

The Groton Independent

Vol. 142 No. 18 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Jan. 22, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889



City Council approves mower purchase, adjusts water and sewer rates

by Elizabeth Varin

Tuesday's Groton City Council meeting was brief, lasting about 15 minutes before going into executive session.

Despite its short length, the council addressed topics including purchasing new equipment and adjusting utility rates.

The council unanimously approved the purchase of three new mowers, two small and one larger, for the city's public works department. Though slightly higher in price, the council approved bids from Flihs Sales & Service over Bobcat of Aberdeen. Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich said Flihs Sales & Service is not only the more local business, but they have also been good about going over to the city shop if there are any problems.

The city will purchase two Bobcat ZT2000, one with a bagger, for \$9,070 and one Bobcat ZT7061SP with a bagger and bumper kit for \$11,502.

Two ordinances were also approved following their second readings. The first adjusted the city's bulk water rate, which applies to large-scale water usage rather than regular residential water services.

The second ordinance updated how sewer fees are calculated. Previously, sewer rates were based on average water usage during November through April. Under the new ordinance, the average will now include October.

Those changes come as the city prepares for utility rate increases in the next few years. The council has indicated wanting to increase the sewer rate as that would help the city qualify for potential grant funding for water system improvements. The council has also discussed possible increases to electric rates due to rising wholesale electricity prices.

- The city is accepting applications for summer recreational positions, including baseball coordinator, softball coordinator, legion coach, junior legion coach, junior teenager coach, girls softball coaches, day baseball/softball coach, concessions manager and swimming pool manager.

- The council held off on discussing the city's airport, though a standing agenda item has been "Airport Discussion."

The Sugar Babes and Sweet Sensations performed at halftime of the varsity game. (Photos by Paul Kosel)

Robots running to the Championships in the Weekend Doubleheader!

An exciting run for Groton Robotics this past weekend! Both days the Gladiators & Galaxy teamed up in the finals and made it to the championship round in both Valley City & at Home! Exciting for the Groton teams, they are now working on final tweaks these next few weeks; a tournament in Spearfish on the horizon on Saturday, February 15th and a 2-day High School State Robotics championship on February 28th-March 1st. Thank you to the Groton Community for your support!

9050F – Gladiators: Garrett Schultz, Lead; Rylee Hofer, Jameson Penning and Haden Harder

Valley City Frozen Classic: Qualifier Rank 3rd out of 16 (6 wins/2 loss). Won Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, Loss in the Championship 18 to 24.

Groton Tournament: Qualifier Rank 3rd out of 15 (5 wins/1 loss). Won Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, Loss of the Championship 15 to 49.

9050E – Galaxy: Axel Warrington and Corbin Weismantel, Co-Lead; Illyanna Dallaire and Ayce Warrington

Valley City Frozen Classic: Qualifier Rank 9th out of 16th. (4 wins/4 loss) Won Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, Loss in the Championship 18 to 24.

Groton Tournament: Qualifier Rank 5th out of 15. (4 wins/2 losses) Won Quarter Finals, Semi Finals, Loss of the Championship 15 to 49.

9050B – Gearheads: Logan and Kira Clocksene, Co-Lead; Peyton Padfield and Emmett Zoellner

Valley City Frozen Classic: Qualifier Rank 5th of out 16. (5 wins/3 loss) Won Quarter Finals, Loss in Semi Finals 24 to 36.

Groton Tournament: Qualifier Rank 13th out of 15 (2 wins, 4 losses). Loss in Quarter Finals, 15 to 26.



From left to right Ayce Warrington, Corbin Weismantel,, Axel Warrington, Garrett Schultz, Jameson Penning, Haden Harder. Not pictured. Illyanna Dallaire and Rylee Hofer. (Courtesy Photo)

Enrich Groton SoDak year in review

Enrich Groton SoDak Inc. made significant strides in 2024, enriching the Groton SD Community with the unwavering support of volunteers and donors. Some of the key activities included:

Educational Outreach: Volunteers engaged with BIO Girls and Table Talks, raising awareness about Enrich Groton SoDak Inc., The Pantry and Common Cents. They also promoted eco-friendly practices like recycling, reducing, and reusing.

Collaboration with Feeding SD: Volunteers worked alongside Feeding SD to provide essential Senior Nutrition Boxes, supporting the most vulnerable members of the community.

Community Education: Volunteers spoke at the Dacotah Prairie Museum, educating the public about the organization's impact. Additionally, GHS FACS classes had the opportunity to shop at Common Cents, learning about resource management.

Generosity and Support: Enrich Groton SoDak participated in various local events, including donating to the FEZtival of Trees and the Fruit Fusion holiday giveaway. They also decorated a Giving Tree at Wage Memorial Library, collecting items to be gifted to families.

Holiday Support: Volunteers packed and organized food deliveries for Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas, ensuring that families received festive meals.

Empowering Youth: One scholarship was awarded to a GHS senior, and Kindness Kash was gifted to encourage goodwill throughout the community.

Advocacy and Fundraising: Enrich Groton SoDak played an active role in the mayor's proclamation for Hunger Action Day and Hunger Action Month. They also organized fundraising efforts, selling raffle tickets and reusable bags to support their mission.

Practical Assistance: The nonprofit organization hosted drives for school supplies and winter gear, as well as distribution days to ensure individuals had what they needed. Enrich also provided support for SNAP Application Assistance, helping families navigate the process.

As we look ahead to 2025, the board members of Enrich Groton SoDak Inc. are excited for the continued opportunity to enrich the Groton SD Community. Building on the successes of 2024, we are eager to expand our efforts, strengthen existing partnerships, and create new initiatives that will have an even greater impact. With the unwavering support of volunteers, donors, and community members, we will continue making a meaningful difference!

The Presidential Medal of Freedom

By Aaron "Hammer" Grant

Having witnessed many medals bestowed by Presidents in the last few years, I thought it proper to write about what the Presidential Medal of Freedom is, and where it came from. Now, while I was active in the United States Marine Corps, I have witnessed many medals bestowed and have had the honor to conduct the ceremony on occasion. Every single time one was given, from the Medal of Honor to the Purple Heart, from the Silver Star to the National Defense Medal, every time was a good, sacred moment; and I saw it on their face. I don't have to tell you how hard it is to keep a straight face when a Purple Heart is bestowed - just imagine when a medal is bestowed, no matter what it is, it is never done lightly and is never done without sacrifice. Every single medal that is upon the chest of millions of military men and women, and millions of veterans was gotten with sacrifice. Medals represent deployments and battle - of course, but they also represent the missed Thanksgivings and Christmas. The cost of life and limb, and the cost of failed marriages. The missed birthdays and the father - daughter dance. Medals represent the full measure of service one gives to God, family, and country - a country that may never know their name. That is honor. Medals are so much more than cloth and anodized gold; they represent a life sacrificed by the one who bears them.

But what is the Presidential Medal of Freedom? Where did it come from? The idea was conceived by John F. Kennedy to honor civilian service. It is the highest honor a person may receive for faithful service in private or public endeavors recommended to the President, or by the President himself. It is equal alongside the Congressional Gold Medal bestowed for national appreciation of distinguished achievements particularly for the United States of America. But what makes the Presidential Medal of Freedom different is that the current President of the United States may bestow it upon whom he pleases, not just by recommendation. It may be bestowed to citizens and non-citizens - anyone who has significantly, virtuously contributed to the United States especially at the sacrifice of personal liberty and well-being. It is a medal unlike any other, and rightfully so. Nearly 700 of them bestowed since 1963, and it is also the only medal that has been recommended for nothing other than "distinction." A few of the well-known recipients are Mother Teresa, Margret Thatcher, Rosa Parks, and Fred "Mister" Rogers; all honored for significant contributions to society and world peace.

Mother Theresa was one of the most influential, remarkable women in history to receive the Medal. Serving the "poorest of the poor" from the slums of Calcutta to the Slavic states, Serbia, and so many others, the "Missionaries of Charity" that she founded grew to 4,500 nuns who were utterly dedicated to helping the poor. God knows how many lives have been saved thanks to the missionary of incredible women who now serve in over 130 countries. Margret Thatcher's ideals ought to be studied throughout the world. This longest-serving British Prime Minister was named the "Iron Lady" by journalists that covered her unswerving, uncompromising, and highly quotable "Thatcherism" that led to a British boom in what was a slugging, overregulated economy. Through the 1980's her leadership was admired even by enemies of her conservative policies. Rosa Parks, the "First Lady of Civil Rights" took more than a seat on a bus refusing to move for a white person, she aided the start of a movement that changed the world from generational hate to generational equality. And Mr. Rogers, the television star aired "Mister Rogers Neighborhood" from 1968-2001 emphasizing the emotional and physical needs of children in a society filled with broken homes. His mission, like Mother Teresa, Thatcher, and Parks' left the world a better place than when they found it. All of them are incredible models of human spirit, kindness, and compassion deserving honor indeed.

In the last few years, the Office of the President has bestowed thirty-five. The Presidential Medal of Freedom Honorees includes notables such as Robert F. Kennedy, Michael J. Fox, and Fannie Lou Hamer, and many others for making the world a better place. The president also chose George Soros and Hillary Clinton, personalities of whom many Americans outright despise. For good reason Soros did not attend the ceremony

having his son receive it instead - George Soros is wanted in many countries for being an economic hitman, and billionaire financier of countless liberal district attorneys who now wage lawfare in modern America. His generously funds hundreds of non-profits whose money has delivered pallets of bricks to Portland just in time for demonstrators to pick them up. He funds the campaigns of anyone who will interpret the United States Constitution loosely and send down the memory hole hundreds of years of Constitutional wisdom in the name of "democracy." Touted as an "holocaust survivor," he did survive Nazi Germany - as a Hitler Youth Officer once saying, "it was the best time of my life." Almost none of this pertinent information is accessible thanks to his influence over information. The other infamous character, Hillary Clinton rightly was the Secretary of State under President Obama, but also presided over Benghazi, and an email controversy that every American ought to know about. She also is well-known for the "Clinton Foundation Scandal" where foreign governments chipped-in to buy influence in the White House. There is also an adage growing in America: "don't mess with a Clinton." It is a fact many of their liabilities have died under suspicious circumstances. There is so much more, but the point is clear: is this honor?

It is plain to see that the medal rests upon virtue. One of the realities of our Constitutional Republic is that it heavily rests upon the virtue of the President. Vested in America's first citizen, her Commander in Chief is the duty to build America by recognizing those who he admires as examples of what honor really looks like. Take notice of how the President stands behind the individual when he bestows the medal: a symbolic moment where the office honors the recipient - a role model, according to the President, whom all Americans ought to emulate. The virtue of the President, the virtue of the office is thereby seen in the ones whom he chooses to receive the highest honor. The waning days of every administration are filled with praise celebrating duty and sacrifice. The news captures the very moment in a collage of what the President strove for, and in his mind, what America ought to strive for.

The faces come and go, and the people watch it all live stream. Each receives the medal whether people agree with it or not. But I will proffer that all are role models indeed - some for virtue, some for vice. All of them are actors we have watched for many years. We have watched them make good choices, and bad ones. We have seen their conscience in a single word. If we have paid attention, we have seen what we ought to emulate, and what we should not. We have witnessed what is good for America, and what is not. Perhaps that's what really counts then. These are people of vice and virtue. What they have done for the good or detriment of America is mostly plain to see, so let's learn from them. More and more the office of the President is kin to the soul of America; it doesn't take the Presidential Medal of Freedom to see that. But if we choose to learn from the honorees behind the medal, who knows what sort of America we can build when duty, honor, and virtue are at the forefront of all of our minds.

Mr. Grant is a lifelong US Marine and veteran of the Iraq War. He is a Christian, Family guy, teacher, and award-winning author. He also heads a movement to honor the Purple Heart for combat-incurred PTSD, an undeniable war-wound that is the cause of so much veteran suicide. It is his mission to honor veterans for their daily, living sacrifice for America with a tangible recognition that America is with them even in the darkest hours. It is his belief that the Purple Heart properly honored will save countless lives. It is his hope that it is noticed by the President of the United States who can make it reality by the stroke of a pen.

By Design, Aaron "Hammer" Grant
Staff NCO - US Marine Corps
Author, Teacher, Consultant
Master of Military History
Combat Peer Support Specialist

Marine Corps League Commandant
Legion County Commander
V.F.W. Commander



Scan the QR Code to go the site to sign the petition of support.

Power blink Tuesday

Some residents in Groton experienced a power blink Tuesday morning. The incident occurred when someone backed into a panel causing a momentary short that led to the blink on a circuit. No major damage happened.



2025 MITCHELL NO TILL EVENT

Thursday, February 6, 2025
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. CST
Highland Convention Center
2000 Highland Way, Mitchell, SD

AGENDA INCLUDES:
No Till, Cover Crops, Reintroduction of Grazing Ruminants and fresh water advocacy - Blake Vince, Merlin, Ontario

Pluses and Minuses of Raising Cereal Rye - Dr. Pete Sexton, SDSU SE Research Farm

Giving Clarity to the Estate Planning and Generational Transition Process - Alan Hojer, SD Ag Foundation

For more details visit SDNoTill.com
Pre-registration is required by Jan. 31.
Please email heidi.rients@usda.gov; or call 605-996-1564 ext. 3; or text 605-530-5390.
Seating is limited. CCA credits will be available.



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...writing and publishing them.

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Kids: color stuff in!

Happy birthday to us!

When you "publish" something, you are sharing your ideas with others in a "public way."

