

Clark County Courier

The voice of Clark County since 1880

GROUNDHOG

DAY

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The hometown newspaper of Roxy Streckfuss, Mansfield, SD

Clark Development Corporation disbands after donating \$615,000 to Foundation

Five apartment complexes in Clark were sold recently. Les McElhany of Watertown was the high bidder, at auction, of these properties.

Starting in 1970 the Clark Development Corporation built the Griffin Apartments, then the Colonial Apartments, then City View Apartment (2) and most recently the Dakota Manor was purchased from the Wika family.

Earlier this month the Clark Development Corporation Board of Directors handed over a check of \$615,000 (pictured), to the Greater Clark Area Community Foundation Board of Directors. After the handing over of the \$615,000 the Clark Development Corporation is now defunct.

On the other hand, the Greater Clark Area Community Foundation is now 15 years young, has fund values totaling \$2,400,000 and is very active in county-wide community funding involvement activities and donations.

History of Clark Development Corporation

Starting in the fall of 1970, twenty-five members, each investing

\$100, made up the CDC. Members of this non-profit organization included: H. T. Desnoyers, Dean Kranshold, W. R. Campbell, Edwin Clausen, Grant Callsen, Oscar Geise, Glenn Halverson, Wayne Altfillisch, Vince Geise, Sid Stacey, N. O. Hamre, Normal Wika, Bill Antonen, Charles A. Larkin, Max Benson, Raymond Callsen, Wayne Olson, Richard Nelson, Noel Fischer, Robert Schlueter and Board members, Mel Hamre, Melvin Reinschmidt, S. D. Sherwood, L. A. Benson and Bert Moritz.

Under the lending guidance from Farmers Home Administration (now USDA Rural Development) and Giles Culey, Clark County Farmers Home Administration supervisor, a \$100,000 insured loan was garnered to construct the rental housing development - the Griffin Apartments.

Excerpt from the Sept. 3, 1970 *Clark County Courier*: "Mel Hamre, president of the Clark Development Corporation, reported that the plans call for the erection of a two-story brick structure that will be 48 x 73 feet. Each of the eight apartments will have two bed-

rooms, each apartment will have a completely equipped kitchen with refrigerator, stove, sinks and cupboards, there will be a bath and a 14 1/2 x 16 1/2 foot living-dining room area. There will also be storage areas on each floor and a completely equipped laundry.

Site of the project will be the Griffin lot on South Commercial Street. The lot provides ample parking area for vehicles of the apartment renters."

