

# The Groton Independent

Vol. 142 No. 20 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 05, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889

## Groton council delays vote on hail repair, discusses airport updates

by Elizabeth Varin

The City Council opened bids for numerous repairs to city buildings on Tuesday, but a decision on repair work will have to wait for two more weeks.

The council tabled making a decision on hail damage repairs in order to have more time to review different bids and to have more input from council members.

Tuesday's council meeting almost didn't happen as a quorum wasn't available until just after the 7 p.m. scheduled start time. Council members Brian Bahr, Jason Wambach, Jon Cutler and Shirley Wells attended Tuesday's meeting, while Councilwoman Karyn Babcock, Councilman Kevin Nehls and Mayor Scott Hanlon were absent.

The council received bids from five different construction companies for roof repair work on the city's main pump house, cemetery repair shop, police department, city shop, community center, park restrooms, park picnic shelter, pool bathhouse, pool gazebo, pool storage shed and city hall/library. However, each bid contained somewhat different options. A few bids didn't include work on some of the buildings, and some included both shingles and tin as options for roofing material.

Bids included

- Braden Miller Construction out of Houghton with a low-end cost of \$79,500 using Owens Corning Duration shingles and a high-end cost of \$87,500 for Malarkey Vista shingles. Bid included shingle buildings only, but not the tin roof buildings.

- Weismantel Roofing out of Aberdeen with costs split out by building. The packet included work at the police department for \$9,415.75, city shop for \$14,727.03, park restrooms for \$1,489.21, park picnic shelter for \$4,743.97, pool bathhouse for \$16,048.90, pool gazebo for \$3,315.46 and pool storage shed for \$1,265.19.

- Ringneck Construction out of Aberdeen with costs split out by building. The packet included work at the cemetery repair shop for \$5,980.93, police department for \$8,627.63 (tin price) or \$8,823.71 (shingle price), city shop for \$19,014.16 (tin price) or \$19,446.30 (shingle price), community center for \$29,901.30 (tin price) or \$30,580.88

(shingle price), park restrooms for \$2,281.90, park picnic shelter for \$5,058.17, pool bathhouse \$19,986.48 (tin price) or \$20,470.02 (shingles price), pool gazebo for \$3,367 (tin price) or \$3,709.68 (shingle price), and pool storage shed \$1,193.92.

- Dakota Roofing out of Aberdeen with a bid of \$99,985 for 11 buildings.

- Witte Exteriors out of Grenville with \$97,340 for metal roofing, \$82,690 for shingle replacement, \$4,500 for gutters and \$11,700 for repairs of the roof at City Hall.

Councilman Brian Bahr, who led Tuesday's meeting as the mayor wasn't present, told contractors in the council chambers that the council would likely table making a decision to get opinions from the other council members and to weigh the different bids.

"I think we're going to discuss it a little more," he said. "I want to make sure we're doing our due diligence and selecting the right contractor for the job. We're making sure everything is compared apples to apples."

The council received updates on progress at the Groton Airport. Darrell Hillestad reported he had purchased a tractor and snowblower for the airport (with funding provided by donors). He also gave an update on getting hangars built at the airport.

"Everybody's very excited about it," he said. "We just need to take baby steps."

He expects some hangar construction will begin this summer.

The council approved purchasing a mini excavator after reviewing a few bids for machines in North Dakota. The council also directed Electric Utility Supervisor Todd Gay to get the city on the build list for a new electric department truck. The machine won't be available until around 2026, but the city's current vehicle is reaching the end of its lifespan.

"I'm afraid it's getting to the point where it will nickel and dime us," Gay said. "I would hate to put \$10,000 in if it's only worth \$30,000."

The council also authorized the mayor to sign a letter of commitment to participate in the Brown County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

An agenda item to hire summer recreational employees was removed from the agenda at the beginning of the meeting, but a reminder was still included on the agenda that applications are open for summer recreational positions.