This year, *Newspaper Fun* is celebrating 20 years of publishing our weekly educational activity page. That may seem like a long time, but some newspapers have been in print for a *century or more*. Humans have been publishing in one form or another for thousands of years. Cave drawings were the earliest way for people to put their ideas on display for others.

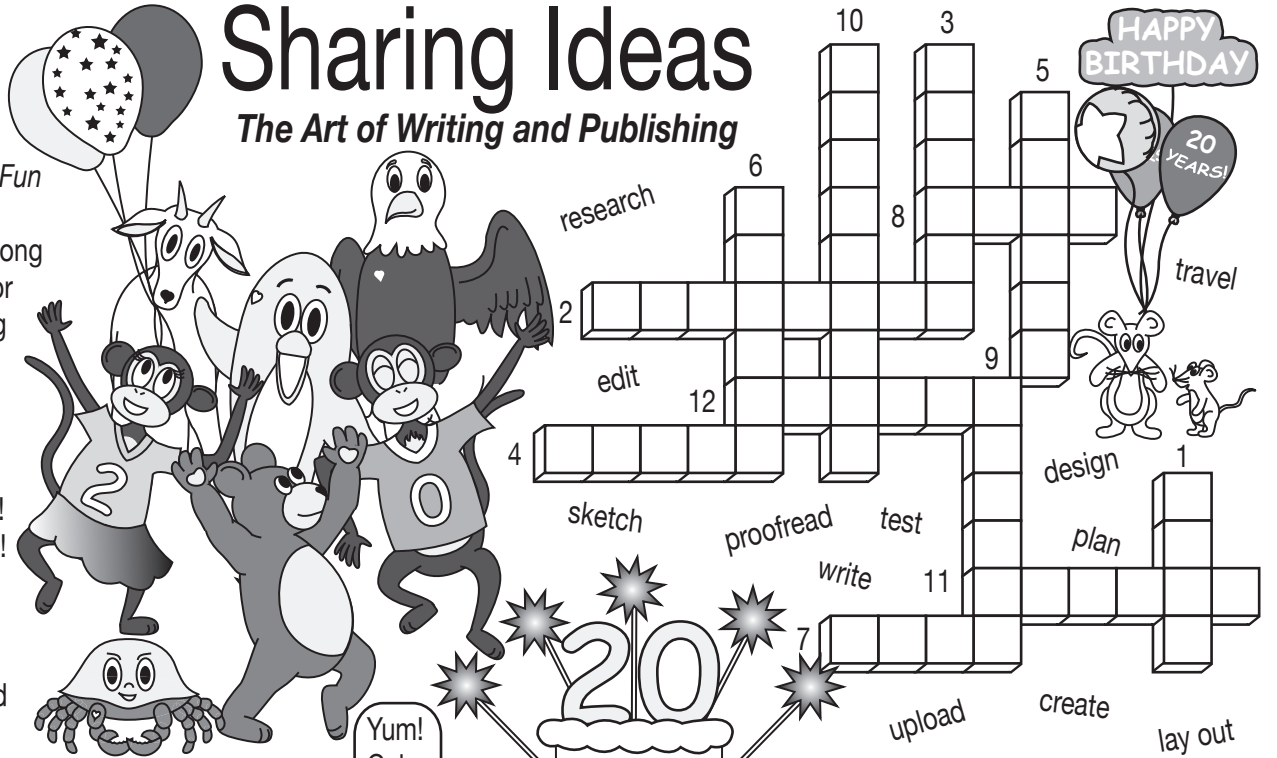
Have you ever dreamed of publishing? This page shows you 12 basic steps for how we do it! Perhaps *you* can publish a newsletter or web site!

Read the clues to fill in the crossword:

- _____ a calendar of themes: holidays, seasons, subjects taught in school, events
- _____ the theme to learn interesting facts and decide how information will be used
- _____ out ideas for the types of puzzles and how they might fit on a page
- _____ clues, word banks, directions, hints
- _____ the puzzles: crosswords, dot-to-dots, mazes, word searches
- _____ the illustrations and cartoons that we imagine
- _____ (and tweak) the writing to make sure everything is as clear as possible
- _____ the puzzles to make sure they are accurate and fun
- _____ the writing (copy), puzzles and illustrations to make an attractive presentation
- _____ to look for any errors: spelling, facts, names
- _____ the final product to a web site so others can print and enjoy it
- start all over again: _____, visit places, explore, talk to people, take photographs and notes for future themes

Sharing Ideas

The Art of Writing and Publishing



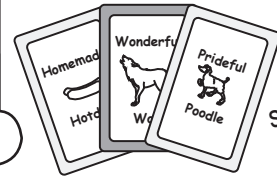
Yum! Cake.

Publish your ideas, too.

Party Fun

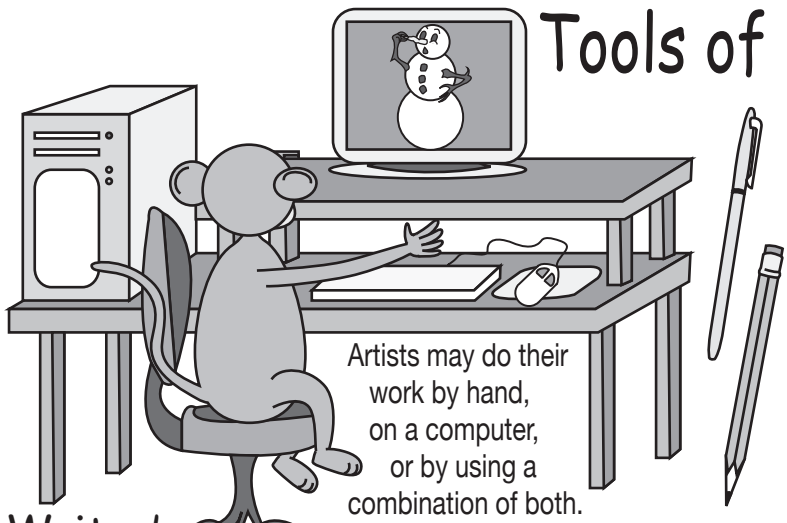
Here are 2 fun party ideas:

- gummy _____ worms



2. _____
s r d c

Tools of Writing and Drawing



Artists may do their work by hand, on a computer, or by using a combination of both.

Writer's Tools

- dictionary
- notebooks
- pens
- laptop
- carry bag
- phone
- computer
- monitor
- keyboard
- printer
- backup storage
- word processing program

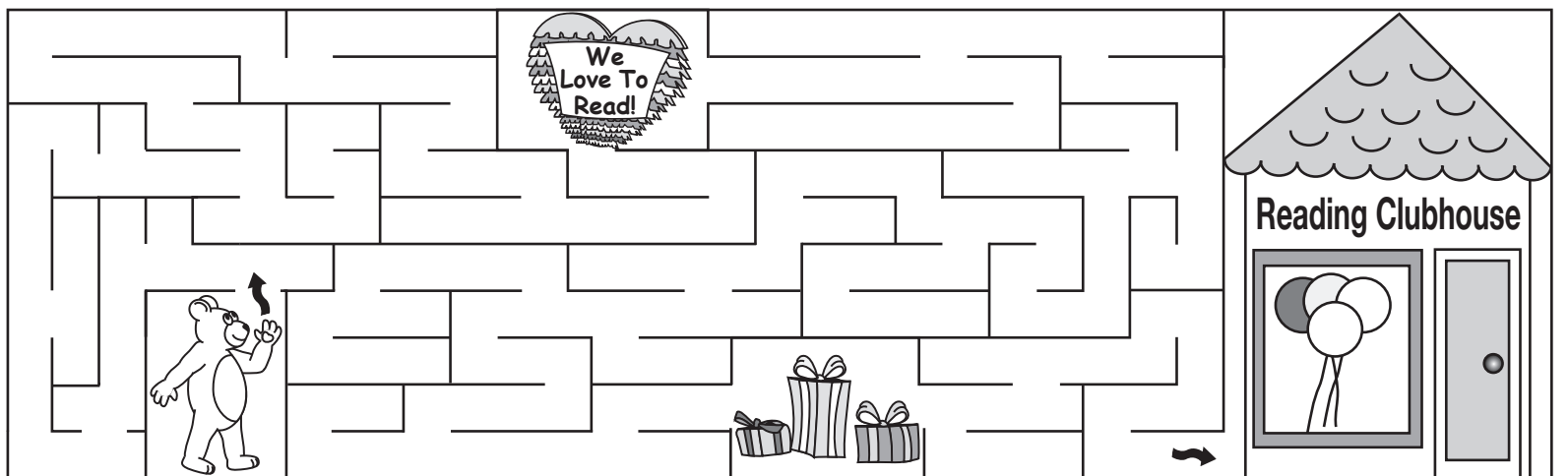
Artist's Tools

- ink
- ruler
- easel
- erasers
- mannequin
- art pencil
- blending tool
- drawing program
- digital camera
- sharpener
- drawing paper
- sketch books
- scanner



Surprise Party!

Everyone is meeting at the clubhouse to hold a party to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their fun activity page. **Help Forest pick up the piñata and the gifts on his way there.**



Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2024

2	7	5	3	8	6	4	9	1
8	3	4	9	2	1	5	6	7
9	6	1	7	4	5	3	8	2
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4	1	8	5	6	3	7	2	9

Solution time: 25 mins.

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The Life of Elroy "Sarge" Likness



Elroy "Sarge" Likness of Groton and formerly of Andover passed away peacefully on January 13, 2025 at Avantara Groton. Services will be held later this spring. Inurnment with military honors will follow in Falnes Lutheran Cemetery, rural Langford under the direction of

Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Elroy Leon Likness was born September 15, 1939 in Britton to Elmer Rudolph and Louise Lorraine (Liknes) Likness. Sarge graduated high school from Langford in 1957. He went on to join the US Army and returned home following his honorable discharge. Sarge continued his education at Northern State College, graduating in 1966. Throughout his lifetime, he was a beloved teacher, coach, realtor and friend.

He loved watching sports, playing bingo, card games, pinochle and hanging out at the Senior Center with all of his dear friends. Sarge was very active in the community.

Celebrating his life is his sister, D. Mae Olla (Ken) Saeger of Milbank, special friends, David Kleinsasser of Groton, Debra Castles of Spearfish and extended family and friends.

Preceding him in death were his parents and his sister, Carol in infancy.

Memorials and condolences may be sent to Debra Castles, 3416 10th Ave., Spearfish, SD 57783.

Brown County has been awarded another 4 years of being a National Weather Service "Storm Ready County"

Brown County has continually received this certification since 2002.

For those if you that don't know what storm ready is:

Storm Ready is a nationwide program which began in the summer of 2000. It is a voluntary program designed to help counties and communities take a proactive approach to the kinds of severe weather that affect their areas by improving local hazardous weather operations and heightening public awareness.

Some of the things the Storm Ready program is intended to do are:

- Improve the timeliness and effectiveness of hazardous weather warnings for the public.
- Provide detailed and clear recommendations by which local emergency managers may establish and improve effective hazardous weather operations.
- Help local emergency managers justify costs and purchases related to supporting their hazardous weather related program.
- Reward local hazardous weather mitigation programs that have achieved a desired performance level.
- Provide a means of acquiring additional Community Rating System points assigned by the Insurance Services Organization.

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The Groton Independent

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Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday]

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The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

- 1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
- 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
- 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
- 4th consecutive week is free

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EMPLOYMENT

SEEKING OT, SCHOOL PSYCH, and SLP in NE South Dakota for 2025-2026 school year. Individuals moving into our area get signing bonus. For more info visit nesc.k12.sd.us or call (605)783-3607. EOE.

POLICE OFFICER: The City of Murdo is seeking a full-time police officer, certified officer preferred but not required. Call (605) 669-2272 for application and information.

FAULKTON INN HIRING, Part-time front desk, Full-time evening shift with living quarters included; call for more details 605-598-4567.

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2025
President Rix called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Rix, Fliehs (7:05pm), Gengerke, Harder, Lerseth-Fliehs, Strom and Weismantel. Absent: None. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal B. Schwan, and Business Manager Hubsch.

