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The hometown newspaper of Sharon (Helms) Wilson, Blue Springs, MO

up 37 percent in county

On Friday, March 1, the 2019 Clark County valuations arrived in your mailbox. The value of your property is dependent upon what type of property you own and where it is located.

More importantly, all non-ag property in Clark County, including commercial and acreages, went up in value 37 percent. Agricultural land, which has

been valued on productivity now for a couple of years saw a little over a two percent increase. Said Clark County Director of

Equalization Jarvis Reidburn, "The South Dakota Department of Revenue tells us what we have to do to be compliant." The DOE office has to be at 85% of current sales. "If we don't get to 85%, then

people don't have the right to go through the appeals process," said Reidburn and he added, "if you think it is wrong, get in an appeal to your local government.

"For those who believe their prop-

erty is over assessed, there are appeal provisions," he said. Reidburn explained that any appeals would have to be made to the applicable town/township board in writing by March 14, 2019 unless you live in a different jurisdiction than where the property is located. If that is the situation you can appeal directly to the Clark County board by April 2, 2019.

The voice of Clark County since 1880

Property owners with any questions should contact the assessor's office at 532-3751.

Reidburn capsulated the situation by saying, "We have too much inequity. This is all driven by sales. We've had sales of houses that were valued at \$25,000 selling for \$90,000 and houses valued at \$20,000 selling for \$60,000. There no longer is the 150 percent law, that if a house sells for a 150 percent or more of what it is valued, it is thrown out. This 37 percent across the board increase is driven

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday services

Today Wednesday, March 6, Ash Wednesday begins the Easter Lenten Season with most churches in the area starting the first of a season of worship services.

In Clark, an ecumenical service will be held at the Plymouth-UCC Church, starting at 7:00 p.m.

St. Michael's Catholic Church in Clark will hold their Mass with distribution of Ashes at 5:30 p.m. In Henry, at St. Henry's Catholic Church, the Ash Wednesday service will be at 7:30 p.m.

In Carpenter, the United Methodist Church, will have services at

St. John's Lutheran Church in held in Crocker at Crocker Lutheran Church at 6:00 p.m. with a lunch to follow.

The Prairie Star Lutheran parish begins their Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday service to be held at 7:00 p.m. on the sixth at Grace Lutheran Church in Willow Lake.

The Lake Gospel Church will have their Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March

Willow Lake Evangelical Church had their service on Tuesday, March

Moving forward with the Clark Ecumenical Lenten series, the first Wednesday Lenten service will be held on March 13, at St. Paul Lutheran Church. A 6:00 p.m. light supper will precede the 7:00 p.m. worship service.

A 6:00 p.m. supper will be followed by 7:00 p.m. worship moving forward on the dates and locations being March 20 at Clark United Bradley will combine with Crocker Methodist Church; March 27 at Lutheran Church for a service to be Plymouth-UCC; Wednesday, April 3 at Clark United Methodist Church and April 10 at St. Paul Lutheran

> Holy week services have been planned for the week of April 15 through April 19 at the Plymouth-UCC church at 7:30 a.m. to 7:50

Wellnitz will be the Clark City police force in 2019 At Monday's March meeting of programs.

the Clark City Council, after a brief executive session for personnel reasons, police chief Jeremy Wellnitz reported that Clark policeman Nate Nickeson will be deployed to Europe for approximately a year.

Nickeson, who is in the U.S. Army Reserve, will leave sometime in April, his family will remain in Clark and when he returns he will resume his Clark policeman posi-

Wellnitz and the council put a plan in place for Nickeson's absence. Wellnitz requested an additional \$450 per week, plus \$50 for on-call officers and Nickeson's family to remain on dental and vision insurance. The city council approved these measures.

After a very brief executive session at the end of the meeting regarding summer recreation, Dawn Clayton and Nan Bell were hired as co-swimming pool managers.

Finance officer Jackie Luttrell stated that her office has been working hard to finalize summer staff including pool workers and baseball/ softball coaches. Rates and wages are being finalized for all summer

Dala Albright, representing the Clark Rotary Club, spoke of the juniper hedge to be planted beyond the fence in center field, the 'batter's eye' so to speak. The Clark Area | Farmer's Daughter Boutique. Foundation will donate \$32,000 for the trees and at the April meeting the fence topper funding will be decided upon.

Clark Municipal Golf Club co-managers Tammy Rusher and Melissa Nesheim updated the council on improvements to the club-

City council (continued on page 5)

WEATHER Robert Cole - Official Weather Observer LO PR

.11 2019 precipitation to date 2.32 2018 precipitation to date 0.53

Valuations for non-ag are Skyler Flatten is having a dream season at SDSU All athletes going from elementa-

ry to junior high to high school have aspirations of excelling at the high-

To standout on the NCAA Division I college level is a dream come

Clark High School 2013 graduate Skyler Flatten is living that dream.

The 6'6" double redshirt senior South Dakota State University Mens Basketball guard is a stalwart on the 24-7 Jacks who are champions of the Summit League with a 14-2 conference record.

Flatten, who is one of the top players on the top team in the Summit League is on the court the entire game, averaging 16 points per game, shooting over fifty percent from the floor and 43 percent from past the three-point line, in 2018-

As offensive basketball has trended toward a high pick and roll game, with shots coming either at the three-point range or a dunk/layup, Skyler fits right in, in the top collegiate level in the land.

