



Sub-zero temperatures are back!

Moritz left a lasting print legacy in Clark

"I have enjoyed what I do. It will be hard to walk out the door - but I will." That was Moritz Publishing owner David Moritz signed off the *Courier* interview last week. "I've never ever not wanted to come to work."

Moritz, 71, has done his last desktop publishing of a career that spanned over 50 years. He has printed everything from statements, to envelopes, to auction bills, to potato tags, to forms, to newsletters, to business cards, to calendars and beyond.

As of December 31, it no longer will be Moritz Publishing on US Highway 212 in Clark, it will be Creative Printing of Huron, Brookings and now Clark, owned by Brad and Laura McGirr. Laura is the former Laura Stobbs of Willow Lake. Moritz has retired, as of last Saturday.

Said Moritz, "I'm really pleased that we are going to have someone here, a presence in town. They (Brad and Laura) know the technology that is passing me by. The McGirrs are expanding their business to serve the Clark County area and they plan to continue offering printing services from the former Moritz Publishing site."

As David retires, he is quick to point out that his wife and business partner Marlys, is also retiring. "I would be lost without her," said David as Marlys set type, did the book work, "and kept me on the straight and narrow." He stressed that Marlys played a very important role, many times behind the scenes, of making and keeping their newspaper and publishing business successful.

Back to Clark

David went into partnership with his father, Bert, in June of 1972.



Long time *Clark County Courier* publisher and Moritz Printing owner David Moritz is retiring. As 2016 has come to a close so has Moritz' 45-year business career in Clark.

Brad and Laura McGirr, of Creative Printing, Huron and Brookings, will now have a Clark location, in the former Moritz Publishing building and Clark will continue to have a printing presence.

The Moritz family leaves quite a printing legacy. David Moritz stands next to three South Dakota Newspaper Association Hall of Fame members.

At the top is David's grandpa B. W. "Jeff" Condit, who came to Clark in 1945. To his immediate left is his father Bert, who owned the *Courier* for almost 50 years and to the right is David's brother Jim who owned the *Faulk County Record* from 1977 until 2015.

These plaques are the SDNA Hall of Fame plaques. As well as Hall of Fame members, all three are former past presidents of the South Dakota Newspaper Association.

Moritz is a 1967 South Dakota State University graduate in printing management and both he and Marlys are 1963 Clark High School graduates.

"I was bound and determined

not to come back to South Dakota," Moritz said, as immediately after college he worked for Fetter Print-

Moritz
(continued on page 6)



Officials take courthouse oath of office

▲ Violet Wicks elected Chairman of Board of Commissioners

No, this is not a Merry Christmas greeting from selected courthouse officials. It is the newly elected Clark County Constitutional elected officers being sworn in by Clark County Auditor Chris Tarbox.

Pictured left to right are: Kay Mahlen, Clark County Treasurer; Robert Bjerke, Clark County Commissioner District 4; Andrea Helkenn, Clark County Register of Deeds; Chad Fjelland, Clark County States Attorney and Louann Streff, Clark County Coroner. Not pictured is Clark County Commissioner District 2 Chris Sass. He had illness in the family.

Violet Wicks was elected chairman of the Clark County Board of Commissioners at their regular meeting Tuesday. Robert Bjerke was elected Vice Chairman.

Commissioner committee assignments for 2017 were made and these include: Mental Health - Chris Sass; Extension - Richard Reints; Weed and Pest - Violet Wicks; Airport - Robert Bjerke, Sass and Francis Hass; ICAP - Hass; First District - Reints; Glacial Lakes - Bjerke; Legislative Contact - Wicks.

"Debbie Reynolds was bubbly and always smiling"

▲ Tracy Nickels-Aguayo meets several of the 'rich and famous' while living in Salt Lake City, Utah

Last week a mother-daughter movie star duo both died. Carrie Fisher, 60, of Star Wars (movies) fame died of cardiac arrest and a day later her mother, Debbie Reynolds, 84, died.

Clark County Clerk of Courts Tracy Nickels-Aguayo had the honor of working with and talking to Reynolds 25 years ago.

Nickels-Aguayo was living in

Salt Lake City, Utah at that time working at a private law office; Snow, Christensen and Martineau, as a legal secretary. She also was a card-carrying member of the Screen Actors Guild (SAG).

As a SAG member she was called to be an extra in the TV movie "Battling for Baby" starring Debbie Reynolds and Suzanne Pleshette. This was in the summer of 1991,

with the movie being released in 1992.

"It was a very fun opportunity and an amazing learning experience about making a movie," said Nickels-Aguayo. "The most memorable event was when we took a lunch break. Several of the extras were seated in our designated area.

Nickels-Aguayo
(continued on page 10)

Vanguard Appraisals to do county valuation assessments in 2019-20

"The whole goal of equalization is to be equal, fair and equitable," said Clark County Director of Equalization (DOE) Jarvis Reidburn.

Reidburn was referring to his title and then he spoke of the contract passed by the Clark County Board of Commissioners at the December 20 meeting.

The commissioners passed this contract with Vanguard Appraisals, an Iowa firm, to reassess the parcels in Clark County, excluding bare ag land.

The cost of this project is \$381,720. The reassessment of Clark County valuations will start in 2019 and be completed in 2020. Voting in favor of this project were Bob Bjerke, Violet Wicks and Doug Loomis. Voting against this motion were Francis Hass and Richard Reints.

The *Courier* attended the January 3 meeting of the Clark County Board of Commissioners, following up on this valuation assessment action.

Commissioner Bob Bjerke began the discussion, "It is state driven," and he turned it over to DOE Reidburn.

"Valuations have been so low for so long a period of time," said Reidburn and he acknowledged that it was a state wide situation, not just one in Clark County.

"The state has passed statutes requiring counties to be at 85% of market value. The state is applying pressure with no tolerance forcing us to be at 100 percent right now,"

said Reidburn.

This reassessment process with Vanguard Appraisals will begin in 2019, end in 2020 and payable in 2021.

Bare ag land will not be reassessed, but rural buildings with out buildings, residences, grain bins, acreages and all business places and dwellings will be assessed throughout the entire county.

Reidburn explained that Vanguard Appraisals is an experienced firm in this matter with the tools and manpower to get it right.

"They will come in with a team of inspectors to analyze, measure, sketch and take pictures of all parcels. A second team will verify the first team's work. A third group will then check and balance the values," said the DOE.

Vanguard Appraisals (continued on page 7)

WEATHER

Ryan Eggleston - Official
Weather Observer

	HI	LO	PR
Dec. 27	26	5	0
Dec. 28	30	14	0
Dec. 29	26	7	0
Dec. 30	28	15	0
Dec. 31	23	7	0
2016 precipitation to date	21.93		
2015 precipitation to date	22.50		
Jan. 1	23	12	tr
Jan. 2	24	-1	.03
2017 precipitation to date	.03		
2016 precipitation to date	.00		



Ice skating is popular winter-time activity

Christmas vacation is a great time to go ice skating. The City of Clark ice skating rink, located southwest of the former Playhouse Family Restaurant, has been open all vacation.

Pam Ambrose and Tammy Rusher are the ice skating rink attendants and hours in which the rink is open is placed on the warming room door. With temperature lows forecast below zero for the middle of the week,

there will be no problem with the ice. Frigid weather is to last through Saturday, with Sunday and Monday to be back in the 20's before highs of 10' throughout the rest of next week.

Skaters on the second to last day of 2016 include, from left to right, Ryan Thomas, Alexandria Thomas, Sara Thonvold, Shawna Thonvold, Taylor Merkel and Christian Ramirez.



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