Moved by Weismantel, second by Harder, to approve the agenda as written. Motion carried.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, no potential conflict disclosure was reported.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Lerseth-Fliehs, to approve consent agenda items for December 9, 2024, meeting minutes, December 2024 district bills, and open enrollment applications 25-19, 25-20, and 25-21.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary 315,957.17; Benefits 83,259.91; A&B Business – staples, 174.76; Aberdeen Awards – wrestling awards, 444.00; Allied Climate Professionals – repairs, 5,453.58; Amazon – various supplies, 521.88; Automatic Building Controls – fire alarm maintenance, 2,611.00; Brian Bahr – Sports help, 100.00; Quintin Bierman – sports help, 125.00; Cole Papers – copy paper/janitor supply, 6,213.54; Custodial Fund – advanced payments, 40,911.02; Dakota Supply – parts, 352.23; Brock DeGroot – sports help, 195.00; Dependable Sanitation – garbage, 1,287.00; East River Electric Power – bucket truck usage, 357.21; Farm Tire Service – tires, 1,076.22; Susan Fjeldheim – student teacher stipend, 200.00; Chris Frost – sports help, 90.00; Full Circle Ag – oil, 608.26; Geffdog – shirts, 246.88; Good Shred – shredding, 83.50; Groton Chiropractic – DOT physical, 100.00; Groton Daily Independent – legal publishing, 22.81; Rachel Guthmiller – sports help, 270.00; Hillyard – janitor supplies, 5,357.86; Tiffany Hoefft – sports help, 100.00; House of Glass – repairs, 197.74; Mike Imrie – sports help, 245.00; International All-Battery Center – lift battery, 377.60; JW Pepper – music, 269.94; John Deere – parts, 58.78; Jostens – diploma covers, 23.90; Jordan Kjellsen – sports help, 180.00; Kasey Kurtz – sports help, 285.00;

GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6 FINANCIAL REPORTS							
Dec. 1 2024	General Fund	Capital Outlay	Special Ed.	Food Service	OST	Driver's Ed	Custodial
RECEIPTS	\$1,388,272.58	\$774,817.28	\$414,167.64	\$174,201.41	\$38,980.87	\$19,057.84	\$200,054.75
Local Sources	\$203,676.51	\$193,199.86	\$82,843.22	\$13,854.43	\$1,916.50		\$53,018.63
County Sources	\$3,005.33						
State Sources							
State Aid	\$21,576.00						
Wind Farm							
Mentor Teacher Program							
State Apportionment							
State Reimbursements							
Bank Franchise							
Federal Sources	\$42,902.00				\$6,656.93		
Sale of Assets							
Due from Govt/Others							
Transfer In/Out							

TOTAL MONTHLY RECEIPTS	\$271,159.84	\$193,199.86	\$82,843.22	\$20,511.36	\$1,916.50	\$0.00	\$53,018.63
FUNDS AVAILABLE	\$1,659,432.42	\$968,017.14	\$497,010.86	\$194,712.77	\$40,897.37	\$19,057.84	\$253,073.38
MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS	(\$443,178.82)	(\$10,679.54)	(\$78,771.52)	(\$27,744.62)	(\$7,399.18)	(\$246.52)	(\$113,675.44)
JOURNAL ENTRIES	\$849.74		\$196.41	\$55.52			

Dec. 31 2024	\$1,217,103.34	\$957,337.60	\$418,435.75	\$167,023.67	\$33,498.19	\$18,811.32	\$139,397.94
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GENERAL FUND	SPECIAL EDUCATION	FOOD SERVICE	OST
Payroll	Payroll	Payroll	Payroll
Instruction \$315,957.17	Instruction \$46,012.19	Instruction \$8,977.18	Instruction \$2,489.31
Employee Benefits \$83,259.91	Employee Benefits \$12,802.65	Employee Benefits \$2,740.43	Employee Benefits \$290.24
Total \$399,217.08	Total \$58,814.84	Total \$11,717.61	Total \$2,779.55
Driver's Education			
Payroll			
Instruction \$0.00			
Employee Benefits \$0.00			
Total \$0.00			

Sydney Kurtz – student teacher stipend, 100.00; Lori's Pharmacy – flower, 6.50; Matheson – IA Supplies, 467.45; McLeod's Printing – tax envelopes, 106.05; Mid-American Research – janitor supply, 3,721.22; Mj's Sinclair – fuel, 7,026.09; Stan Monson – sports help, 100.00; Wendy Monson – sports help, 100.00; Northside Implement – parts, 609.02; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 7,772.24; Pfitzer Pest Control – rodent control contracts, 2,920.60; Prorate Service – DOT testing, 380.00; Robotics Foundation – registration, 435.00; S&S Lumber – IA Supply, 1,480.77; School Specialty – supply, 162.78; Smith Autobody – repairs, 9,516.82; Taylor Music – needs/repairs, 239.91; Carla Tracy – sports help, 30.00; Training Room – supplies, 505.60; Carrie Weisenburger – student teacher stipend, 100.00; Martin Weismantel – sports help, 70.00; Jacob Zak – sports help, 35.00; Krissi Zak – sports help, 60.00; Kristi Zoellner – sports help, 695.00. Total General Fund-\$504,396.84.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: A&B Business – managed print agreement, 1,524.03; Amazon – classroom books, 1,520.45; Custodial Fund – equipment, 3,214.91; Follett Content Solutions – books, 67.44; RDO – parts, 212.11. Total Capital Outlay-\$6,538.94.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary 46,012.19; Benefits 12,802.65. Custodial Fund – advanced payments, 13,907.87; parent -

mileage, 588.00. Total Special Ed-\$73,310.71.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service Net Salary 8,977.18; Benefits 2,740.43; Amazon – equipment, 245.27; Custodial Fund – advanced payments, 541.57; East Side Jersey Dairy – milk, 910.11; Hillyard – dish soap, 147.37; Performance Food Service – food, 6,780.45; US Foods – food, 4,015.39. Total Food Service-\$24,357.77.

OST - Net Salary 2,489.31; Benefits 290.24; Driven – fundraiser expense, 35.60. Total OST-\$2,815.15.

Driver's Ed - Net Salary 0.00; Benefits 0.00. Total Driver's Ed 0.00.

CUSTODIAL FUND: \$113,675.44

RECEIPTS: Local Sources-495,490.52; Custodial-53,018.63; County Sources – 3,005.33; State Sources – 21,576.00; Federal Sources – 49,558.93. Total Receipts – 622,649.41

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no one present, the board continued with the agenda.

Moved by Weismantel, second by Harder, to approve the December 2024 financial report, agency accounts, and investments. Motion carried.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Harder, to approve the December 2024 school transportation report. Motion Carried.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Harder, to approve the

December 2024 school lunch report. Motion carried.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan congratulated Mrs. Kristen Gonsoir for being selected by the White House for a Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching award. Mr. Schwan and Ms. Edwards will attend the CTE 2025 Improve meetings on January 30 and the NSU teacher job fair on January 31. Mr. Schwan also gave an update on the legislative session that will begin on January 14 and will be attending Superintendent's Legislative Day in Pierre on February 5. Schwan noted that HB1009 and HB1020, which deal with educational empowerment accounts and education savings accounts, which both mean school vouchers, which would give public dollars to private education use, would dramatically affect public school funding and noted how other programs such as subsidizing high school dual credit programs (HB1040) and reimbursement of teachers and counselors earning national board certification (HB1039) are being proposed to be eliminated. Other bills noted to be watched in education include HB1009, HB 1019, HB 1035, HB1048, SB 21, SB51, and SB55.

Principal B. Schwan reported 285 Preschool-Fifth Grade enrollment. OST will be open on January 24, February 17, March 20, March 21, April 18, and April 21. Family Game Night is

scheduled for Thursday, January 23, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Schwan is beginning second-semester observations with 20 informal and 13 formal observations to complete. Elementary students are participating in the AHA Kids Heart Challenge and have currently raised over \$5,300.

Principal Edwards reported 304 students enrolled in 6th-12th grade. Teachers are finishing Winter MAPS testing; HOSA will have their Winter Formal for Middle School and High School on January 24, and January 25. The Hall Pass system will be introduced to the entire staff on January 15, as a few teachers have been piloting it the first semester. The 2025-2026 curriculum guidebook is ready and class pre-registration for 25-26 school year begins on January 15.

Business manager Hubsch noted school board member terms expiring, Gengerke, Fliehs, and Harder. Petitions can begin to be circulated on January 31, 2025, and are due no later than February 28, 2025, at 5:00pm to the business office. W2's and 1099's have been sent out to employees and vendors, and 1095 will be distributed by the end of the month. ASBPT Health Insurance meeting is scheduled for March 26, and Hubsch noted Senate Bill 55 introduced changes to the tax levies: AG 1.125; OO 2.518; and OTH 5.211, and teacher salary changes from \$62,045.62 to \$62,821.19.

Moved by Weismantel, second

by Fliehs, to adopt the 2025-2026 school calendar. Motion carried.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Fliehs, to set the school board election date on April 8, 2025, from 7:00 am-7:00 pm, and authorize Business Manager to designate officials with voting precincts in Andover, Bristol, Columbia, and Groton. Motion carried. Three-year terms expiring: Tigh Fliehs, Travis Harder, and Deb Gengerke.

Moved by Fliehs, second by Harder, to approve the proposal from ARS Roofing for roof inspections. Motion carried.

First reading of recommended changes to Job Descriptions: Teacher, Paraprofessional, and Maintenance Team Member. No action was taken.

Moved by Fliehs, second by Gengerke, to approve hiring Kelly Oswald as Special Education Paraprofessional at \$15.33/hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second Strom to adjourn at 7:51 pm. Motion carried.

Becky Hubsch, Business Manager

Grant Rix, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$169.59 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24237



ORDINANCE NO. 784

An Ordinance entitled "Amending Rates for Groton Municipal Utility Customers" to be effective February 1, 2025.

Be it ordained by the City of Groton, South Dakota that Ordinance No. 8-1-4 be amended to read as follows:

8-1-4 Rates.
Rates for the use of utilities furnished by the City shall be established by Ordinance by the Groton City Council.

Section 4. Water Rates:

The schedule of rates governing Residential or General Service Consumers of water in the City of Groton which follows is to be used for billing on a monthly basis throughout each year. Each water service is figured independently from any other water service at each customer's location.

a. Residential and General Service Water Customers
Meter Charge: \$9.62 plus
Minimum charge: \$23.65 per month which includes 0-2,000 gallons

Anything over 2,000 gallons \$8.35 per 1,000 gallons

Plus, Water Surcharge: \$11.50 per customer who receives or benefits from the new water tower (this surcharge is to be implemented whether or not the water is capped, to be removed in July of 2049)

Plus, Water Surcharge: \$7.85 per customer who receives or benefits from the water system (this surcharge is to be implemented whether or not the water is capped, to be removed in July of 2051). Residents who qualify

for Section 4c are not required to pay this surcharge.

b. Bulk water rate: \$25.00 per 1000 gallons

c. Residential Low-Income Discount

A \$9.62 per month discount will be allowed on the meter charge of residential consumers for a period of 12 months (from January to December) if the consumer provides proof that the family is eligible to receive low-income fuel assistance (LIEAP).

d. Residential or General Service consumers found to be using unmetered water furnished by the City of Groton water system shall be disconnected until a meter is installed by the property owner.

Passed First Reading: 1/7/2025

Passed Second Reading: Published:

Effective: 2/1/2025

Published January 22, 2025

at the total approximate cost of \$23.91 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24238



ORDINANCE NO. 785

An Ordinance entitled "Amending Rates for Groton Municipal Utility Customers" to be effective February 1, 2025.

Be it ordained by the City of Groton, South Dakota that Ordinance No. 8-1-4 be amended to read as follows:

8-1-4 Rates.
Rates for the use of utilities furnished by the City shall be established by Ordinance by the Groton City Council.

Section 5. Sewer Rates:

Sewer fees will be based on the average water usage during October, November, December, January, February, March, and April. This charge will be discontinued only if the water line has been capped.

Minimum Bill (Connection Charge): \$20.00/month plus
Usage Charge: \$5.00/month per 1,000 gallons

Passed First Reading: 1/7/2025

Passed Second Reading: Published:

Effective: 2/1/2025

Published January 22, 2025

at the total approximate cost of \$11.04 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24239



January 21, 2025

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Nehls, Babcock, Cutler, Wambach, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Douglas Heinrich, and Elizabeth Varin.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wambach to approve the agenda with no changes or additions. All members present voted aye.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.
No action was taken regarding airport discussion.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Nehls to authorize the purchase of three new Bobcat lawnmowers through Fliehs Sales and Service. All members

present voted aye.

The December finance report was approved on a motion by Nehls and seconded by Cutler. All members present voted aye.

The second reading of Ordinance No. 784 – Water Rates was approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Babcock. All members present voted aye.

The second reading of Ordinance No. 785 – Sewer Rates was approved on a motion by Babcock and seconded by Wambach. All members present voted aye.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Cutler. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Nehls to authorize the following bills for payment. All members present voted aye.

Payroll, \$30,317.53, Employee salaries; Administrative, \$5,065.64; Public Safety, \$9,364.47; Culture & Recreation, \$785.62; Public Works, \$15,101.80; Enrich Groton SoDak, Inc., \$40.00, Donation to The Pantry; USPS, \$388.08, Utility billing postage; Gary and Caralee Heitmann, \$54.10, Utility deposit/overpayment refund; Jamie Mitchek, \$384.57, Utility overpayment refund; Shawn & Jerrica Hulbert, \$241.92, Utility deposit refund; Kandace Jones, \$183.97, Utility deposit refund; City of Groton, \$74.11, Utility deposits applied to bills; SD State Treasurer, \$8,494.24, Sales and Excise Tax - December 2024; Dacotah Bank, \$3,019.40, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$100.00, HSA contributions; Stacy Mayou, \$302.00, Med flex; Dacotah Bank, \$6,753.69, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$450.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$1,810.41, HSA contributions; WEB Water,

\$21,861.89, Water services -

December 2024; Kellie Locke, \$60.00, Med flex; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; NW Energy, \$49.83, Natural gas service - Water tower; Runnings, \$32.98, Battery maintainer, gloves - Electric Dept.; RDO Equipment Co., \$718.69, Mower parts; Vestis, \$67.26, Rug rent - City Hall; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc., \$22.78, Cutting tip - City Shop; Addison Hoffman, \$220.00, Lifeguard training reimbursement - Swimming Pool; Avera Medical Group, \$80.00, Employee drug/alcohol screening fees; SD Department of Health, \$30.00, Water testing; IMEG Corp., \$3,750.00, Wastewater engineering report - final bill; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc., \$125.00, Aberdeen Insider subscription - Library/City Hall; Altec Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Digger truck lease - Electric Dept.; Team Lab Chemical Corp., \$1,032.00, Sewer chemicals; South Dakota 811, \$28.35, Message fees - October to December, 2024; Banyon Data Systems, Inc., \$2,790.00, Utility Billing, Fund Accounting, Payroll, and PSN Module support fee - City Hall; SD Municipal League, \$1,654.00, Annual membership dues; SD Human Resources Assoc., \$50.00, Annual membership dues; SD Gov't Finance Off. Assoc., \$100.00, Annual membership dues; SD Police Chiefs Association, \$200.00, Annual membership dues; SD Municipal Electric Assoc., \$1,297.00, Annual membership dues; Heartland Energy, \$61,450.67, Power services - December 2024; WAPA, \$26,695.81, Power services - December 2024; Heartland Waste Management, \$10,192.05, Garbage hauling; Justin Cleveland, \$119.00, Employee mileage re-

imbursement - training in Water-

town, SD; Groton BB/SB Foundation, \$45,000.00, 2025 donation including portion for concessions project; Groton Chamber of Commerce, \$12,000.00, 2025 donation; Groton Development Corp., \$10,000.00, 2025 donation; Groton Community Transit, \$2,500.00, 2025 donation; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC., \$145.80, Large aluminum work platform - City Shop; MJ's Sinclair, Inc., \$1,086.18, Fuel purchases & wiper blades; James Valley Telecomm., \$871.00, Telephone and internet services; Dacotah Bank Visa, \$1,869.85, Torch, water sample postage, JUTS training fee, fuel purchases, office chairs, applicators license fees, coffee, creamer, journeyman lineman gear - Multiple Depts.; Reminder: Applications are open for the following summer recreational positions: Baseball Coordinator, Softball Coordinator, Legion Coach, Jr. Legion Coach, Jr. Teener Coach, Girls' Softball Coaches (U8/U10/U12/U14), Day Baseball/Softball Coach, Concessions Manager, and Swimming Pool Manager.

