and support you have given me."

"Thanks for helping me get along. The ability 'to get along' is understated. Covering meetings for a quarter of a century with very little 'blow-back' but an ideology of it's public business' and two sides to every issue and the news has to



Clark County publisher Bill Krikac, right, shakes new publisher Karli Paulson's hand, Friday, as the torch is passed. This edition, the first of 2023 is Paulson's first as publisher, as a new era of the *Clark County Courier* has begun.

be told, is what newspapers are all about - and I feel good about the covering of public meetings."

"Over the 25 years, we have been

blessed with many talented individuals and groups, and it truly has been fun getting those stories and pictures out there."

"It's hard to believe my time is over.

"I have an appointment scheduled for next Tuesday in Sioux Falls. I have macular degeneration in my left eye. It is the first time in over 25 years that I have scheduled something on a Tuesday." Tuesday is the day of the week that the newspaper is getting its final touches to be sent to press. It is a busy day.

"I've led a life with priorities of 1) God 2) family 3) *Courier*. But I haven't had a lot of 'misses' regarding #3.

The Early Years

No less than 19 papers have served the Clark County area since 1880. Emerging from all these papers has been the *Clark County Courier*.

E.F. Conklin, son of General Sg. Conklin published the first newspaper, the *Clark Pilot*, in 1880. The *Clark Pilot Review* was a merger that began in 1887.

E.A. Ashley opened the doors of

the *Clark Republic* in 1901, and seven years later the name was changed to the *Clark Republic Courier*. The *Clark Republic Courier* became the *Clark County Courier* in 1911, and two years later, E.A.

Silfies of Chicago, bought the paper.

On May 14, 1925 E.A. Silfies owner of the *Clark County Courier* made a deal to buy out G.E. Morrison of the *Clark Pilot Review*, and at that time, the papers were combined into the *Clark County Courier*. What came with this purchase was the building at 117 First Ave. E., the long-time location of the *Clark County Courier*.

This building, long known as the Moritz Publishing building, was erected for the publication of a newspaper. This building no longer is home to the *Clark County Courier*, as the *Courier* moved next door in 2001.

Describing this building for newspaper purposes for the better part of a century, in the basement was the newspaper press and the gas engine that powered the machine.

Courier
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2022 in review, the last six months

How will 2022 in Clark County be remembered? Let's reflect on the last six months of 2022.

July

Each year the City of Clark, with many anonymous donors and business donors, put on a fireworks

display at dark. Again, it was a beautiful display of pyrotechnics. Capturing fireworks is not easy. Clark County Courier employee, Karli Paulson, took this picture Monday night, from the northwest corner of the school parking lot.



Independence Day wouldn't be the 4th of July without fireworks. Each year the City of Clark, with many anonymous donors and business donors, put on a fireworks display at dark. These last two years, the fireworks have been set off at the city dump-

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display at dark.

Willow Lake celebrates 110th Annual All-School Reunion.

The parking lot behind the Clark County Courthouse received a new top-coat layer.

Governor Kristi Noem announced that South Dakota has received a Presidential Disaster Declaration that allows the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to help South Dakota local governments in 20 counties and on two reservations recover from public infrastructure damage sustained as a result of tornadoes, severe storms, straight-line winds, and flooding that occurred on May 12 in the eastern part of the state.

A group of eighteen Clark School students made up of freshmen and middle schoolers, along with a number of parent chaperones visited Washington, D.C. and New York City the end of May as part of a guided educational trip.

Clark School Board enters into computer technology contract with Expetec. Steffen re-elected presi-

dent, Fjelland re-elected vice president.

Area lakes refilled Thursday with two-hour downpour; 2.20" of rain made new lakes appear.

Bob Babcock, an engineer with Helms and Associates, Aberdeen, was in attendance at the July

meeting of the Clark City Council to accept the signed contract for \$7,857,370 drinking water system improvements project, in Clark.

The Clark FCCLA Senior Quiz Bowl team won the National Championship for the second year in a row!

The Overall Champions at the 2022 Clark County 4-H Horse Show are Taylor Monnens - senior, Destiny Four Horns - junior and Delia Rasmussen - beginner.

The Clark Rotary Legion Tourney wrapped up with Groton winning the championship 9-8 over the LAW Rattlers.

The Clark Area 14 and Under boys baseball team are the Region 1B champions.

Two parades held in Willow Lake over the 4th of July weekend.

10-digit local calling has been required for the ITC service area, and it became mandatory nationwide on July 16.

Eighteenth Bradley All School Reunion was held.

The Clark Fire Department

was dispatched to a fire at Westside Implement one mile west of Clark.