Bob Schlueter is the only CDC charter member who was still on in

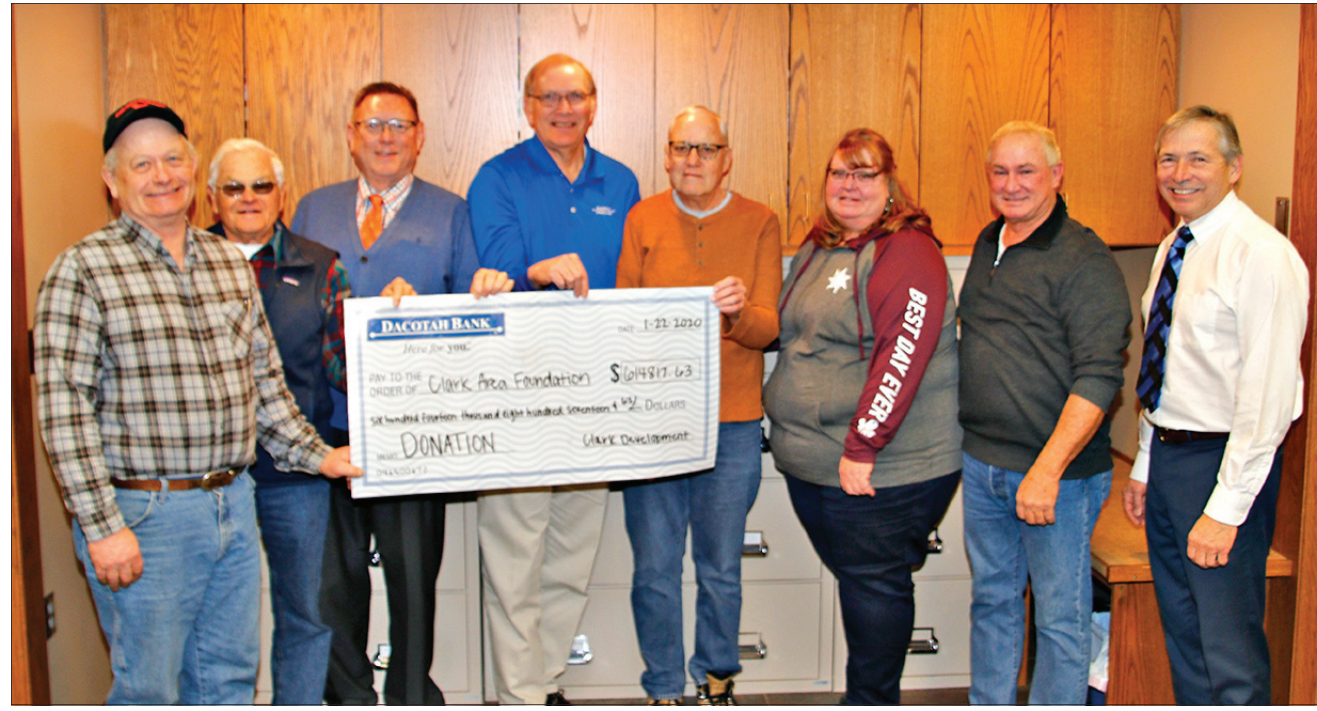
CDC

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WEATHER

Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Jan. 21	10	-11	0
Jan. 22	27	-12	0
Jan. 23	36	15	0
Jan. 24	24	20	.01
Jan. 25	26	20	0
Jan. 26	26	18	0
Jan. 27	31	15	0
2020 precipitation to date			.49
2019 precipitation to date			.98



A \$615,000 donation was given by the Clark Development Corporation (CDC) to the Greater Clark Area Community Foundation (GCACF) recently.

Fifty years ago the CDC began, with 25 members investing \$100 each to better the community by building apartments.

The \$615,000 is the donated result of this CDC community investment.

Bob Schlueter, second from left, is the only original

CDC member when it disbanded after the donation. Several individuals in the photo represent both the CDC and the GCACF board.

From left, Bob Benson, CDC board president; Schlueter, CDC; Greg Furness, CDC and GCACF; Dave Boehnke, CDC; David Moritz, CDC; Gayle Wookley, CDC and GCACF; Dave Warkenthien, CDC and GCACF and Tom LaBrie, CDC and GCACF.

Tater's Trolley means a little treat is coming your way



When one sees Tater's Trolley in the hallways, they know a little treat may be coming their way. Tate McGraw, a freshman at Clark High School is learning a lot of hands-on and real life skills through the Special Education department's project - 'Tater's Trolley'.

On Fridays, the high school staff and the seniors (through senior privileges) get to participate in the

service.

Above, Tate McGraw hands Special Education instructor Susan Schmit her favorite hot chocolate drink complete with a homemade mug wrap wrapped around the Styrofoam cup. Mug wraps are also a seasonal specialty given out.

Entrepreneurship, business education and service to the public go hand and hand with Tater's Trolley.

Run by the Clark High School Special Education department and more specifically student Tate McGraw and Special Education aide Jessica Nordhus, the service benefits all who have a part in it.

The teachers at the high school as well as the seniors - as a part of their senior privileges, reap the receiving end perks of the operation.

On the giving end, Tate McGraw, the son of Wade and Kimberly McGraw, is learning: social skills; how to manage sales in a business; how to record and keep track of his sales within a business; all about ordering product and purchasing product for said business; how to sew up mug wraps out of material; how to keep track of his customers' preferences and sales on a ledger - hard copy and digital; billing procedures in a business; organizational skills on his trolley and how to take suggestions from his customers on new offerings and acting on them.

"This is a real life - hands-on learning opportunity for Tate," stated Special Education instructor Susan Schmit. "Jess and I were talking about Tate's education and how something other than worksheets would be nice for him - to learn from in his school work.

"My college friend LaShawn Oberembt who is a special ed teacher in Parkston, told me of a program like this in their school which has been successful, so they were our inspiration for this," continued Schmit.