Varin exited the meeting.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Bahr to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:16pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 7:49pm.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wambach to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

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JANUARY 14, 2024 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Dennert, Dinger, Gage, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BARR ENGINEERING PRESENTATION: Brian Becker, Senior Dam Engineer with Barr Engineering met with the Commission to share the plans for the Richmond Lake Dam. He informed the Commission that his firm was hired by S.D. School and Public Lands to engineer this project. Brian shared there will be two processes that will happen for this project: First would be to install a cut-off wall to cut off the seepage and the Second would be to remove and construct a new spillway. Brian stated it would be a 2-year project so planning to begin in 2026 but depends on the bidding process and awarding the bid and figuring completing in 2027; which would mean road closure during this time.

ADOPT RESOLUTION FOR BRIDGE INSPECTION: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent presented the following Resolution from S.D. Department of Transportation:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese to approve

RESOLUTION 2025-08

BRIDGE INSPECTION PROGRAM RESOLUTION

FOR USE WITH SDDOT RETAINER CONTRACTS

WHEREAS, 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, BROWN County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire IMEG Consultant Corporation (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2025, at Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Seconded by Commissioner Gage.

Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Dinger-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye; Wiese-aye. Resolution adopted.

AWARD RURAL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS (RAIF) GRANTS: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent asked for the Commission to approve Grants for Townships using the RAIF funds and that Brown County pay the 20% matching funds. He also shared that Mercier project could become a bridge but undetermined at this time; this would leave use with a balance of around \$300,000.00 to spend by 2029. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the following Townships for the RAIF Grants:

TOWNSHIPPIPE SIZE COST20% MATCH GRANT REQUEST

Greenfield	.....4 – 60” x 50’	\$60,000.00	.....\$12,000.00
Mercier	.....4 – 96” x 50’	\$125,000.00	.....\$25,000.00
Liberty	.....3 – 48” x 50’	\$24,000.00	.....\$4,800.00
Liberty	.....1 – 60” x 50’	\$15,000.00	.....\$3,000.00
Groton	.....2 – 36” x 50’	\$15,000.00	.....\$3,000.00
Groton	.....4 – 42” x 29” x 60’ arch	\$30,000.00	.....\$6,000.00
		\$24,000.00	

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS FUTURE OF RAIF PROGRAM: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent shared with the Commission that the Townships are asking for \$5 Million be pulled from the Local Government Highway & Bridge Fund prior to the distribution established in SDCL 32-11-35. Per

that statue Brown County’s portion of the distribution would be reduced by \$169,189.97. Per the same statute municipalities would also be receiving less. Under the new proposal, Brown County would only receive \$99,243.00 in RAIF Funds. Dirk informed the Commission that he plans to testify against this because this program doesn’t run without the Counties. Commissioner Gage commented that this is punishing those Townships that have been financially responsible and not having to do an Opt Out.

DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent gave the Commission a department update: crushing, completed the shoulder work on County Rd. 9 between 18 and 16; how to plow snow on Thursday and Saturday last week; doing some graveling yet too. Commissioner Sutton said he received a text from a resident at Richmond Lake asking if they will do dust control on bypass while road is out of service during the Dam Project and Dirk stated to have D.O.T. build it into the project but something would be done.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR FAIR-GROUNDS LIQUOR LICENSE: A public hearing was held regarding Brown County obtaining a County Fairground (On-Sale) Liquor License. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the application for County Fairgrounds (On-Sale) Liquor License to Brown County Fairgrounds located at SW 1-T123-R64 & Hwy. B Lot A & AB RR ROW EX Fairground OL 1 (156.07A) of 5th P.M., Brown County excluding Centennial Village, Odde Ice Arena, Larry Gerlach Grandstand and North Pit Area. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF FAIR CONTRACTS: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager presented two fair contracts to the Commission for approval. RSA Digital Advertising for \$10,000.00 and Pauer Sound 3-year contract: for 2025 - \$14,000.00; 2026 - \$14,500.00 and 2027 - \$15,000.00. Moved by Commissioner Dennert to approve both the RSA Digital Advertising Contract and the 3-year contract with Pauer Sound at the prices listed above. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

QUOTE FROM CONVERGINT: Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent asked to go into Executive Session for Contracts & Security per SDCL 1-25-2. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the Executive Session closed with no action taken.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the Quote from Convergint in the amount of \$30,186.87 for Courthouse Security needs and will be submitted to UJS Security & Emergency Preparedness Grant Committee for approval. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

STORAGE OF LAW BOOKS: Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent informed the Commission that Chief McNeil offered to allow them to store the law books at the Aberdeen City Public Safety Building. Chairman Sutton commented that we should take him up on the offer. Commissioner Dennert moved to rescind the motion to surplus the Law Books that was made on January 7th, seconded by Wiese. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Some discussion was held regarding leaving the books in the courtroom, securing them behind plexiglass along with the costs that will be involved for installing sound barriers, removing the bookcases, etc. with no action taken at this time.

SUMMIT PUC INTERVENER DISCUSSION: Chairman Sutton shared with the Commission that he was informed that the Board of Brown County Commission could apply by January 24th to Intervene in the proceedings of the PUC regarding Summit Pipeline, if they so wish. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to submit the application to be an Intervener of the processing of the PUC regarding Summit Pipeline. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the Reorganization Meeting Minutes of January 7, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen ED \$5,731.20; Avera St. Luke’s Hospital \$9,612.92; BMI \$435.00; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,209.45; Dean Schaefer Court Reporting \$144.00; Faulk

Co. Sheriff’s Office \$2,790.00; Language Line Services \$645.67; Lewis & Clark BHS \$1,125.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt., LLC \$200.00; Lucy Lewno \$280.00; Mark Katterhagen \$24.00; Medical Waste Transport \$143.10; Minneapolis Forensic Psychological Services, LLC \$5,390.45; Network Center \$3,002.57; NSU Finance Office \$60.00; Sanford Health \$48.75; SD Dept. of Revenue \$2,349.49; SDSU Extension \$23,050.00; St. Mark’s Episcopal Church \$1,000.00; Thomas Reuters-West Payment Center \$567.13; Valerie Larson \$24.00; Zylstra Investigations \$1,468.07. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$768.28; NW Blade \$170.00. Rentals: Vestis \$333.10. Repairs & Maintenance: Big Scoop Snow Removal \$383.33; Graham Tire \$20.25; Hoven Auto Repair \$24.00; Jarman’s Water Systems \$181.45; Linde Gas & Equipment \$109.35; Meister Mowing, LCC \$581.25; Pierson Ford \$2,005.30; Quality Welding \$307.26; Schwan Welding \$1,695.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$204.88. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$45,333.01; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$859.46; American News #8004 \$44.60; Century Business Products \$9,776.82; Cole Papers \$2,853.36; Dakota Electronics \$36.00; Government Forms & Supplies \$501.76; Hoven Auto Repair \$98.00; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$306.40; Linde Gas & Equipment \$169.12; Lucy Lewno \$8.98; Mac’s \$121.33; McLeod’s \$86.70; Menards \$288.49; Midstates Group \$48.23; PharmChem \$1,971.14; Running’s \$205.72; Safe Life Defense \$639.10; Safety Service \$96.28; Shop 4-H/National 4-H Council \$138.50; SoDak Sports \$1,720.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$89.90. Travel & Conference: Dave Lonzmann-Imprest Fund \$218.00; SDAE4-HP \$200.00. Utilities: Big Scoop Snow Removal \$191.67; CenturyLink \$567.51; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$1,713.53; City of Hecla \$212.51; Economy Propane, LLC \$2,197.58; Northern Electric \$93.50; Northwestern Energy \$5,487.43; State of SD PMB 0112 \$276.54; Verizon Wireless \$2,457.72; Web Water \$112.02. Other: NCOG \$27,299.18; Safe Harbor \$491.80; SDACO \$840.00; SDDANR \$4,414.42; SD Dept. of Revenue \$786,889.19. Machinery & Equipment: Safety Service \$41,600.00.

Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,936.80; Auditor \$10,584.06; Treasurer \$18,342.52; SA \$36,357.56; Maintenance \$12,748.65; Assessor \$16,581.76; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$9,855.68; HR \$5,660.48; Sheriff \$61,255.87; Jail \$98,011.02; Court Security \$10,188.47; JDC \$47,006.43; Welfare \$2,604.27; Museum \$13,418.99; Parks/Fairgrounds \$6,720.69; Fair Board \$3,626.65; 4-H \$877.20; Weed \$1,179.67; Planning & Zoning \$8,062.16; Highway \$50,710.18; Dispatch \$53,406.08; Emergency \$5,498.56; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,690.75; Landfill \$20,542.83; Meal Benefits \$74.00; FICA \$31,174.48; Medicare \$7,290.78; Discovery (HSA) \$2,639.91. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:
o Resignation of Macy Mikkelson, Brown County Building Service Worker, PT; effective January 10, 2025. Request to fill.
o Resignation of Maggie Bell, Brown County Sobriety Technician, PT; effective January 9, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Auditor Heupel to sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SURPLUS COPIER FROM PLANNING & ZONING: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to surplus the Kyocera 3051ci Copier from the Planning & Zoning Department. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SURPLUS PROPERTY FROM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to surplus the following property from the Highway Department: 2000 Chevrolet K20 4x4; 2005 Sterling Model LT9500; 1983 Truck Model 1754; 1976 International Model 1850; 2012 Chevrolet Impala 4-door; 2011 Chevrolet Impala 4-door; 1983 ICH Truck w/ Sander; 1976 International Truck w/ 5th Wheel; 2005 Sterling End-Dump; 2000 Chevrolet 2500 Pick-up; Air Compressor; Engine Stand; Tire Machine; 3-Work Benches 60 x 24; 13 HP Honda Motor; 50 gallon service tank; 2-100

gallon service tanks; 100 gallon water tank; Air Operated Grease Can; Air Operated Oil Can; Reel Dose not Recoll; Battery Charger; 2-Chain Saws (don’t run); 2-Drafting Tables 60 x 38; Spark Plug Machine; Transmission Stand and a Packer (doesn’t run). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following Travel Requests: Chris Hemen, Mike Rohrbach and Jerry Lehrkamp from Weed & Pest to attend the Weed & Pest Conference in Huron, SD on February 18-21, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SET HEARING DATE & AUTHORIZED ADVERTISING – ALCOHOL LICENSE TRANSFERS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to set hearing date and authorize advertising for public hearing on the following alcohol transfers on 4th day of February, 2025 in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, in the Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota: TRANSFER – RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE: James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 2,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD; James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 3,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD; James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 4- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 12:21 p.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$145.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24232

Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$145.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24232



NOTICE OF HEARING UPON APPLICATIONS FOR SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Notice is hereby given according to SDCL 35-2-5, a Public Hearing on the transfer of a Retail (On – Off Sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License is set for the 4th day of February, 2025 in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, in the Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota at which time any interested persons wishing to register a complaint on their approval may appear:

TRANSFER – RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE: James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 2,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: Head East located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 2- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD

TRANSFER – RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE: James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy

12 Suite 3,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: West Bound located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 3- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD

TRANSFER – RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE: James Ernest Duree Boyden, GT Gaming DBA: Dakota Players Club BC to transfer license located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 4,- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD to Stacy Gossman, DBA: Up North located at 5759 E Hwy 12 Suite 4- Lt. 1 B Gossman 1st Addition Kessler’s Outlot South ½ of 15-123-63 of 5th P.M., Brown County, SD

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$20.85 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24233



Stratford Town Board Meeting January 14th, 2025

6:30pm Prickett called meeting to order with Schley, Engelhardt, and Kwak in attendance.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve the December 10th, 2024 minutes as read.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley, carried; to approve the financials as presented.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley, carried; to approve the following claims for payment: -General Fund- NWE Bills: (st lts) \$350.64, (ball pk) 13.88, (tennis) 21.03, (st lts2) 186.17, (hall) 1,041.46, (sign) 16.79; James Valley (auto): \$44.56; United Fire (auto): \$673.00; Quickbooks (auto): \$31.86; Menards: \$130.10; 31.83; Groton Independent: \$22.35; Payroll: \$3,869.48; Schley Water Reimbursement: \$64.43; IRS: \$641.07. -Water Sewer Fund-NWE Bills: (2nd st) \$42.49, (p hse) 33.07; Web Water (auto): \$1,507.99 (122,272gal); Public Health Labs: \$30; USDA RD Loan Payment (auto): \$478.00; NESD Loan Payment (auto): \$383.71.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Water shut-offs will be completed on 1/28. 3 customers at risk.