## Groton Area January Students of the Month



Back left: Brynlee Dunker (6th), Asher Zimmerman (7th), Carlee Johnson (10th), Axel Warrington (12th)  
Front Left: Brooklyn Spainer (8th), Chesney Weber (9th), Jaedyn Penning (11th)

Groton Area School works to ensure that all levels of academic instruction also include the necessary life skills teaching, practicing, and modeling that encourages essential personal life habits that are universally understood to facilitate helping our students become good human beings and citizens.

It is learning with our heads, hearts, and hands to be caring and civil, to make healthy decisions, to effectively problem solve, to be respectful and responsible, to be good citizens, and to be empathetic and ethical individuals.

Students are selected based on individual student growth in the areas of: positive behavior, citizenship, good attendance, a thirst for knowledge, and high academic standards.

## Dates Vehicle Owners May Be Impacted By System Updates

PIERRE, S.D. – The Department of Revenue's Motor Vehicle Division will launch a new title and registration system, 605Drive, on February 17, 2025.

The transition to the new system will occur in three phases. Starting on February 7, registration renewals will not be available on mySDCars.gov or at the DMVNow Kiosks. Registration renewals will continue to be available at county offices through 7 PM Central Time on February 13th although we recommend checking with your treasurer's office to see if they have an earlier stop time to work through their end-of-day processes.

Between February 14 – 16, 2025, motor vehicle transactions, including title transfers and registration renewals, will not be available. During that same time, the system transition will also delay a dealership's ability to transfer a title and a financial institution's ability to release liens.

The new system will launch on February 17, 2025. Access to registrations will be available at county treasurer offices, DMVNow Kiosks, and through the new online platform, whose link can be found on the Department's website at dor.sd.gov by clicking "Vehicle Registration and Plates" under Online Services.

The Department recommends vehicle owners who renew in February renew their registration early to avoid any delays.

# Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

In the NFL, the winners of the conference championship games get an extra week to heal and prepare for the Super Bowl. To fill the gap, the NFL holds its annual Pro Bowl games. The game used to be played in Hawaii, giving players a real reward and incentive to accept their Pro Bowl invitations. Unfortunately for the players, the events are now held in Florida. The players don't take the Pro Bowl events too seriously and just use the events as a chance to socialize.

There were seven Vikings players in this year's Pro Bowl: QB Sam Darnold, LS Andrew DePaola, OLB Jonathan Greenard, WR Justin Jefferson, CB Byron Murphy Jr., OT Brian O'Neill, and OLB Andrew VanGinkel.

There are numerous events in the Pro Bowl, and these seem to change every year. This year, there were six events during the Skills Showdown on Thursday: Passing the Test, Satisfying Catches, The Big Spike, Helmet Harmony, Relay Race, and Dodgeball.

Vikings' QB Sam Darnold participated in Passing the Test and had the second-highest score, helping the NFC take the event. Justin Jefferson helped the NFC also win the Satisfying Catches event, although the players were clearly not informed of how the event would unfold, which led to many moments of confusion. The only event on Thursday that a Vikings player wasn't involved was The Big Spike, in which players spiked a ball onto a pad to measure their "strength". This was the only event the NFC lost. Coincidence? I think not. The fourth event was Helmet Harmony, in which two players from the same team answered questions about each other. Brian O'Neill and Jonathan Greenard participated, and even though JG has only been with the team for one season, the two players aced every question, leading to another NFC win. Relay Race was next, which featured Byron Murphy Jr., and the NFC also won this event (mainly because the AFC kept fumbling the handoffs). The Final event of Thursday was Dodgeball, which consisted of two heats. Multiple Vikings participated, and the two teams split the event. At the end of the day, the NFC had a 14-7 lead.

Sunday was the actual Pro Bowl flag football game, with events in between each quarter. At the end of the first quarter, the NFC was ahead 27-13. In between the quarters there was a Punt Perfect event, which didn't feature any Vikings players, so the AFC won the event and added three points to their cumulative score. At halftime, the score was 39-22 NFC, but the AFC won the Madden NFL Head-To-Head event, bringing their score up to 25 points, but the NFC won The Great Football Race which was worth three points as well, extending the lead to 42-25.