Flatten's teammate, Mike Daum with his 3,000 plus career points has gotten much of the air time and print acclaim and the 2018-19 SDSU Jackrabbits are one of the top teams in the midwest with aspirations of back-to-back-to back tournament appearances.

Flatten played his last game at Frost Arena on the SDSU campus last Saturday and what a game it was, scoring 31 points against Weestern Illinois to help the Jacks win the Summit League title outright. The 6'6" guard netted 11 of 15 field goal attempts, including 6 for 9 from downtown (beyond the 3-point line). He also had four dunks.

It was senior night last Saturday. The applause for Daum, Flatten and Devon King went on for what seemed minutes!

This dream season has not come easy for Flatten. The traditional college career is four years. How did Skyler manage six?

"The first couple of years (in college), it was kind of rough. It kind

South Dakota State University Men's Basketball standout Skyler Flatten, is a 2013 Clark High School graduate. He moved from Hudson, Wis. to Clark, in eighth grade. He is the son of Michelle Flatten and the grandson of Dennis and Pat Flatten. Jerome Nesheim was Skyler's high school basketball coach.

Photo by Dave Eggen/Inertia Sports Media

Skyler Flatten - as a Clark-Willow Lake Cyclone!

Four-year varsity letterwinner...averaged 23 points, 8.0 rebounds, 5.0 assists and 3.0 steals per game as a senior in 2013...averaged 25 points, 6.0 rebounds, 4.0 assists and 3.0 steals per game as a junior in 2012... McDonalds All-American nominee following his junior and senior seasons...All-State honoree in both 2012 and 2013...named Class 'A' Player of the Year in 2013 following his senior season...led the Cyclones to a sixth place finish at the state tournament as a junior in 2012 and to a fifth place finish as a senior in 2013...also earned three varsity letters in track times," Flatten stated in a senior interview. "I needed to step away to understand what I had." His back hurt and his knees ached.

Flatten signed his National Letter of Intent to play at SDSU with coach Scott Nagy, who recruited him, in 2013. Flatten redshirted the 2013-14 season. A redshirt is an athlete who is withdrawn from college sporting events for a year to develop their skills and extend their period of playing eligibility by a further year at this level of competition.

In 2014-15, Flatten played in 31 games off the bench as a redshirt freshman. In 2015-16 he was sidelined the entire year due to injury.

In 2016-17 Flatten appeared in 27 games with two starts, averaging 17.6 minutes a game and scoring 140 points and pulling down 50 rebounds. In 2017-18, he started 30 of the 35 games he played in, leading the Summit League with a 49.1 three-point field goal percentage, hitting 55 of his 112 attempts from deep, averaging 6.8 points per game in 26.3 minutes.

It was January, 2018, when coach TJ Otzelberger, who has been SDSU coach since 2016-17, called Skyler aside at practice to ask him if he would come back and play one more year. His hardship appeal had gone through. 'You're kidding was Flatten's response, but this year has been memorable and in his words 'very worth coming back to play'.

Advertising is Flatten's graduated major and he has three minors. His 'major emphasis' currently however is basketball as next week is the Summit League Tournament with a spot in the NCAA Tournament on the line to the winner.

"Being a Jackrabbit means everything to me," Flatten said, "and I wouldn't trade it for the world." The standout basketball player added that he has learned so much from SDSU basketball and what comes with it such as family, honor, expectations and accountability.

It's fun to root for a true, Hometown Hero!

Farmer's Daughter Boutique is celebrating 1st Anniversary

"Because we're both farmer's daughters," is how the name of Clark's clothing boutique - Farmer's Daughter Boutique got its name explained Jessica Nordhus. "We sat down and discussed names and input and that's how we came up with our name."

'Farmer's Daughter' is not a clothing brand, it is the name of the store only. Many different brands of clothing are sold within the store and the ladies go to market regularly to keep up with the latest styles and trends. Clothing, footwear and accessories are all available at the

Nordhus and Stephanie Hagstrom are co-owners of the business located within the Backroads Floral and Nursery building at 201 North Commercial Street in Clark. The two are celebrating one year of being open for business this week with an open house on Friday and Saturday.

The boutique offers sizes from extra small to 3X in a variety of brands and styles for everyone. "Our customers come in all sizes and ages so we cater to those groups," said Hag-

Hagstrom and Nordhus work together in the Clark School system with Nordhus being a para-professional and Hagstrom - the kindergarten teacher. They've known each other for years, graduating the same year from Clark and Doland and playing against each other in

"I've always enjoyed fashion and wanted to someday - take that a



The Farmer's Daughter Boutique within the Backroads Floral Nursery building at 201 N. Commercial Street in Clark is celebrating their one year anniversary this week.

An open house is being planned for Friday and

little further," stated Nordhus of ing action last year on Christmas their earlier beginnings. And Hagstrom added that she always liked the idea of going into a boutique to try on clothes and there just weren't many places around the area to do that; especially with the plus sizes.

Talking about it turned into tak-

break with the ladies doing more research on the idea. They visited various markets and boutiques with the help of friends and family and it really all came together after visiting with Alissa Reidburn who had some extra space within her

Saturday. Owners Jessica Nordhus on the left and Stephanie Hagstrom on the right stand by a rack of their clothing within the store. The name represents the ladies' upbringing as both are farmer's daughters from the Clark and Doland areas.

"How do we have a store on a parttime basis?" was one of the original hurdles for the pair. Having their store within Backroads Floral with Alissa being there during the day

> Farmer's Daughter (continued on page 9)





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