IMHOFF tanks were pumped and removed.

Maintenance completed plumbing fixes in men’s bath, kitchen sink, and front door at town hall.

Reservoir needs to be cleaned up; will complete soon.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve the Groton Independent as our designated newspaper for 2025.

A motion was made by Engelhardt, seconded by Prickett, carried; to approve the following salaries/pay details for the year of 2025: All members paid hourly for meetings at a rate of \$20/hr. Individual monthly salaries: Prickett, trustee and president, \$100/mo; Schley, trustee, \$10/mo; Engelhardt, trustee, \$30/mo.

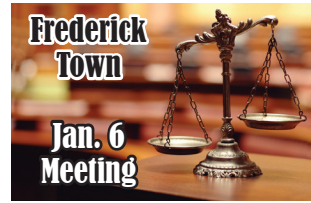
Individual roles paid hourly: Kwak, finance officer, \$20/hr. Schley, director of public works and certified water operator, \$20/hr; Engelhardt, facilities and maintenance manager, \$20/hr.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve a spiking permit for the Stratford Fire Dept. for the date of January 31st, 2025.

CLOSING: The next board meeting will be held on Feb 11th, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Town Hall.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley, carried; to adjourn the meeting.

-Anna Kwak; Finance Officer
Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$24.83 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24235



City of Frederick January 6, 2025 Minutes

Frederick’s town board meeting was held Monday, January 6, 2025 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board members Jeff Kusters and Troy Millard, and Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock and Assistant Finance Officer Mariah Heine by phone.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the December meetings were read and approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Kusters/Millard; motion carried. The January accounts payable were approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/Sts/Swr/EBL \$737.71; Aberdeen Asphalt blade gravel \$500; Badger Meter fees Swr \$135.36; Black Mountain utility support Grbg/Swr/Wtr \$2702.80; Ben Hofer Backhoe Sts \$3,549.97; Brown County Sheriff’s Office deputy svcs Gen’l \$1,041.67; Century Bus Products copies Gen’l \$25; Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$1,792.50; DRN Readitech service FO \$21.04; EFPTS taxes Gen’l/FO/CC/EBL/Sts/Wtr/Swr/Cmty \$861.44; First Nat’l Bank security box Gen’l \$8; FDC Gen’l \$1,200; GDI minutes Gen’l \$27.32; GDI minutes Gen’l \$23.73; J. Kusters wage Gen’l \$46.17; J. Morlock wage FO \$1,443.04; JVT Gen’l/Wtr/EBL/FO \$236.65; M. Cox wage EBL \$625.30; M. Heine wage FO \$1,195.64; M. Morlock wage Wtr \$44.32; R. Bakeberg supervisor wage Wtr \$230.87; S. Campbell wage Gen’l \$69.26; State Line Concrete fix sidewalk Sts \$918.36; SD Dept of Rev sales tax Gen’l \$67.50; SD Dept of Health test Wtr \$484; SDML WC Fund worker’s comp Gen’l \$584; SD Water & Wastewater dues Wtr \$10; Schwan Electric service Gen’l \$238.92; T. Millard wage Gen’l \$46.17; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; USDA-RD loan Swr \$3,763; WEB Water Wtr \$8,355.32; VISA supplies Gen’l \$179.68

OLD BUSINESS

Campbell provided a utility report. The board reviewed the Brown County Sheriff’s report.

NEW BUSINESS

Motion to accept Emma Burnham Library annual report made by Millard/Kusters; motion carried. Motion to adjust fund balances by moving \$90,000 from the sewer fund to the water fund and \$390,000 from the general fund to the water fund made by Kusters/Millard; motion carried. Motion to approve setting up autopay for Montana Dakota Utility electric bills made by Millard/Campbell; motion carried. Motion to approve wages and salaries for 2025 as follows: Chairman of the Board \$25/month + \$50/mtg; Board Members \$50/mtg; mowing wage \$12.50/hr; cemetery \$575/yr (semi-annually); interim utility manager \$16.50/hr; water supervisor \$260/mo; Community Center maintenance \$25/occurrence; Finance Officer \$1800/month; Assistant Finance Officer \$1400/month; Librarian \$13.50/hr; Assistant Library \$12/hr made by Koster/Millard; motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, February 5th at 7PM.

Motion to adjourn made by Kusters/Millard at 7:37PM; motion carried.

M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer
Published January 22, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$31.46 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24234

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.

1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

Claremont Town
Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUNICIPALITY OF CLAREMONT
The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office currently held by Bob Thompson
Trustee - Three Year Term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on 1-24-2025 and filed with the Finance Officer by 2-21-2025 at 606 6th Ave. no later than 5 p.m.
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$9.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24212

Groton City
Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUNICIPALITY OF GROTON
The following offices will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elected officer:
Scott Hanlon – Mayor – 3-year term
Kevin Nehls – Councilperson Ward 1 – 1-year term
Shirley Wells – Councilperson Ward 2 – 2-year term
Karyn Babcock – Councilperson Ward 3 – 2-year term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31st, 2025, and petitions may be filed at City Hall located at 120 N Main St., Groton, SD between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. central standard time not later than the 28th day of February, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$16.56 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24213

Westport Town
Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUNICIPALITY OF WESTPORT
The following offices will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer:
Shane Storm 3 yrs term, Troy Tschappat 2 yrs term.
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31st, 2025 and petitions may be filed in the office of the finance officer located at 29 East Main Street Westport SD between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. or by calling 228-3703, (central standard or central daylight) time not later than the 28th day of February, 2025 at 5:00pm.
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$13.25 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24209

Groton School
Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY ON SCHOOL BOARD GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
The following school board positions will become vacant on July 1, 2025, due to the expiration of the present terms of office of the following school board members:
Tigh Fliehs, 3-year term
Deborah Gengerke, 3-year term
Travis Harder, 3-year term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31, 2025, and petitions may be filed in the office of the business manager located at Groton Area High School between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., central standard time not later than February 25, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
Becky Hubsch, Business Official
Groton Area School District
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$18.76 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24214

Stratford Town
Notice of Vacancy

CITY OF STRATFORD TRUSTEE VACANCY NOTICE
Notice of Vacancy City of Stratford
The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer:
TRUSTEE (THREE-YEAR TERM)
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 30th, 2025 and petitions may be filed with the Finance Officer, 293 E Rondell Ave, Stratford, SD 57474, no later than the 26th day of Feb 2025, at 5 P.M.
Submitted by:
Anna Kwak
Finance Officer
605-622-0166
Published January 22 and 29, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$14.90 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24236

Warner Town
Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy Municipality of Warner, SD
The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer: Trustee, Terry Evans. This is for a three-year term.
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31st, 2025. Petitions may be filed in the office of the Finance Officer located in the Warner Community Center, 11 West Main Street, Warner SD 57479 between the hours of 9:00AM and 12PM, Monday, Thursday or Friday and no later than Friday, February 28th, 2025 at 5 PM central time.
Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$14.35 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24210

Columbia City
Notice of Vacancy

Notice of Vacancy Municipality of Columbia
The following offices will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office:
Columbia City Council
Corey Mitchell, Columbia City Mayor, 2-year term
Trevor Meints, Columbia City Council Member, 3-year term
Emily Eichler, Columbia City Council Member, 3-year term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31st, 2025. If you need a petition, please call the city office and one will be mailed to you. Petitions can be left in the drop box at the city office. Final day for turning in a petition is February 28th, 2025.
Cara Dennert
Finance Officer
City of Columbia
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$16.00 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24211

SDDI Pins
Five pins are off to production for the South Dakota Destination Imagination. It is hoped they will be available for the regional tournaments. The east river tournament will be held March 22 at Webster, the west river tournament will be held March 15 in Rapid City at St. Elizabeth Seton Elementary, and the State Tournament will be held April 5th in Pierre at the Middle School. Global Finals are May 22-25 in Kansas City.

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Pink 210 Gold tone plate
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Black Glitter B01000A on Black

Pantone® COLOR LEGEND
Red 188 Gold tone plate
Red Glitter B0308 on Red 185

Pantone® COLOR LEGEND
Tan 155 Gold tone plate
Tan 156 Gold tone plate
Pink Glitter B0913 on Pink 211

Pantone® COLOR LEGEND
Green 362 Gold tone plate
Green 356 Gold tone plate
Black Glitter B01000A on Black

Frederick Town
Notice of Vacancy

NOTICE OF VACANCY MUNICIPALITY OF FREDERICK
The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Frederick Board Member, 3-year term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 31, 2025 and petitions may be picked up and filed with the finance officer. Finance Officer may be contacted Monday thru Friday 8:00 am - 4:00 pm at the First National Bank of Frederick 314 Main Street. Final day for turning in petitions is February 28, 2025 by 5:00pm. Finance Officer will be at the Finance Office, located at 406 3rd Avenue, Frederick, SD from 4:00-5:00 pm on the final day.
Jennifer Morlock
Frederick Finance Officer
Published January 15 and 22, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$17.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 24208

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 - 15 Complaint
 - 16 Mahal pre-ceder
 - 17 Memory method
 - 18 Jungle trek
 - 20 Apple product
 - 22 "Lunch break is over!"
 - 26 Sports bar fixture
 - 29 "Mangia!"
 - 30 Avril follower
 - 31 Marsh plant
 - 32 "Blue Bloods" ainer
 - 33 Nov. honorees
 - 34 401(k) alternative
 - 35 Notable time
 - 36 Trig terms
 - 37 Consecutive
 - 40 Puerto —
 - 41 Small apes
 - 45 Help a hood
 - 47 Fanatic
 - 49 Aswan's river
 - 50 Roster

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- 8 Toss
 - 9 Favorable sign
 - 10 Follower (Suff.)
 - 11 Service charge
 - 19 Squealer
 - 21 Soup cooker
 - 23 Skewered entree
 - 24 Assess
 - 4 Sleeper
 - 5 Eye-related
 - 6 One-time link
 - 7 Tex-Mex wraps
 - 28 "American Idol" host Ryan
 - 32 Sang softly
 - 33 Minnesota footballers
 - 35 Catchall abbr.
 - 36 Learning ctr.
 - 38 Poker pot
 - 39 Played a part
 - 42 Actor O'Shea
 - 43 Conspiracy
 - 44 Stitches
 - 45 Boxing legend
 - 46 Morsel
 - 48 Numerical prefix
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South Dakota NO-TILL Association

2025 GETTYSBURG NO TILL EVENT

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
10:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. CST
CC Bar, 112 S. Exene Street, Gettysburg, SD

AGENDA INCLUDES:
Giving Clarity to the Estate Planning and Generational Transition Process
— Alan Hojer, SD Ag Foundation
The War Against Weeds in No Till
— Dr. Joseph Ikley, NDSU
Don't Forget the Basics
— Dr. Dwayne Beck, SDSU Professor Emeritus

For more details visit SDNoTill.com
Pre-registration is requested by Jan. 24. Please email pconserationdist@gmail.com; or call 605-769-4431.
Seating is limited. CCA credits will be available.

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20

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Party Fun
Here are 2 fun party ideas:
1. gummy bookworms
2. cards

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IQL(ESADJYDFTOONENALIN
AXJYYAAIYKFLYSSDDKJAWNYNLT
WQHRCGSEKJOMIEACKDQWHEIT
IWOEMWJWJGSPERACKDQWHEIT
NDIKPBEADQWSPERACKDQWHEIT
GJJJGEBEADQWSPERACKDQWHEIT
PHUITTICAZXMKXVJQCAQOJNCJP
AATORNATHJZJLQCNJBAAGOLJCM
PREOZHFVUGAZZJLQCNJBAAGOLJCM
EPEGLALBJJELVSEFZJLQCNJBAAGOLJCM
REVGPENQXERKPEQEQNEGYIMT
ZINUTRVDATNGSCP(ERASER)JKNGE
DIED(WORDPROCESSINGPROGRAM)
(DRAWINGPROGRAM)WUVCLTWSPH
LSOXYZAMLYXDVB(GKETCHBOOK)S

Boys place fourth at Battler Invitational

Groton Area's wrestling team took fourth place at the Battler Invitational Tournament held Saturday in Gettysburg. Korbin Kucker and Gavin Englund both placed second, Keegan Kucker and Karter Moody placed third, Charlie Frost placed fourth, Wyatt Hagen and Donavon Block took fifth and Kyson Kucker and Ben Hoeft placed sixth.