At the end of the third quarter, the NFC led 55-39. Before the final quarter, both teams participated in Tug of War, which was a best-of-three event. The first matchup included Vikings' OT Brian O'Neill, leading to a win for the NFC. The NFC also won the second matchup, giving them an additional three points, making the score 58-39 with just twelve minutes

left for the AFC to make a comeback. It got off to a rough start for the AFC, as Vikings' CB Byron Murphy Jr. had a pick-six on the first play of the quarter. Ultimately, the NFC won the 2025 NFL Pro Bowl 76-63, and Vikings' CB Byron Murphy Jr. won the defensive MVP award. Skoll!

Looking ahead, the Philadelphia Eagles will battle the Kansas City Chiefs for the right to call themselves NFL champions. The Chiefs, led by QB Patrick Mahomes, are looking to become the first team in NFL history to win three in a row. The Eagles, led by RB Saquon Barkley, are looking for payback for a 35-38 loss to the Chiefs in Super Bowl LVII two years ago. The Chiefs are slight favorites in this matchup (-1.5). Whether you're a fan of either team or just watching for the commercials, enjoy the game, as it will be the last NFL game for six months.



## Death Notice: Jean Walter

Jean Walter, 94, of Groton passed away January 30, 2025 at Avantara Groton. Services are pending with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

## Classifieds

### and Card of Thanks

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

**605/397-NEWS (6397)**  
PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

## EMPLOYMENT

HAND COUNTY SOUTH DAKOTA is seeking applicants for the position of HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT. This is a fulltime, salaried (currently \$64,054) position with full benefits including state retirement. Exact instructions can be found at <https://hand.sdcounties.org/employment>.

SPECIAL ED TEACHERS NEEDED in Custer School District starting immediately. Apply online CSD.K12.SD.US 605-673-3154 CSD 527 Montgomery St., Custer, SD 57730 EOE Open until filled.

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

CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a Superintendent of Schools starting 7/1/25. Salary DOE. Contact the district 605-673-3154 for more information. Open until filled. [www.csd.k12.sd.us](http://www.csd.k12.sd.us) EOE

## MISCELLANEOUS

LOOKING FOR MOBILE HOMES to move. Salvage homes. Will also do professional re-blocking and leveling, anchors. Single or double wide. Free estimates. Other homes available. 1983 3 bedroom for sale can deliver (605) 770-9211

## NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Statewide Full Digital Ad is \$300 for 1 week. Call the Groton Independent at 605-397-7460.



**I am so blessed to have received many 80th birthday greetings from my family, friends, and former students. Nothing like a birthday to remind me of just how many wonderful people I get to spend my life with. THANK YOU!!**

*Dorene Nelson*

## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Beans
- 5 Enfold
- 9 Stanley Cup org.
- 12 Luau dance
- 13 Roof overhang
- 14 Parisian "yes"
- 15 Pedestal occupant
- 16 Sketch
- 17 Trio after Q
- 18 Church organ feature
- 19 Retrieve
- 20 Bogus
- 21 Canonized Fr. woman
- 23 Soul, to Sartre
- 25 "Fantasia" ballerinas
- 28 Esteem
- 32 Commence
- 33 Biblical king
- 34 Gave a speech
- 36 Sipping aids
- 37 Weep
- 38 Spigot
- 39 "Holy cow!"
- 42 Away from SSW
- 44 Foot fraction
- 48 Flight stat
- 49 "Misery" star James
- 50 Olympian Lipinski

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13				14			
15				16				17			
18				19			20				
21	22			23	24						
25	26	27				28		29	30	31	
32						33					
34				35		36					
37						38					
39	40	41		42	43			44	45	46	47
48				49				50			
51				52				53			
54				55				56			

- 51 Altar promise
- 52 Bullets
- 53 Family
- 54 Fresh
- 55 Low digits
- 56 Warmonger
- 7 Online icon
- 8 Church seat
- 9 Director Ephron
- 10 Corn cover
- 11 Low-calorie
- 20 Frenzied state
- 22 Photocopier need
- 24 Maestro Zubin —
- 25 "Westworld" network
- 26 Suffix with hotel
- 27 Links org.
- 29 Notable time
- 30 Tier
- 31 Mag. staff
- 35 Energetic person
- 36 Shorthand pros
- 39 Profit
- 40 Shoppe description
- 41 Pack cargo
- 43 Handle
- 45 "The Lion King" lion
- 46 Gullet
- 47 Slugger Aaron
- 49 Purring pet