Tater's Trolley (continued on page 3)

Verdon Lamb presented with SDREA Leadership award

Two men were recognized at the South Dakota Rural Electric Association's annual meeting earlier this month in Pierre, for their contributions to electric cooperatives in South Dakota and the nation.

Verdon Lamb of Vienna and Dan Lindblom of Rapid City, were presented the SDREA Legacy of Leadership Award. The award recognizes co-op leaders whose talents, dedication and commitment to their co-op, their communities and the larger co-op family stand out among many. This is the seventh year the award has been presented.

Verdon Lamb served on the board of directors of Codington-Clark Electric Cooperative for 39 years, retiring from the board in 2019.

Verdon Lamb



During those 39 years, he played an instrumental role in directing several important cooperative policies, one of which was moving Codington-Clark toward underground construction plans. He also placed a priority on remaining connected

Lamb (continued on page 3)



Olivia Sass is standing next to the shelf in Ms. Bell's front office that will soon become the school's 'Comfort Closet'. As her senior project, Sass is beginning to collect for her endeavor of stocking the closet with personal hygiene products. These items will be available for the students of families whose incomes don't quite stretch for items that many take for granted, such as deodorants, toothbrushes, razors and similar products for personal care.

'Comfort Closet' is Sass' Senior Project

"I wanted to do something for my senior project that would help out students and something the school could keep on with after I graduate," stated Olivia Sass who has attended the Clark School since her kindergarten year.

So the implementation of a 'Comfort Closet' will be soon coming to Ms. Nan Bell's front office area once funding starts to come in.

The 'Comfort Closet' shelf will of-

fer personal care hygiene products to those students whose family's source of income may not be enough to afford such items. Items such as a new toothbrush, deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, bar soaps, liquid soaps, razors and shaving creme will be offered through the school counselor's office.

Comfort Closet (continued on page 4)

Informational assessment/taxation meeting held

▲ County, cities and schools officials in attendance

'Property Tax 101' an informational meeting, was held for Clark County, cities and school administrators Monday at the Ulylot Building.

Wendy Semmler, Program Manager with the South Dakota Department of Revenue led the meeting, in conjunction with Jarvis Reidburn, the Clark County Director of Equal-

ization.

During the past year, plus, Vanguard Appraisals did an assessed valuation of all non ag property in Clark County. Two Vanguard employees were in attendance Monday, including Vanguard Appraisals vice president Eric Kruse.

In attendance were county commissioners and employees, Clark

School superintendent and board members, Willow Lake superintendent and business manager, Clark mayor, finance officer and council persons and Willow Lake mayor and finance officer.

Any time valuations are done, to make things more equitable and consistent across the board and in this case a raise in valuation, many

questions need answering, one reason why this informational meeting was held.

Semmler started on the assessment side of the taxation process, talking timelines and definitions.

It needs to be noted that the bottom line for the property reappraisal

Taxation (continued on page 4)

Three sentenced for felony convictions

Three defendants were sentenced on Monday in Clark County Circuit Court for 2019 felony convictions.

Clinton Brooks, age 41, of Clark, earlier pleaded guilty to Possession of Methamphetamine (Class 5 Felony) and Keeping a Place for the Sale or Use of Narcotics (Class 5 Felony). On Monday, Brooks was sentenced to 5 years in the state penitentiary on each count, with execution of the

penitentiary sentences suspended on various conditions, including serving 60 days in the Codington County Detention Center.

Ashley Heer, age 28, of Clark, was sentenced to 5 years in the State Penitentiary for Unauthorized Ingestion of a Controlled Substance (Methamphetamine - Class 5 Felony). Execution of the penitentiary sentence was suspended on various

conditions, including serving 33 days in the Codington County Detention Center.

Phillip Portz, aged 28, of Leonard, Minn., appeared before Circuit Court Judge Carmen Means and was sentenced to 2 years in the state penitentiary, with execution of the penitentiary sentences suspended on various conditions, including serving 30 days in the Cod-

ington County Detention Center. According to Clark County State's Attorney, Chad Fjelland, Portz pleaded guilty to counts of Intentional Damage to Property (Class 6 Felony) and to Simple Assault. The charges were related to an August altercation in Clark that resulted in property damage. Total restitution in the amount of \$4,131.08 was awarded to two victims.