Team Scores: 1. Chamberlain 169.5, 2. Clark Willow Lake 165.0, 3. South Border 163.5, 4. Groton 129.5, 5. Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey Wessington 127.0, 6. Stanley County 126.5, 7. Deuel 103.5, 8. Faulkton Area 81.0, 9. Pierre T.F. Riggs 78.0, 10. Harding County 71.0, 11. Webster 61.0, 12. Potter County 58.5, 13. Mobridge/Polllock 51.0, 14. Sully Buttes 44.0, 15. Newell 35.0, 16. Warner 29.5, 17. Lemmon 21.5, 17. Sunshine Bible Academy 21.5, 19. Faith 19.5, 20. CEB/Dupree 12.0, 21. McLaughlin 9.5, 22. Timber Lake 7.0, 23. Ipswich/Bowdle 0.0, 23. McIntosh 0.0

175: Korbin Kucker (18-3) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton) 18-3 won by fall over Canyon Ford (Mobridge/Polllock) 4-13 (Fall 0:54)

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton) 18-3 won by fall over Nathan Hubsch (Webster) 6-11 (Fall 2:50)

Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton) 18-3 won by decision over IVAN STUWE (Potter County) 11-6 (Dec 12-5)

1st Place Match - Hayden Roggow (Stanley County) 21-5 won by decision over Korbin Kucker (Groton) 18-3 (Dec 7-6)

285: Gavin Englund (16-4) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Gavin Englund (Groton) 16-4 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Gavin Englund (Groton) 16-4 won by fall over Brayden Satter (Warner) 4-5 (Fall 2:46)

Semifinal - Gavin Englund (Groton) 16-4 won by fall over Jaspur Gran (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey Wessington) 6-12 (Fall 0:33)

1st Place Match - Preston Cavalier (Warner) 17-2 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton) 16-4 (Dec 7-6)

113: Keegan Kucker (17-8) placed 3rd and scored 17.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Keegan Kucker (Groton) 17-8 won by tech fall over Xavier Sanchez-Gonzalez (CEB/Dupree) 7-10 (TF-1.5 2:20 (16-0))

Quarterfinal - Keegan Kucker (Groton) 17-8 won by fall over Colton Bairey (Chamberlain) 2-7 (Fall 3:54)

Semifinal - Jared Schilling (South Border) 14-6 won by fall over Keegan Kucker (Groton) 17-8 (Fall 0:43)

Cons. Semi - Keegan Kucker (Groton) 17-8 won by decision over Jaxson Turbiville (Harding County) 12-13 (Dec 7-4)

3rd Place Match - Keegan Kucker (Groton) 17-8 won by decision over Jyles Auble (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 11-9 (Dec 12-6)

285: Karter Moody (10-5) placed 3rd.

Champ. Round 1 - Karter Moody (Groton) 10-5 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Karter Moody (Groton) 10-5 won by forfeit over Forfeit Forfeit (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 2-6 (For.)

Semifinal - Preston Cavalier (Warner) 17-2 won by fall over Karter Moody (Groton) 10-5 (Fall 3:49)

Cons. Semi - Karter Moody (Groton) 10-5 won by fall over Brayden Satter (Warner) 4-5 (Fall 0:43)

3rd Place Match - Karter Moody (Groton) 10-5 won by fall over Cooper Gerard (Chamberlain) 10-16 (Fall 0:48)

215: Charlie Frost (12-11) placed 4th and scored 14.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Tristen Baloun (Faulkton Area) 6-1 won by fall over Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 (Fall 0:39)

Cons. Round 2 - Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 won by tech fall over Cruz Williams (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 0-5 (TF-1.5 3:00 (20-3))

Cons. Round 3 - Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 won by fall over Brenton Padden (Harding County) 14-11 (Fall 3:34)

Cons. Semi - Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 won by major decision over Wyatt Zeigler (Mobridge/Polllock) 15-9 (MD 16-6)

3rd Place Match - Jimmy Burma (Sunshine Bible Academy) 16-6 won by fall over Charlie Frost (Groton) 12-11 (Fall 2:06)

106: Wyatt Hagen (13-7) placed 5th and scored 14.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 won by fall over Daeon Moncur (Harding County) 7-15 (Fall 0:51)

Quarterfinal - Gavin Mattson (Deuel) 16-13 won by major decision over Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 (MD 12-3)

Cons. Round 2 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 won by fall over Mason Stoeser (Stanley County) 8-9 (Fall 0:20)

Cons. Round 3 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 won by tech fall over

Andrei Schmiedt (Chamberlain) 4-6 (TF-1.5 3:18 (17-1))

Cons. Semi - Blake Goebel (South Border) 16-6 won by decision over Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 (Dec 10-5)

5th Place Match - Wyatt Hagen (Groton) 13-7 won by decision over Daniel Mason (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 12-9 (Dec 8-1)

132: Donavon Block (15-8) placed 5th and scored 15.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 won by fall over Carter Glaesman (South Border) 0-2 (Fall 4:48)

Quarterfinal - Brylee Brennan (Chamberlain) 15-10 won by fall over Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 (Fall 3:59)

Cons. Round 2 - Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 won by fall over Tyson Hagberg (Deuel) 13-17 (Fall 2:25)

Cons. Semi - Isaac Johnson (Clark Willow Lake) 21-11 won by tech fall over Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 (TF-1.5 4:35 (21-6))

5th Place Match - Donavon Block (Groton) 15-8 won by fall over Luke Olson (Mobridge/Polllock) 13-12 (Fall 4:38)

120: Kyson Kucker (16-7) placed 6th and scored 11.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 won by fall over Lucas Nelson (Sunshine Bible Academy) 3-5 (Fall 4:17)

Quarterfinal - Dyson Eixenberger (Newell) 21-8 won by tech fall over Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 (TF-1.5 1:47 (18-1))

Cons. Round 2 - Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 won by fall over Taggen Paxton (Timber Lake) 4-14 (Fall 2:04)

Cons. Round 3 - Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 won by decision over Hadley Steinke (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 7-5 (Dec 9-6)

Cons. Semi - Brody Neilan (Chamberlain) 15-10 won by fall over Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 (Fall 0:38)

5th Place Match - Truett Havranek (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 13-9 won by decision over Kyson Kucker (Groton) 16-7 (Dec 17-12)

165: Ben Hoeft (13-14) placed 6th and scored 6.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - TRACE GENZLER (Potter County) 17-14 won by fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 (Fall 1:27)

Cons. Round 2 - Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 won by major decision over AJ Olivier (Sully Buttes) 8-13 (MD 12-3)

Cons. Semi - Gage Baumgarn (Webster) 17-10 won by tech fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 (TF-1.5 4:15 (20-2))

5th Place Match - Damen Horsley (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 7-8 won by decision over Ben Hoeft (Groton) 13-14 (Dec 10-4)

126: Noah Scepaniak (9-10) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Mason Severson (Clark Willow Lake) 16-15 won by major decision over Noah Scepaniak (Groton) 9-10 (MD 8-0)

Cons. Round 1 - Noah Scepaniak (Groton) 9-10 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Noah Scepaniak (Groton) 9-10 won by fall over Avery Williams (Sully Buttes) 2-8 (Fall 4:31)

Cons. Round 3 - Chase Dunsmore (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey Wessington) 9-10 won by tech fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton) 9-10 (TF-1.5 1:34 (16-0))

126: Lincoln Krause (9-10).

Champ. Round 1 - Lincoln Krause (Groton) 9-10 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Colton Diischer (Faith) 9-12 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton) 9-10 (Fall 1:17)

Cons. Round 2 - Chase Dunsmore (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey Wessington) 9-10 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton) 9-10 (Fall 2:07)

138: Kason Oswald (6-11).

Champ. Round 1 - Kruse Brennan (Chamberlain) 17-12 won by fall over Kason Oswald (Groton) 6-11 (Fall 0:53)

Cons. Round 1 - Carmine Crow Ghost (McLaughlin) 7-7 won by tech fall over Kason Oswald (Groton) 6-11 (TF-1.5 4:50 (21-6))

144: Chris Schwab (9-13).

Champ. Round 1 - Dominic Kluckman (Deuel) 16-18 won by fall over Chris Schwab (Groton) 9-13 (Fall 3:46)

Cons. Round 1 - Chris Schwab (Groton) 9-13 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Jace Vroman (Harding County) 11-11 won by fall over Chris Schwab (Groton) 9-13 (Fall 3:47)

190: Layne Johnson (4-14) scored 3.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Cole Nitschke (South Border) 14-5 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton) 4-14 (Fall 0:23)

Cons. Round 1 - Layne Johnson (Groton) 4-14 won by fall over KAMERON HUNNEL (Potter County) 2-16 (Fall 1:51)

Cons. Round 2 - Sam Leen (Deuel) 9-16 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton) 4-14 (Fall 0:31)

Potter County JV Results for Groton

JV 78-85: Bentley Ehresmann's place is 1st and has scored 17.5 team points.

Round 1 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton) won by tech fall over Baylor Engelbrect (Deuel) (TF 21-4)

Round 2 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton) won by decision over Rowdy Schrempp (CEB/Dupree) (Dec 10-8)

Round 3 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton) won by fall over Si Bunker (Chamberlain) (Fall 1:15)

JV 83-90: Preston Hinkelman's place is 1st and has scored 19.5 team points.

Round 1 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton) won by fall over Parker Couch (Wessington Springs/Woonsocket/Wolsey Wessington) (Fall 1:01)

Round 2 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton) won by tech fall over Dean Longbreak (CEB/Dupree) (TF 20-5)

Round 3 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton) won by fall over Traedyn Stirling (Harding County) (Fall 1:54)

JV 130-140: Grayson Flores's place is 2nd and has scored 12.5 team points.

Round 1 - Grayson Flores (Groton) won by tech fall over Dace Tenold (Harding County) (TF 16-0)

Round 2 - Ty Rose (Chamberlain) won by decision over Grayson Flores (Groton) (Dec 12-5)

Round 3 - Grayson Flores (Groton) won by major decision over Shaden Muller (Sully Buttes) (Maj 10-0)

JV 163-185: Isiah Scepaniak's place is 1st and has scored 20.0 team points.

Round 1 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton) won by fall over James Maher (McIntosh) (Fall 4:14)

Round 2 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton) won by fall over Hunter Frederick (Chamberlain) (Fall 3:37)

Round 3 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton) won by fall over Seth Konechne (Sunshine Bible Academy) (Fall 2:36)

Wrestlers beat Hamlin, lose to Clark/Willow Lake

Groton Area's wrestling squad split a pair of matches at Clark Tuesday night, beating Hamlin, 78-6, and losing to Clark/Willow Lake 54-24.

In the Clark/Willow Lake match, Donavon Block had the lone mat win defeating his opponent with a pin. Groton Area picked up points from forfeits in three weight classes.

In the Hamlin match, only four matches were wrestled with Groton Area winning three of them. The remaining 10 matches were forfeit wins.

Clark-Willow Lake 54, Groton Area 24

113: Cade Gaikowski (Clark/Willow Lake) over Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) (MD 16-2)

120: Kaden Wookey (Clark/Willow Lake) over Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) (Fall 0:47)

126: Cooper Pommer (Clark/Willow Lake) over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) (Fall 1:19)

132: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Mason Severson (Clark/Willow Lake) (Fall 3:55)

138: Isaac Johnson (Clark/Willow Lake) over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) (TF 19-3 2:55)

144: Damian Severson (Clark/Willow Lake) over Kason Oswald (Groton Area) (TF 15-0 2:31)

150: Austin Vig (Clark/Willow Lake) over Chris Schwab (Groton Area) (Fall 2:36)

157: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

165: Elliot Bratland (Clark/Willow Lake) over Unknown (For.)

175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

190: Riley Popp (Clark/Willow Lake) over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) (Fall 2:28)

215: Josh Kannegieter (Clark/Willow Lake) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) (Fall 0:28)

285: Gavin Englund (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

106: Benny Pommer (Clark/Willow Lake) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) (MD 10-0)

Groton Area 78, Hamlin 6

Keegan Kucker, 113, pinned Justin Goens in 2:47, Donavon Block, 138, pinned Preston Roberts in 41 seconds and Walker Zoellner, 157, pinned Zachary Fisher in 1:30. Chris Schwab, 150, was pinned by Tate Everson, 3:30.

Forfeit wins: Wyatt Hagen at 106, Kyson Kucker at 120, Noah Scepaniak at 126, Grayson Flores at 132, Kason Oswald at 144, Christian Ehresmann at 165, Korbin Kucker at 175, Layne Johnson at 190, Charlie Frost at 215 and Gavin Englund at 285.

Dakota Valley's Late Surge Secures Victory Over Groton Area, 70-64

In a thrilling high school basketball showdown, Dakota Valley scored the final six points of the game to pull off a dramatic 70-64 win over Groton Area. The game featured hot shooting, big runs, and a fourth-quarter heroics that lifted the Panthers to their eighth win of the season.

The game opened with both teams trading early baskets, resulting in a 5-5 tie. However, Groton Area came out firing from beyond the arc, draining five three-pointers in the first quarter to take a commanding 19-12 lead. The Tigers shot an efficient 50% (7-of-14) in the period, while Dakota Valley struggled to find their rhythm, shooting 36% (5-of-14).

Dakota Valley fought back in the second quarter, tying the game at 21 before Groton Area regained control. Behind a balanced attack and four more three-pointers, the Tigers extended their lead to 34-26 and went into halftime ahead 37-32. Despite Groton's sharpshooting (46% in the quarter), Dakota Valley began to heat up, shooting 57% to stay within striking distance.

The third quarter saw momentum shift back and forth, with the game tied twice. Groton Area then unleashed an 11-point run, pushing their lead to 49-40. The Tigers ended the quarter shooting a red-hot 64% (7-of-11) and held a 56-49 advantage entering the final period.