### DOWN

- 1 Poker token
- 2 BMW rival
- 3 Fall into a chair
- 4 Merchant's spiel
- 5 Hunks of cheese
- 6 Exceptional

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION**

## 2025 Crop Hour

**February 4 - 27, 2025 | Tuesdays-Thursdays**  
**Zoom Webinar | 10:00 a.m. CST / 9:00 a.m. MT**

- Register once for access to all sessions
- Free registration
- Visit [extension.sdstate.edu/events](https://extension.sdstate.edu/events) or scan the QR code to register
- Certified Crop Advisor credits available

**Weekly Topics**

- Feb. 4-6: Specialty Crops
- Feb. 11-13: Crop and Forage Production
- Feb. 18-20: Climate and Business Management
- Feb. 25-27: Regenerative Agriculture

SDSU Extension is an equal opportunity provider and employer in accordance with the nondiscrimination policies of South Dakota State University, the South Dakota Board of Regents and the United States Department of Agriculture. Learn more at [extension.sdstate.edu](https://extension.sdstate.edu) © 2024, South Dakota Board of Regents



Answer

Answers

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

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	A	P	S	W	R	A	P	N	H	L	
H	U	L	A	E	A	V	E	O	U	I	
I	D	O	L	D	R	A	W	R	I	S	
P	I	P	E	G	E	T	F	A	K	E	
	S	T	E	A	M	E					
H	I	P	P	O	S	R	E	V	E	R	E
B	E	G	I	N		H	E	R	O	D	
O	R	A	T	E	D	S	T	R	A	W	S
	C	R	Y	T	A	P					
G	O	S	H	N	N	E	I	N	C	H	
A	L	T		C	A	A	N	T	A	R	A
I	D	O		A	M	M	O	C	L	A	N
N	E	W		T	O	E	S	H	A	W	K

**Hanlon Brothers**  
**Gravel Hauling**  
New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60' reach trackhoe  
**605/395-6531**

**The Groton Independent**  
21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)  
Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher [paperpaul@grotonsd.net](mailto:paperpaul@grotonsd.net) ~ 605-397-7460  
Tina Kosel, Office Manager [office@grotonsd.net](mailto:office@grotonsd.net) ~ 605-397-7285  
Notices: [legals@grotonsd.net](mailto:legals@grotonsd.net)  
News Items: [news@grotonsd.net](mailto:news@grotonsd.net)  
Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday  
Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below.  
The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.  
**Postmaster: Send address changes to Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD 57445**  
© 2025 The Groton Independent

**The Groton Independent**  
**Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition**  
**Subscription Form**  
All prices listed include 6.5% Sales Tax  
 Black & White ..... \$48.99/year  
 Colored ..... \$79.88/year  
 Colored ..... \$42.60/6 months  
 E-Weekly\* ..... \$31.95/year  
\* The E-Weekly is a PDF file emailed to you each week. It does not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
**Groton Daily Independent**  
**www.397news.com**  
**Subscription Form**  
This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.  
 1 Month ..... \$15.98  
 3 Months..... \$26.63  
 6 Months..... \$31.95  
 9 Months..... \$42.60  
 12 Months..... \$53.25  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
The following will be used for your log-in information.  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Password \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail Completed Form to:  
Groton Independent  
P.O. Box 34  
Groton, SD 57445-0034  
or scan and email to [paperpaul@grotonsd.net](mailto:paperpaul@grotonsd.net)

**Brown County**  
**Dahme Rezoning**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on February 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.  
Petitioner: Brown County  
Description of property: Lot 1, "First Replat of Dahme Northview Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 1-T123N-R64W and the SW1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 1-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (3015 N Dakota Street & 295 24th Avenue NE, Aberdeen Twp.).  
Reason: Rezone parcels from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Municipal District (M) to bring these parcels into compliance for their current use.  
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezoning petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioners with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.  
Dated this 5th day of February 2025.  
Planning/Zoning Commission and  
Scott Bader - P&Z Director  
25 Market Street  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
Office: (605) 626-7144  
Published once in the Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$14.41. 25246.

