

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880



National Newspaper Week
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The hometown newspaper of Gayla Surgent, Mahwah, N.J.



Harvest Fest in Clark on Saturday was a big hit with kids and adults alike. Pictured on far left, from left to right, Valley Roebke watches as Hannah Hagstrom, Henry Helkenn and Adilynn Ahrens paint pumpkins. Middle, Izzy Bratland plays a ring toss game, hosted by Amanda Robles Torres. Right, Akech Cronauer intently waits as Ella Vandersnick paints her face.

Photos by Heather Jordan

Fifth annual Chamber of Commerce Harvest Festival held on Saturday

By: Carolynn Olson
Commercial Street in Clark was packed full on Saturday, September 30 with people eager to get in on the fun during this year's fifth annual Harvest Festival, formally known as Octoberfest, put together by the

Clark Chamber of Commerce. The name and events were changed up a bit so everyone young and old would be able to get in on the fun. Some of this year's free games included pumpkin painting, bowling, bouncy houses, a balloon artist,

pie in the face, plinko, face painting and much more. Those activities started at 2:00 and went on until 5:00 p.m. There was also going to be a petting zoo, The Barnyardagans. Unfortunately due to an illness going through the herd, that part of

the event had to be cancelled. There is plans in the works for them to return in the future. Adults were able to get into some of the fun at the Clark Legion, where bingo started at 4:00 and ended at 6:00 p.m. There were many winners

and prizes such as gift cards, candy and Clark bucks. The local FCCLA hosted a free will donation hot dog bar from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. Fun was had by everyone who attended the event. The Clark Area Chamber of Commerce would like

to thank all of their sponsors and everyone who volunteered their time to make this all possible, and they are looking forward to doing it all again next year for the sixth annual Harvest Fest.



This photo of Troy VanSickle, left, and Gordy VanSickle, right was taken at the Sioux Falls Arena for the Midwest Honor Flight that the father and son took last month to Washington, D.C.

Veteran VanSickle participates in Mission 16: Midwest Honor Flight

By Carolynn Olson
Gordy VanSickle of Henry is a U.S. veteran who was selected by Seed for Success Midwest Honor Flight Mission 16 to attend the Honor Flight on September 16, 2023. The Honor Flight gives veterans the opportunity to fly to Washington D.C. for a day and visit many memorials that recognize veterans. His son Troy VanSickle was also able to attend the flight as his father's guardian. The Vietnam Memorial was one of Vansickle's favorite to visit. VanSickle served three years in the United States Army, going through eight weeks of basic training, eight months of schooling, and during his final year, he taught basic electronics at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama. Also, during his time served, he was in Vietnam for exactly one year from 1968 to 1969, where he was a in signal communications. VanSickle said the thing he enjoyed most about his time in the service was "serving for my country." When asked if he had any advice for anyone considering going into the U.S. Army, he stated, "It's a great experience for every-

one!" Gordy said that another highlight of the trip was being able to meet, shake hands and get a photo with United States Senator John Thune. VanSickle also really enjoyed getting to meet some older veterans and hear some of their stories and experiences. One emotional part of the trip, he emphasized, was visiting the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Honor Flight is a one-time opportunity if chosen. A friend of VanSickle filled out and sent in the form. He and was on a waiting list for two years until the organization contacted him. It is a free trip for all veterans and includes a free flight and three free meals. For this in particular trip, \$175,000 was donated in order 84 veterans to go. VanSickle highly recommends the trip if one gets the opportunity. He added, "You won't regret the trip if you get the chance to go." Upon completion of the trip, each veteran received an Honorable Discharge Certificate with their name printed on it, along with a challenge coin.

It's National 4-H Week

For over 100 years, South Dakotans of all ages have been loving 4-H. Each year, South Dakota 4-H reaches over 20 percent of our state's eligible youth with educational programs, activities and contests to help build the next generation of South Dakota. Nationwide, over six million 4-H members participate in the program each year. This year, we celebrate the many hearts, dreams and all the love that make 4-H what it is - the premier youth development organization in the country. Join Clark County 4-H members, families and alumni in sharing your 4-H Love during National 4-H Week happening October 1-7, 2023. South Dakota 4-H has something for everyone, and 4-H is more than cookies and cows. Clark County 4-H members learn life, leadership, social and workforce skills that better prepare them for life after high school. To do this, South Dakota 4-H relies on a team of over

National 4-H Week (continued on page 12)

WEATHER			
Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer			
	HI	LO	PR
Sept. 26	70	55	0.01
Sept. 27	65	57	0
Sept. 28	71	55	0
Sept. 29	79	58	0
Sept. 30	72	58	0.09
Oct. 1	81	61	0
Oct. 2	89	69	0
2023 precipitation to date	18.07"		
2022 precipitation to date	16.85"		

The Clark County Courier office will be closed on Monday in observance of the holiday.
If you have news stories or advertising for next week's edition of the Clark County Courier, please email us at clarkcountycourier@gmail.com or call us at (605) 532-3654 by Friday of this week. Mailed items may not reach us in time for the next publication. It's easier for us on Tuesday, if we can get the bulk of the work done by Friday night. Thank you



The 2023 royalty candidates for Willow Lake's Homecoming have been selected. Coronation will be Friday, October 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Willow Lake High School new gym. King candidates are in the back row, from left to right: Landon Villaseñor, Ryder Juntunen and James Poppen. Elliot Bratland is one of the junior attendants.