The fourth quarter belonged to Dakota Valley and their star guard Luke Bruns. Bruns took over, scoring 15 of his game-high 33 points in the final frame. His scoring burst helped the Panthers erase the deficit and take a 60-59 lead. Groton Area managed to tie the game at 64 with just over a minute left, but the Tigers went cold, failing to score in the final moments. Dakota Valley capitalized, hitting clutch free throws and finishing the game on a 6-0 run.

Free throws played a critical role in the outcome. Dakota Valley went a perfect 12-of-12 from the charity stripe, while Groton Area converted 7-of-9 attempts. The Panthers' aggressive play also helped them dominate the boards, as the Tigers managed only 16 rebounds all game.

Ryder Johnson led the Tigers with 22 points, while Keegen Tracy added 21 and Becker Bosma chipped in 10. Despite shooting an impressive 55% (11-of-20) from three-point range, Groton struggled with turnovers and foul trouble, committing 17 team fouls and giving up 11 turnovers. Dakota Valley had 13 fouls and 11 turnovers, eight of which were steals by the Tigers.

The win improves Dakota Valley's record to 8-2 on the season, while Groton Area falls to 6-4. Both teams showcased their strengths in a hard-fought contest, but it was Dakota Valley's resilience and Bruns' late-game heroics that sealed the victory.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Ryder Johnson: 22 points, 4 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 3 fouls.
Keegen Tracy: 21 points, 1 rebound, 3 assists, 2 steals, 3 fouls.
Becker Bosma: 10 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul, 1 block.

Gage Sippel: 6 points, 4 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul, 1 block.
Jayden Schwan: 3 points, 2 fouls.

Karson Zak: 2 points, 2 rebounds, 6 assists, 3 steals, 4 fouls, 1 block.
Turner Thompson: 1 rebound.

Totals: 2-pointers: 12-18 67%, 3-pointers: 11-20 55%, Free Throws: 7-9 78%, 16 rebounds, 9 turnovers, 17 assists, 8 steals, 17 fouls, 3 blocks.

Dakota Valley: Luke Bruns 33, Logan Collette 11, Drew Lukken 11, Tatum Sorensen 9, Grady Ramos 4, Dylan Lukken 2. Field Goals: 26-49 53%, Free Throws: 12-12 100%, 13 fouls, 11 turnovers.

Dakota Valley won the junior varsity game, 59-25. Jayden Schwan 9, Jace Johnson 8, Asher Johnson 4, Anthony Tracy 2, Ryder Schelle 1, Jordan Schwan 1. The junior varsity game lasted 58 minutes as the mercy rule kicked in with one minute left in the game. Seven minute quarters were played.

Eighth grader Aaron Bruns led Dakota Valley with 22 points while Carver Fritchen had 7, Luke Anema 6, Tye DeGeorgia 6, Zachary Schlotman 4, Seth Reinhardt 4, Payton Sorensen 3, Sean Meiske 3, CashSlater 2, William Schnabel 2, Grady Ramos 2, Jack Wiese 1.

Groton Area won the C game, 52-46, leading at the quarter stops at 12-6, 23-12 and 37-26. Dakota Valley closed to within three, 49-46, with 44 seconds left, but Groton Area made the last three points on free throws to pull out the win. Asher Johnson had 23 points followed by Anthony Tracy with 17, Jace Johnson seven, Ryder Schelle three and Jordan Schwan two. Tye DeGeorgia led Dakota Valley with 131 points followed by Tate Bernard with 12, Atticus Slater eight, Vaughn Hoffman seven and Tanner Boonstra six. The C game went an hour and a half with seven minute quarter played. Groton Area had 19 turnovers while Dakota Valley had 16. Groton Area had more team fouls, 19-17.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, from Dakota Valley. The C game was sponsored by Larry and Val Fiehs, the junior varsity game was sponsored by Ed and Connie Stauch, and the varsity game was sponsored by Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Subway, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Locke Electric, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms, Subway of Groton and The Meathouse in Andover

Groton Area vs. Dakota Valley: A Battle at the Hanson Classic

The Corinth Palace in Mitchell was electric on Saturday as Groton Area and Dakota Valley faced off in a thrilling girls' basketball matchup at the Hanson Classic. Fans packed the stands, eager to witness two determined teams give their all on the hardwood.

Dakota Valley struck first, using a tenacious defense and quick transitions to build a 10-4 lead after the first quarter. Groton Area, however, refused to back down. Fueled by sharp passing and relentless energy, the Tigers took command in the second quarter. They outscored Dakota Valley 17-8, with clutch plays from their senior leader, Rylee Dunker, and steady scoring from Kennedy Hansen. By halftime, Groton Area held a slim 21-18 lead.

Momentum stayed with Groton early in the third quarter as they opened up their largest lead of the game, a five-point advantage. However, disaster struck when standout point guard Jerica Locke took a hard hit to the face. Unable to return for the rest of the game, Groton Area struggled to maintain their rhythm without their floor general.

Dakota Valley capitalized on the shift. Cameron Semerbald dominated inside, grabbing rebound after rebound and tallying a double-double with 12 points and 13 boards. Meanwhile, Katie Bensworth showcased her scoring prowess, pouring in a game-high 15 points. By the end of the third quarter, the Panthers had regained control, leading 37-33.

In the final quarter, Dakota Valley extended their lead with efficient shooting and disciplined play. Groton Area battled valiantly, with Dunker finishing with 11 points and Hanson adding 10, but the Tigers couldn't overcome the absence of Locke. Dakota Valley's advantage at the free-throw line proved decisive, as they sank 17 of 23 attempts compared to Groton's 7 of 12.

Despite shooting just 25% from the field in the first half, Dakota Valley improved to 43% in the second half, while Groton Area managed 33%. The Panthers' ability to turn Groton's 20 team fouls into points at the line helped secure their 50-40 victory.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Rylee Dunker: 11 points, 7 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls.
Kennedy Hansen: 10 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, 3 fouls.
Taryn Traphagen: 5 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 4 fouls.
Jaedyn Penning: 5 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 3 fouls.
Faith Traphagen: 4 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 2 steals, 4 fouls.
Brooklyn Hansen: 3 points, 4 rebounds, 2 fouls.
Jerica Locke: 2 points, 3 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals.
Totals: 2-pointers: 14-46 30%, 3-pointers: 5-19 26%, Free Throws: 7-12 58%, 36 rebounds, 20 fouls, 11 assists, 25 turnovers, 13 steals.

Dakota Valley: Katie Betsworth 15, Cameryn Sommervold 12, Aubree Worden 9, Ella Otten 8, Emersen Mead 5, Alexa Verdoorn 1.

2-Pointers: 15-45 33%, 3-pointers: 11-17 27%, Free Throws: 17-23 74%, 32 rebounds, 17 fouls, 6 assists, 19 turnovers, 3 blocks, 11 steals.

Groton Area Lady Tigers Claim Victory Over Northwestern Area with Strong Second Half

The Groton Area Lady Tigers triumphed over the Northwestern Area Wildcats in a hard-fought 42-30 victory on Tuesday night. The win was powered by a dominant fourth-quarter performance, securing Groton's 8th win of the season and setting the stage for their upcoming matchup against Milbank.

First Quarter: Wildcats Edge Ahead

The game started with both teams battling for momentum. The first quarter featured two lead changes and two ties, as the teams traded baskets in a tight contest. Northwestern's Adriana Rattigan led the charge with six points in the quarter, helping the Wildcats to a slim 11-9 lead. Northwestern shot an efficient 50% from the field, converting 5 of their 10 attempts, while Groton struggled at 31%, making 4 of 13.

Second Quarter: Groton Grabs the Lead

The defensive intensity ramped up in the second quarter. Both teams struggled to find the basket, but Groton outscored Northwestern 6-3 in the period. The Tigers' relentless defense limited Northwestern to just 1-of-9 shooting for an 11% field goal percentage. Despite shooting only 13% themselves (2-of-15), Groton managed to secure a 15-14 lead at halftime.

Third Quarter: Tigers Start to Pull Away

The second half began with the game tied at 16, but Groton took control midway through the third quarter. A key three-point shot by Rylee Dunker gave the Tigers a 19-16 advantage, and they extended their lead to 25-20 by the end of the quarter. Groton's improved shooting (30%, 3-of-10) and aggressive defense held Northwestern to just 14% from the field (2-of-14).

Fourth Quarter: Groton Dominates

Groton saved their best for last, unleashing a 13-point run to open the fourth quarter and build a commanding 40-25 lead. Their offense clicked as they attacked the basket and capitalized on turnovers. The

Wildcats attempted to mount a comeback but could not overcome the deficit. Groton sealed the 42-30 victory, showcasing their depth and teamwork in the final stretch.

Player Highlights

- Rylee Dunker led Groton with 10 points and was a force on the boards, grabbing 7 of the team's 29 rebounds. She also added a block to her stat line.
- Kennedy Hansen orchestrated the offense with 3 of the team's 10 assists and contributed 2 steals.
- Faith Traphagen and Taryn Traphagen added to the defensive effort, each recording a block and combining for 4 steals.
- Northwestern's Adriana Ratigan paced her team with 10 points, including 6 in the first quarter.

Looking Ahead

With this win, Groton Area improves to 8-3 on the season and will face Milbank on Thursday. Meanwhile, Northwestern, now 6-2, will look to rebound in their next matchup.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Groton Area

Rylee Dunker: 10 points, 7 rebounds, 2 fouls, 1 block.

Faith Traphagen: 7 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls, 1 block.

Laila Roberts: 6 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul.

Taryn Traphagen: 6 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 block.

Kennedy Hansen: 5 points, 5 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 foul.

Jaedyn Penning: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 2 fouls.

Brooklyn Hansen: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist.

Chesney Weber: 2 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 foul.

Totals: 2-Pointers: 8-28 29%, 3-pointers: 6-19 32%, Free Throws: 8-12 67%, 29 rebounds, 13 turnovers, 10 assists, 5 steals, 9 fouls, 3 blocks.

Northwestern: Adriana Ratigan 10, Tara Blachford 6, Ashley Haven 6, Sophie Troske 6. Field Goals: 11-38 29%, Free Throws: 4-8 50%, Fouls: 16, Turnovers: 14.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 42-8, leading at the quarterbreaks at 17-1, 23-2 and 33-4. McKenna Tietz led Groton Area with 14 points followed by Chesney Weber with 11, Makenna Krause and Talli Wright each had four, Tevan Hanson had three and Sydney Locke, Kella Tracy and Mai Crank each had two points. Kylee Henjum led Northwestern with three points while Lilly Haven had two and adding one point apiece were Breelyn Satter, Kyara Ratigan and Teresa Melius.

Both games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The varsity sponsors were Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, Groton Subway, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Locke Electric, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms, The Meathouse in Andover. Weber Landscaping sponsored the junior varsity game. Shane Clark provided the play-by-play with Jeslyn Kosel running the camera and Paul Kosel the technology.

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #9 Results

Team Standings: Shihtzus 7, Chipmunks 6, Jackelopes 3, Cheetahs 3, Foxes 3, Coyotes 2

Men's High Games: Tony Waage 206, Butch Farmen & Lance Frohling 205, John Sippel 203 & 200

Women's High Games: Michelle Johnson 181, Hayley Johnson 178, Brenda Waage 166

Men's High Series: John Sippel 563, Butch Farmen 559, Lance Frohling 532

Women's High Series: Michelle Johnson 497, Vicki Walter & Sue Stanley 422, Hayley Johnson 419

Week 9 Fun Game – Most 6 Spares: Tie - Cheetahs and Jackelopes with 4!

Conde National League

Jan 20 Team Standings: Braves 22, Giants 18, Cubs 16, Mets 14, Pirates 9, Stooges 5

Men's High Games: Butch Farmen 208, Austin Schulke 184, Dalton Locke 178, Aaron Severson 178

Men's High Series: Butch Farmen 529, Austin Schulke 513, Dion Bahr 450

Women's High Games: Alice Severson 201, Michelle Johnson 200, Suzi Easthouse 159, Sam Bahr 159

Women's High Series: Alice Severson 525, Suzi Easthouse 453, Michelle Johnson 451

Queen of Hearts

Week number 13 of the Groton Queen of Hearts was held Thursday night. The jackpot was \$10,892. Ticket sales for the week was \$915. The name of Dick Kolker was drawn and he picked Card #5 which was the 2 of Diamonds. Kolker won the consolation prize of \$91.

Groton Area Sweeps Tiospa Zina in Dominant Basketball Performances

The Groton Area Tigers showcased their prowess on the hardwood with commanding victories over the Tiospa Zina Wambdi in both girls' and boys' basketball action.

Girls: Groton Defeats Tiospa Zina 50-21

Groton jumped out to a strong start, leading 13-2 after the first quarter and extending their advantage to 26-7 by halftime. By the end of the third quarter, the Tigers held a 36-14 lead before closing out the game with a decisive 50-21 victory.

Taryn Traphagen led Groton with 10 points, while Latice Rodlund and Krius Haukaas paced Tiospa Zina with 6 points each. Rodlin's points all came from the free throw line, where she went 6-of-14.

Groton's defense was a force to be reckoned with, forcing turnovers and racking up 21 steals. The Tigers had 41 rebounds, 13 assists, and committed 11 turnovers. They were called for 21 team fouls, which sent the Wambdi to the free throw line frequently. Tiospa Zina capitalized by shooting 15-of-28 from the line (54%). The Tigers, in contrast, made 11 of their 23 attempts (48%).