**Brown County**  
**NW Energy Variance**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. Hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.  
Petitioner / Owner: North-Western Energy (NWE)  
Description of property: Proposed Lot 2, "NWE Energy Addition" in Section 25-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (270 135th Street SW; Aberdeen Twp.).  
Reason: Variance to Lot Size in an AG-P District to allow Proposed Lot 2 to be smaller than 40.0 acres and stay zoned Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) per Brown County Ordinances 4.0605.  
The public is invited to attend the hearing to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed Variance to Lot Size request.  
Dated this 5th day of February 2025.  
Planning/Zoning Commission &  
Scott Bader - P&Z Director  
25 Market Street  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
Office: (605) 626-7144  
Published once in the Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$12.26. 25248.

**Brown County**  
**NW Energy Rezoning**

**NOTICE OF HEARING**  
A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on February 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.  
Owner / Petitioner: North-Western Energy, Robert Gehm  
Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, Lot 2, and Lot 3, "NWE Generation Addition" in Section 25-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota.  
(Lot 1 = 440 SW 135th St; Lot 2 = 270 SW 135th St; Lot 3 = 90 SW 135th St; Aberdeen Twp.).  
Reason: Rezone Lot 1 & Lot 3 from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Heavy Industrial District (H-I). Rezone Lot 2 from Multi-Zone District (M-Z) to Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P). The rezones are to bring these three parcels into compliance for a future electric generating station on Lot 1, leaving public utilities on Lot 2, and a future liquefied natural gas plant on Lot 3.  
The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezoning petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioners with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.  
Dated this 5th day of February 2025.  
Planning/Zoning Commission and  
Scott Bader - P&Z Director  
25 Market Street  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
Office: (605) 626-7144  
Published once in the Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$17.17. 25247.

**Groton City**  
**Feb. 4 Meeting**

February 4, 2025  
The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Wells, Cutler, Wambach, and President Bahr presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Douglas Heinrich, Elizabeth Varin, Taylor Oster, Wayne Olson, Zack Witte, Darrell Hillestad, Terry Herron, and Todd Gay.  
Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to approve the agenda with change of removing agenda item 12 regarding the hiring of summer recreational employees. All members present voted aye.  
Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.  
Sealed bids were opened for the roof repairs. Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to table the awarding of the bids until the next meeting. All members present voted aye.

Johnson, Oster, Olson, and Witte exited the meeting.

Darrell Hillestad discussed the airport and potential future plans.

Hillestad exited the meeting. Department reports were reviewed and discussed.

Herron exited the meeting. Equipment for the electric department was discussed. Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to authorize the purchase of a 2022 Caterpillar 302-05A CR Excavator for \$40,000. All members present voted aye.

Gay exited the meeting. Moved by Wells to authorize the signing of the letter of commitment as a participant in the Brown County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. All members present voted aye.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Wambach. All members present voted aye. Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to authorize the following bills for payment. All members present voted aye.