The queen candidates are in the middle row, from left to right: Shelby Anderson, Haylee Tormanen and Emma Nichols. Nora Terhark is the other junior attendant. Reagan Larson and Wyatt Hofer, the first grade attendants, are in the front row.

Photo by Christina Kannegieter

Willow Lake High School Homecoming theme is 'Cereals'

▲ Coronation is Friday, October 6

Willow Lake School's Homecoming Festivities start this Friday with the coronation ceremony of the new king and queen. Coronation will start at 7:00 p.m. in the new gym at Willow Lake High School. The burning of the 'WL' will follow coronation at the football field. The celebration of Homecoming is the week of October 9-13. The theme selected for this year is 'Cereals.' During Homecoming week, the students are allowed the opportunity to dress up. Every day has a different theme. The elementary students have 'Pajama Day' on Friday, October 6. They skip Monday, as there is no school for Native American Day. Then on Tuesday, it's 'Inside Out Day.' 'Patriotic Day' is on Wednesday, 'Crazy Hair Day' Thursday and of course 'Spirit Day' is on Friday, October 13 for Homecoming, dressing in black, green and silver Cyclone colors. The dress up day themes for the high school students are 'Dress to Un-Impress Day' on Friday, October 6. They skip Monday, as there is no school for Native American Day. Then for Tuesday, it's 'Barbie vs. Ken Day.' 'Color Wars Day' is on Wednesday, 'Soccer Mom vs. BBQ Dad Day' for Thursday and again 'Spirit Day' on Friday, October 13 for Homecoming. The Homecoming Parade is scheduled for Friday, October 13 at 1:00 p.m. The parade lineup will begin at 12:15 p.m. The Homecoming football

game will take place in Willow Lake against the Aberdeen Roncalli Cavaliers starting at 7:00 p.m. **King Candidates** Landon Villaseñor is the son of Erica and Jairo Villaseñor. His siblings are Brook, who is a junior, Kwalijah, who is in eighth grade, and Myaha, who is in seventh grade. Landon's activities include art, coding and programming, balloon business and weight lifting. His future plans are to attend college for a bachelor's degree in computer science. **Ryder Juntunen** is the son of Colleen and Dave Juntunen. His siblings are Hope (Juntunen) Horak, Jayme Juntunen and Erica Juntunen. Ryder's activities include golf, 4-H and FFA. His future plans are to attend LATC and enroll in an Agriculture program. **James Poppen** is the son of Sheila and Aaron Poppen. His siblings are Aaron, Seth, who is a freshman, Canaan, a fifth grader, Johnny, a third grader and Journey, who is in kindergarten. James's activities include FFA, FCA, 4-H, football and church youth group. His future plans are to attend Mitchell Technical College and enroll in the agronomy program. **Queen Candidates** Shelby Anderson is the daughter of Jenica and Derek Anderson. Her siblings are Jamison, who is 21, Wyatt, who is 19, Terrance, who is in seventh grade and Madelynn, who is in

fifth grade. Shelby's activities include volleyball, cheer, NHS, FFA, student council treasurer and senior class president. Her future plans are to attend Lake Area Technical College for Dental Assisting in the orthodontics department. **Haylee Tormanen** is the daughter of Brandy and Troy Tormanen. Her siblings are Darrell and Lacy, Sidney, Alex, Colton and Mackenzie. Haylee's activities include volleyball, FCA and student council vice president. Her future plans are to attend LATC for business. **Emma Nichols** is the daughter of Carolyn and Brock Nichols. Her siblings include Avery, who is 19, Zoe, a sophomore, Coy, who is in eighth grade, Colt, a fifth grader, Knox, who is in third grade, Flint, who is in kindergarten, and nine-month-old Wren. Emma's activities include volleyball, FCA, 4-H and St. James Youth Group. Her future plans are to attend LATC, enroll in the Fire-Med. Program and become a licensed real-estate agent. **Attendants** The Junior attendants are Nora Terhark and Elliot Bratland. Nora is the daughter of Angela and Jared Terhark. Elliot is the son of Erica and Cory Bratland. The first grade attendants are Reagan Larson and Wyatt Hofer. Reagan is the daughter of Julie and Brad Larson. Wyatt is the son of Cheri and Derick Hofer.



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