Hazel Christopherson Ness of Clark was named the 2022 South Dakota Centenarian of the Year. She was the current oldest member of the Century Club-SM.

Fred Obermeier retired after 40 years leading Clark Traders.

The Clark County Fairgrounds was the site of the 21st annual Clark County 4-H Rodeo.

The Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone football cheerleaders attended a cheer camp on the campus of South Dakota State University in Brookings.

Collin Fuller places at 4-H shooting sports National Championships.

Clark native, Mike Warren and his fishing partner Travon Diegel placed second in the 2022 Governor's Cup Fishing Tournament with a weight of 29 pounds.

Six Willow Lake Students and six adults took a trip to California for a STEM trip.

A group of 18 Willow Lake students and 15 adults took a trip to Washington D.C. and New York City.

The Clark Area 16U girls participated in the South Dakota State

Adam Hartley as president and Paula Blue is vice president.

The Happy Bunch Club celebrates 100 years.

The Ken's Fair Foods 50th Anniversary Celebration big winner was Heather Koons, who won the \$5,000 gas through the Big C Travel Plaza in Clark.

The Clark Area 12U boys baseball team capped off their season with a championship victory at the Eastern Coteau South Dakota Baseball Association League tournament.

The Clark Area 14 and Under baseball team finished in fifth place at the State Tournament, held in Bryant.

The old farm house owned by Jenn Severson and Ray Hirte was moved farther back from U.S. Highway 212.

August

212 Truck and Trailer Repair is officially owned by Jamey Gloe.

The 2022 Teachers Turn the Key award, given out by the National Association of Agricultural Educators, goes to Matti Boomgaarden.

Terry and Deb Schlager donated \$2,500 from Lee Schlager Memorial to the Clark Rotary Club to be used for continued improvements

ant with the team taking home fifth place consolation championship honors.

Willow Lake School Board purchases property from Tim and Holly Bratland.

The 2022 Clark County 4-H Achievement Days were held with a

New staff welcomed to the Willow Lake School system were Cody Forbes, Wyatt Forbes, Erica Juntunen, Kati Knock, Brady LaMont, Laura Madsen and Liisa McDaniels.

18 local youth participated, passed and received their certifi-



Greg Furness, at right, the current President of the Clark Historical Society, is shown being presented with a gift to the museum, the Masonic Sword of Carl George Sherwood, who was a founding member of

the Masonic Lodge in Clark. Tom Sherwood of Hastings, Minn., who is the great-grandson of Carl Sherwood, is presenting it to Furness.

total of 588 exhibits shown by Clark County 4-Her's.

Dacotah Bank Field gets updated.

On Potato Day, Mitchell Larson aced hole number seven at the Clark Golf Course.

The Clark Area Junior Legion hosted, and placed fourth in the State Tournament held at Dakota Style Field in Dickinson Park.

The 2022 Jakob Hohm Offroad Adventures ride was held adding to the sixth annual family fun day.

Clark City Council approved of 2023 non-emergency dispatching contract.

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

Potato Day Strongest Farmers were Dustin Van Gilder and Stephanie Arthur.

Macy Steen was recognized at the 2022 Academic Excellence Banquet hosted by the Associated School Boards of South Dakota.

There were three Clark County 4-H members at the State Horse Show in Huron. Fidelia Rasmussen, Destiny Four Horns and Tre Four Horns placed at the show.

Class of 2035 starts kindergarten.

The Clark Area 14U baseball team's 2022 season came to an end at the South Dakota State B 14U VFW Baseball Tournament in Bry-

ates from the Clark HuntSAFE class.

A new pick-up/drop-off system was implemented at Clark Elementary School.

This year's Clark Homecoming royalty were Marshal Trey Huber and Queen Summer Seefeldt.

Tom Sherwood, great-grandson of Carl George Sherwood, presented Clark

Historical Society President Greg Furness with the Masonic Sword of the elder Sherwood. Carl George Sherwood was a founding member of the Clark Masonic Lodge.

Dustin Hurlbut, of Raymond, was elected as a delegate to the 139th American Angus Association Convention of Delegates.

The Clark-Willow Lake cheerleaders hosted a cheer camp for girls in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Erin Brush opens BSC Dog Grooming.

Clark United Methodist Church welcomed new Pastor Rob Salmonson.

The 15th Annual Jim Bjerke Memorial Softball Tournament was held with 11 teams participating. The Cyclones team won the championship.

The Clark Homecoming theme

Year in Review
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New Year, New Speeds!

ITC is rolling out upgraded Internet speeds to our members in the new year!



Check out this website or scan the QR code for further details:
www.itc-web.com/news/new-year-new-speeds



Happy New Year!
www.itc-web.com
1.800.417.8667