Payroll, \$34,401.79, Employee salaries; ; Executive, \$559.27, ; ; Administrative, \$5,466.06, ; ; Public Safety, \$10,493.84, ; ; Public Works, \$16,927.08, ; ; Culture & Recreation, \$955.54, ; ; Douglas Heinrich, \$111.47, Med flex; ; Scott Kettering, \$300.00, Heat pump rebate from Heartland Energy; ; St. John's Lutheran Church, \$300.00, Heat pump rebate from Heartland Energy; ; Dacotah Bank, \$7,499.29, Withholding/SS/Medicare; ; Dakotaland FCU, \$450.00, Employee savings; ; Dacotah Bank, \$3,504.52, Withholding/SS/Medicare; ; Dacotah Bank, \$350.00, HSA contributions; ; Reliance Standard Life Insurance, \$88.10, Employee insurance; ; Aflac, \$435.76, Employee insurance; ; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance; ; Allied Benefit Systems, \$14,403.02, Employee insurance; ; SD Retirement System, \$15,031.84, Employee retirement; ; Landon Johnson, \$305.60, Employee mileage/meal reimbursement - JUTS 2025 in Sioux Falls, SD; ; Verizon Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - Rubble Site; ; Dakota Pump & Control, \$2,486.74, Repairs at Olson Lift Station - Wastewater Dept.; ; The Groton Independent, \$208.25, Publishing costs; ; Harry Implement, Inc., \$334.39, Hose and fittings - Street Dept. ; ; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; ; NW Energy, \$13.55, Natural gas service - PD generator; ; S&S Lumber Co., \$412.04, Hose clamps, screws, filter, lumber, antifreeze, washer fluid, flood bulbs, electric keypad lockset - Multiple Depts. ; ; Dollar General, \$53.25, Foam cups, bottled water, paper towels, disinfectant spray - Multiple Depts. ; ; Galls, LLC, \$20.48, Knit cap - Police Dept. ; ; Badger Meter, Inc., \$163.70, Cellular service fee - Water Dept. ; ; Drew Johnson, \$800.00, Legal services - January 2025; ; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$817.20, 1" water meters - Water Dept. ; ; Ken's Fair Foods, \$429.79, Fuel, cocoa mix - Multiple Depts. ; ; A&B Business Solutions, \$378.66, Printer lease - City Hall; ; J's Superior Cleaning, \$200.00, Commercial cleaning service - City Hall

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 Wambach and seconded by Cutler to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:11pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:48pm.  
Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. All members present voted aye.  
Brian Bahr, President  
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer  
Published February 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$43.60 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 252349

Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to authorize the signing of the letter of commitment as a participant in the Brown County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. All members present voted aye.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401 and to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BIDS ON ROAD OIL" to be opened on February 11, 2025. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.

Attest: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor  
Published January 29 and Feb. 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$23.18 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 25210

**Brown County**  
**Road Oil Bid Notice**

**NOTICE TO ROAD OIL SUPPLIERS**  
Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, until the hours of 8:45 A.M. on February 11, 2025 at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered for producing, furnishing and delivery of Road Oil to the Brown County System of Roads, F.O.B. Brown County, South Dakota.  
Item (A) Cutback Asphalt Road Oil - MC-70  
Item (B) Cutback Asphalt Road Oil - MC-3000  
Item (C) Emulsion Asphalt Road Oil- CSS1H  
Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401 and to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BIDS ON ROAD OIL" to be opened on February 11, 2025. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.  
Attest: .Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor  
Published January 29 and Feb. 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$23.18 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 25210

**Brown County**  
**Gravel Bid Notice**

**NOTICE TO GRAVEL PRODUCTION CONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS**  
Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota until the hour of 8:45 A.M. on February 11, 2025 at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered for furnishing and delivery of ONE (1) YEARS SUPPLY OF ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GRAVEL MATERIALS.  
Proposal Guaranty: No deposit or bid bond will be required at time of the bid opening.  
Performance Bond: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond in accordance with the bid as accepted or as required by the Brown County Highway Department Superintendent. Brown County must be listed as additional insured on all Certificates of Insurance.  
Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401, and to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BIDS ON GRAVEL AGGREGATE MATERIALS" to be opened February 11, 2025. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.  
Bids shall include all applicable taxes and fees for materials furnished and/or installed by the Contractor and all applicable taxes and fees for materials supplied by the County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.  
Contract for GRAVEL MATERIALS shall be firm and will be in effect for a period of one (1) year from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.  
ATTEST:  
Lynn Heupel  
Brown County Auditor  
Published January 29 and Feb. 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$38.08 and may be viewed free of charge at [www.sdpublicnotices.com](http://www.sdpublicnotices.com). 25207