Shooting efficiency told the story of the game, with Groton hitting 19 of 64 field goal attempts (30%), while Tiospa Zina managed just 3 of 28 (11%).

Rylee Dunker led the boards with 10 rebounds while Laila Roberts had five assists and Taryn Traphagen had five steals.

Boys: Groton Cruises to 87-32 Victory

The boys' game was a fast-paced, high-scoring affair, with Groton running away to an 87-32 win. The Tigers built a 25-9 lead in the first quarter and blew the game open by halftime, leading 56-17. The mercy rule kicked in late in the first half when Groton's lead hit 30 points at 45-15.

Groton's offense was electric, with four players scoring in double figures. Keegan Tracy led the way with 19 points, followed by Ryder Johnson and Becker Bosma with 17 each, and Gage Sippel adding 11. Tiospa Zina's Ashden Sierra was the lone bright spot for the Wambdi, finishing with 20 points.

The Tigers put on a shooting clinic, connecting on 10 of 22 three-point attempts (45%). Tracy drained three from deep, while Johnson and Turner Thompson added two each. Bosma, Blake Pauli, and Jace Johnson each contributed one three-pointer.

Groton dominated in all facets of the game, grabbing 42 rebounds, dishing out 20 assists, and tallying 15 steals. Ryder Johnson led the rebounding effort with seven boards, while Pauli had five assists, and Tracy notched six steals. The Tigers also recorded three blocks, courtesy of Sippel, Thompson, and Ethan Kroll.

Both teams stayed active at the free throw line. Tiospa Zina made six of eight attempts (75%), while Groton hit seven of 11 (64%).

The Wambdi struggled offensively, committing 21 turnovers and finishing with 13 fouls. Despite their effort, they were unable to keep pace with Groton's high-octane attack.

Summary

Groton's sweep of Tiospa Zina highlighted the Tigers' depth, defensive tenacity, and offensive efficiency. Both the girls' and boys' teams demonstrated why they're a force to be reckoned with this season.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Boys Stats

Keegan Tracy: 19 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 6 steals, 1 foul.
Ryder Johnson: 17 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls.
Becker Bosma: 17 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 2 steals.
Gage Sippel: 11 points, 6 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 foul, 1 block.
Turner Thompson: 8 points, 4 rebounds, 3 steals, 1 foul, 1 block.
Karson Zak: 6 points, 6 rebounds, 3 assists, 1 steal and 1 foul.
Jace Johnson: 3 points, 1 rebound, 2 fouls.
Blake Pauli: 3 points, 1 rebound, 5 assists, 1 foul.
Jayden Schwan: 2 points, 5 rebounds, 1 foul.
Ethan Kroll: 1 point, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 2 fouls, 1 block.
Ryder Schelle: 2 rebounds.

Totals: 2-pointers: 25-29 64%, 3-pointers: 10-22 45%, Free Throws: 7-11, 64%, 42 rebounds, 18 turnovers, 20 assists, 15 steals, 12 fouls, 3 blocks.

Tiospa Zina: Ashden Sierra 20, Devon Bluehorse 7, Blake Dumarce 3, Eric Jens Jr. 1. Field Goals: 10-44 23%, Free Throws: 6-8 75%, 21 turnovers, 13 fouls.

Groton Area, now 6-3 on the season, will travel to Dakota Valley on Saturday with a C game starting at 2 p.m. Tiospa Zina goes to 0-8.

Girls Stats

Taryn Traphagen: 10 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 5 steals, 2 fouls.
Jaedyn Penning: 8 points, 6 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals.
Kennedy Hansen: 7 points, 2 rebounds, 2 steals, 4 fouls.
Brooklyn Hansen: 6 points, 5 rebounds, 1 assist, 3 steals, 2 fouls.
Chesney Weber: 6 points, 7 rebounds, 1 steal, 2 fouls.
Faith Traphagen: 4 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 2 steals, 1 foul.
Laila Roberts: 4 points, 3 rebounds, 5 assists, 1 steal, 4 fouls.
Jerica Locke: 2 points, 4 assists, 1 steal, 3 fouls.
Talli Wright: 2 points, 2 rebounds.
Rylee Dunker: 1 point, 10 rebounds, 1 steal, 1 foul.
Mia Crank: 1 rebound.

McKenna Tietz: 1 rebound, 2 steals, 2 fouls.

Totals: 2-pointers: 18-57 32%, 3-pointers: 1-13 8%, Free Throws: 11-23 48%, 41 rebounds, 11 turnovers, 13 assists, 21 steals, 21 fouls.

Tiospa Zina: Latice Rodlund 6, Krius Haukaas 6, Journee Haley 4, Maya Deutsch 1, #21 4. Field Goals: 3-28 11%, Free Throws: 15-28 54%, 20 fouls, 26 turnovers.

Groton Area, now 7-2, will play Dakota Valley at 4 p.m. on Saturday at the Corn Palace in Mitchell. Tiospa Zina is now 3-6.

Groton Area wins girls JV game

Groton Area won the girls junior varsity game, 43-9, leading at the quarterstops at 12-0, 25-8 and 35-8.

Groton Area Scoring: Ashlynn Warrington 11, Chesney Weber 10, Kella Tracy 8, McKenna Tietz 6, Teagan Hanten 3, Talli Wright 2, Tevan Hanson 2, Mai Crank 1.

Tiospa Zina: Emma JEns 3, Milani Smith 2, Stevie Marks 2, Aiyonna Eder 1, Majessa Loudner 1.

There was no boys junior varsity game.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The girls junior varsity game was sponsored by Rich and Tami Zimney. The varsity games were sponsored by Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Locke Electric, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms and The Meathouse in Andover. Jeslyn Kosel and Paul Kosel were on hand for the action.

Wrestling squad beats Redfield, Webster Area

Groton Area hosted a triangular wrestling meet Thursday with the host team winning both matches. Groton Area defeated Redfield, 41-39, after Gavin Englund pinned Dalton Rathjen to give the Tigers six points to secure the win. Groton Area won nine matches to defeated Webster Area, 52-29.

Groton Area 41, Redfield 39

106: Maddon Odland (Redfield) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) (Fall 4:00)

113: Chace Odland (Redfield) over Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) (MD 16-4)

120: Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

126: Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) over Caleb Nelson (Redfield) (TF 16-1 4:52)

132: Kasey Hermann (Redfield) over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) (Fall 1:03)

138: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Ayden Understock (Redfield) (Fall 5:38)

144: Conner Zens (Redfield) over Kason Oswald (Groton Area) (Fall 0:36)

150: Chris Schwab (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

157: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) over Kevin Brabant (Redfield) (Fall 0:32)

165: Collin Dean (Redfield) over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) (TF 19-1 4:00)

175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) over Tavian Schwartz (Redfield) (Fall 0:21)

190: Dylan Murray (Redfield) over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) (Fall 3:15)

215: Camden Murray (Redfield) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) (Fall 1:10)

285: Gavin Englund (Groton Area) over Dalton Rathjen (Redfield) (Fall 3:49)

Groton Area 52, Webster Area 29

144: Kason Oswald (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

150: Trace Shoemaker (Webster Area) over Chris Schwab (Groton Area) (Fall 3:47)

157: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

165: Gage Baumgarn (Webster Area) over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) (TF 16-0 5:00)

175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) over Hunter Bourassa (Webster Area) (TF 17-1 4:26)

190: Nathan Hubsch (Webster Area) over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) (Fall 0:47)

215: Isaac Nelson (Webster Area) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) (Fall 1:05)

285: Gavin Englund (Groton Area) over Matthew Angiolelli (Webster Area) (TF 18-1 5:42)

106: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

113: Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

120: Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) over Karstyn Schlechter (Webster Area) (Fall 0:23)

126: Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) over Unknown (For.)

132: Grayson Flores (Groton Area) over Casen Fish (Webster Area) (Fall 0:36)

138: Haeden Jorgenson (Webster Area) over Donavon Block (Groton Area) (Fall 0:43)

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

The divisional round of the playoffs was played this past weekend, and since the Minnesota Vikings' season is over, here is a breakdown of the four games that lead to the Conference Championships.

The divisional round kicked off Saturday, as the defending Super Bowl champion Chiefs welcomed the Houston Texans to Kansas City. Behind QB Patrick Mahomes, and with the help of Taylor Swift's boyfriend and the refs, the Chiefs secured a 23-14 victory. This was Mahomes' seventh season as a starter, and this will be his seventh consecutive AFC Championship appearance. The Chiefs are looking to become the first team in NFL history to win three Super Bowls in a row, and they are two wins away from achieving that feat. The Texans, meanwhile, couldn't stop the Chiefs' pass rush, who sacked QB C.J. Stroud eight times. The Texans have never won a divisional-round playoff game.

Saturday evening, the Detroit Lions hosted the Washington Commanders. This was the first time in their history that the Lions were the top team in the NFC, and according to Vegas, the Commanders were the biggest underdogs in the divisional round. However, thanks to five Detroit turnovers, Washington left Ford Field with a 45-31 win. Midway through the second quarter, a Lions' TD gave them a 14-10 lead, but Washington scored on their next possession and followed that up with a pick-six of Jared Goff to take a 24-14 lead. The 42 points scored in the second quarter are the most scored in a quarter in NFL history.

Service Notice: Sandra Oliver

Sandra Jeanne Oliver, 83 of Sioux Falls, SD (formerly of Groton, SD) passed away on Tuesday, January 14, 2025 at the Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls, SD.

A Mass of Christian Burial and celebration will be held at 1:00 p.m., on Saturday, February 22nd at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Groton, SD. Father Gregory Tschakert will officiate. A time of sharing and fellowship will be held in the church hall after the service. Inurnment will follow in the spring under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel of Groton, SD.

On Sunday, the Philadelphia Eagles and Los Angeles Rams battled for the chance to face off against the Washington Commanders in the NFC conference championship game. The snow didn't seem to slow down the Eagles' running game, and the Rams appeared to have used up all their feel-good-story points in their win against the Vikings, as Philadelphia came out on top 28-22. Unlike the games on Saturday, however, this game came down to the final minutes. The Rams got the ball back with two minutes left in the fourth quarter, and a touchdown (and successful extra point) would have secured the victory. Unfortunately for Rams fans, Stafford took a sack on third down and threw a wildly inaccurate pass on fourth down, giving the ball back to the Eagles who just had to kneel down to lock in the win.

The Final game of the weekend featured the Baltimore Ravens traveling to Buffalo to battle the Bills, a matchup of the top two candidates for league MVP. This was the best game of the divisional round, as Lamar Jackson and the Ravens got the ball back, down eight points, with three and a half minutes left in the fourth quarter. They drove down the field, going 88 yards on eight plays to score a TD. Still down by two points, Baltimore needed to complete a two-point conversion to tie the game but were unsuccessful. The Bills secured ensuing the onside kick, which secured the victory.

Looking ahead, the conference championship games are set. The first game will kick off at 2 pm Sunday, with the Washington Commanders traveling to Philly to take on the Eagles. Then, at 5:30 pm, Josh Allen and the Buffalo Bills will be in Kansas City to take on Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs. The winners of these games will meet two weeks later in the Super Bowl.

"Its Here"

Lately I've been reminded of a blockbuster movie from my youth. It contains a scene that even those who never saw the film are likely to recognize. A sleeping family is jolted awake, and from the foot of the bed the young daughter sings "they're here!"

One might wonder why I'm thinking so much about Poltergeist. That quote started ringing in my brain during our last monthly clinic meeting, when our lab director reported on the previous day's influenza statistics. Nearly 90% of the tests were positive. Respiratory viruses may not seem like a natural comparison to malevolent ghosts, but they're here, and things are likely to get worse before they get better.

Last season, there were over 20,000 confirmed cases of influenza in South Dakota. Over 800 people were hospitalized. Nearly 50 died.

When I diagnose someone with influenza, I warn them to expect misery. They will likely have fevers, body aches, exhaustion, and of course cough. Some people are out of commission for only a few days, others for two weeks. Some people can barely get out of bed, and some people just feel a bit run down.

The flu shot helps, but it is far from perfect. People who get the shot can still get influenza. Generally it is between 40 and 60% effective at preventing infection. Still, those who had the shot and get sick anyway are significantly less likely to be hospitalized. So long as influenza is circulating you should still get your shot. It isn't too late even if you already had influenza, as the shot contains 3 different strains.

Of course, things like washing your hands, not touching your face, and avoiding sick people are also useful. It can be hard to distinguish one respiratory virus from another.

Influenza tends to strike more suddenly than many others, but symptoms have significant overlap. Testing is the best way to distinguish whether or not your illness is influenza. Influenza is also one of the few viruses for which we have specific treatments, so getting that answer can be useful. Treatment is generally used for those at higher risk, such as young children, people over 65, those who have chronic health conditions or are pregnant. Importantly, medicine should be started within the first 48 hours of illness.

So what can you do if you get sick? First, stay home! Get lots of rest. Drink lots of fluids. Fever reducers and over the counter pain medications can help you be more comfortable. Pseudoephedrine can help the congestion. Guaifenesin can help thin the mucous. Dextromethorphan or honey can help soothe the cough.

Finally, watch out for signs that you are getting sicker instead of better. Influenza can lead to ear infections, sinus infections, pneumonia, and things that are even more serious, like bloodstream infections, inflammation of the heart or brain, and kidney failure. If something doesn't seem right, get it checked out.

Debra Johnston, MD. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices as a Family Medicine Doctor at Avera Medical Group in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, Youtube and Threads. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB), providing health information based on science, built on trust.



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