

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

Remember to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed on Saturday night.

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The hometown newspaper of Larry & Sandy Peterson, Watertown, SD



Saturday was a fun day for Halloween costumes and games

Clark's Pumpkinville and Fall Carnival brought the Halloween costume enthusiasts of all ages out in full force last Saturday. Getting one of the nicer days this fall made the events all that more 'spooktacular' as Halloween is tomorrow, Oct. 31.

At the Clark Music Fall Carnival at the Clark High School gym, many carnival activities were held including a costume contest.

Stella and Trigg Linneman, children of Ty and Liza Linneman are shown, on the left, during this competi-



tion. Later in the afternoon the scene changed to Commercial Street, where Pumpkinville, hosted by the Clark Chamber of Commerce, was held. Multiple games, face painting and Trunk-or-Treat were showcased, along with a costume contest. These three were photographed during Pumpkinville, including, left to right Aria Werdel, daughter of Saige Werdel, Kamden Werdel and Emree Werdel, children of Travis and Angie Werdel.

New Clark Area Snow Queen leadership this year

The Clark Area 2020 Snow Queen Contest is one month away, on Saturday, November 30.

There is a changing of the guard this year. The Clarkettes, who were in charge of the Snow Queen contest for years, have turned over reins to the Clark Area Snow Queen committee, headed by Erin Heiman.

"This is just a great opportunity for senior girls and freshman girls,"

said Heiman, "and I'm very excited to have this opportunity to carry on the Clark Area Snow Queen Festival."

Numbers have not been strong in recent years and Heiman felt very motivated after seeing her daughter compete at the State Snow Queen level in Aberdeen, last January.

"My daughter just loved it," said Erin about daughter Hannah play-

ing her ukulele, singing and placing last year, in Aberdeen, in the talent competition.

"The State Snow Queen competitions give girls an experience that they will remember for a lifetime. I want to see the local Snow Queen contest be around for years

Snow Queen
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TICKS & TREAT FOR HALLOWEEN

Halloween falls on a Thursday this year and hopefully the temperatures and wind won't be too brutal. Cold and sunny with a high of 39" is the forecast, with a chance of snow later on. Area assisted livings will be welcoming their 'spooky'

guests that evening at the following times.

In Clark, the Avantara Care Center welcomes their young guests from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on October 31.

Residents at the Fay Wookey Me-

morial Assisted Living Center will be ready for their scary visitors on Halloween from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m.

At Roetell Senior Living, they will be prepared with treats for their young spooksters between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Halloween.

At the Bryant Parkview Assisted Living Center and Apartments, they welcome their dressed up visitors between the hours of 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Halloween night.

Seven McMillan siblings gather at the site of the house fire - 50 years later

Almost 50 years after the fact - seven children of Delbert and Naomi McMillan met at the farm where a fire destroyed the house they were living in, near Carpenter. The children got out of the fire with only the clothes on their backs.

The reason for getting together was, in their words - "We are still all living and decided to go back to that farm and take another picture of all of us together. We feel very blessed to be alive and to be able to take a picture at the site of the tragedy that took place so many years ago."

The story appeared in the February 26, 1970 edition of the Clark County Courier reading:

Friday the 13th, 1970 will be one to remember for the Delbert McMillan family of Carpenter. That night seven children were alone at their house south of Carpenter when they were awakened by a fire that completely destroyed their home. The house was owned by Bill Fechtelkötter.

The children later related that they went to bed late after enjoying an evening of television. Pat woke up about 3:30 a.m. noticing flames close to his bed. He roused his brother Larry. Their sister Jaunita gathered the younger children and Larry drove them to their grandfather's home two miles east of town. Their grandfather, Clarence McMillan, notified the Iroquois Fire Department. However, the firemen had trouble with their hoses freezing and the house burned to the ground. At the time of the fire the parents were at a wrestling tourney in Brookings where their son, Tom, took second place in his weight class. The children pictured were Jau-



These seven McMillan siblings took a group picture this past summer, near Carpenter. The site of this picture was the farmstead where they were living when a fire destroyed the house, owned at the time by Bill Fechtelkötter, 50 years ago, come Feb. 13, 2020.

McMillans pictured include: front row, left to right, Patricia Pike, Mary Dahle and Pearl McMillan. From left to right in the back row are, Jaunita McMillan Lentz, Larry McMillan, Patrick McMillan and Timmy McMillen.

nita, 15; Patricia, 8; Larry, 13; Pat, 11; Mary, 7; Tim, 5 and Pearl, 4.

The family is presently staying with their grandfather and great aunt, Irene Kaiser. They hoped to be in a new house three miles east of Carpenter by the end of this week.

The McMillan family had 11 children total. The four who were older and not at the house that night included Shirley (McFarland), Jack, Clarence and Tommy.

The Willow Warts School of Music continues

"It's a fun way for the students to learn about music without having to take a test," stated Willow Lake music director Jennifer Karlen of her Willow Warts School of Music and Musicians group.

Inspired by the Harry Potter books, she's come up with a fun curriculum in which the students can be in individual groups or 'houses'. They've designed a house crest, a motto and each group has drawn a composer for their house.

The four composers represent different styles of music and students in the process learn more about each composer and what they contributed.

For instance Clara Schumann is a well known female composer and pianist who was one of the first to memorize her music before performing. She was also a child prodigy in starting so young.

Wolfgang Mozart is another child prodigy who wrote an opera at 14 years old and was known for his expertise in classical music.

John Phillip Sousa was known as the father of marching band music.

George Gershwin is another American composer known for bringing jazz into the concert hall and for his Broadway musicals. Self-taught at the piano, he mixed pop, blues, jazz and classical music together.

Karlen's sixth grade through senior music students all divided up into three houses with Karlen having the fourth house. The houses all earn or lose points with behaviors and activities and can also catch their teacher and even steal her points and vice versa.

"I do the challenge right along with the students. The junior high kids have caught me a couple

Willow Warts
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'For the Love of Music' or 'Pro musicae amore' is the saying on the Willow Warts crest or banner in Jennifer Karlen's music room at the Willow Lake School.

Shown in front of the banner are in front, left to right, Kayci Roberts, Andy Peterson and Ky Vandersnick. In back are Emerson Larson and Haydyn Burke. Students from grades sixth through 12th have been sorted into 'houses' or groups and are learning about composers and the different types of music as they also compete with points and challenges.