**MEYERS**  
**TRACTOR SALVAGE**  
ABERDEEN, SD  
1000+ Salvaged Tractors & Combines  
400+ Reground Crankshafts  
500+ Tractor Tires  
300+ Rebuilt Radiators  
Large Line of Swather, Baler & Cutter Parts.  
GREAT BUYS & SERVICE!  
WANT TO BUY TRACTORS, COMBINES & SWATHERS FOR SALVAGE  
Phone (605) 225-0185  
5 Miles North & 1 Mile West of CASE-IH

# NEC wins annual clash of the conferences

Usually the Northeast Conference can pull off one, maybe two wins at the annual NEC-DAK XII Conference clash, but this year, the Northeast Conference pulled off five wins and only four losses. In addition, this is the first year, boys and girls, the Groton Area Tigers pulled off a win in the annual clash with a 67-41 win over Dell Rapids.

Groton Area Coach Brian Dolan said he was very pleased with the Tigers in the interview on GDILIVE.COM after the game. He said the team is all back together and that it was an exceptional week of practice. Back in action are Teylor Diegel, who had his first varsity playing time of the year. Also back are Easton Weber and Logan Warrington after recovering from their injuries.

Scores from the games were as follows:

- Redfield 46, Canton 41
- Lennox 57, Aberdeen Roncalli 47
- Sisseton 50, Tri-Valley 44
- Vermillion 67, Sturgis 47
- Milbank 50, Elk Point/Jefferson 30
- Dakota Valley 63, Deuel 57
- Madison 80, Webster 40
- Hamlin 53, West Central 48 2OT's
- Groton Area 67, Dell Rapids 41
- Sioux Falls Christian 71, Clark/Willow Lake 44

## Groton Area Tigers Roar to Victory in Annual Clash

Madison, SD - The Groton Area Tigers made history Friday night, securing their first-ever win at the annual Clash of the NEC DAC-12 Conference Clash with a commanding 67-41 victory over the Dell Rapids Quarriers. The Tigers' relentless energy and stifling defense propelled them to a statement win in Madison.

The game started as a back-and-forth battle, with three lead changes in the first quarter. However, Groton took control late in the period, closing with a 16-11 advantage. Their momentum carried into the



**NOTICE TO ROAD CONTRACTORS AND MACHINERY DEALERS**

Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, until the hour of 8:45 a.m. on February 11, 2025. At said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered for furnishing Full Operation Rental Services of Gravel Trucks and Road Machinery for construction and maintenance repairs on Brown County Road Projects for the year 2025. Successful bidders will be working along with Brown County Highway Department Forces, Brown County Landfill Forces and the Brown County Fairground Forces to complete the projects.

Proposal Guaranty: No deposit or bond will be required at time of bid opening.

Performance Bond: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his proposal has been accepted, and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and said bidders shall then be required to furnish the following: Certificates of Insurance as per Bid Specifications or Requested from Brown County. Brown County must be listed as additional insured on all Certificates of Insurance.

Contract for Rental Equipment shall be firm and will be in effect for a period of one year from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401, and to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BIDS FOR RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT" to be opened February 11, 2025. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.

Bids shall include all applicable taxes and fees for materials furnished and/or installed by the Contractor and all applicable taxes and fees for materials supplied by the County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

Brown County Highway Department  
Dirk Rogers, Superintendent  
Published January 29 and Feb. 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$42.50 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25209



**NOTICE TO ASPHALT CONCRETE PLANT MIX SUPPLIERS**

Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, until the hour of 8:45 A.M., February 11, 2025. At said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered for producing, furnishing all materials and delivery of Asphalt Concrete Plant Mix Materials for road maintenance and construction on Brown County System of Roads, F.O.B. Brown County, South Dakota.

Proposal Guaranty: No deposit or bid bond will be required at time of bid opening.

Contract Notice: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County.

Contract for Asphalt Plant Mix Materials shall be firm and will be in effect for a period of one (1) year from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401 and to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BIDS ON ASPHALT CONCRETE PLANT MIX MATERIALS" to be opened on February 11, 2025. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.

Bids shall include all applicable taxes and fees for materials furnished and/or installed by the Contractor and all applicable taxes and fees for materials supplied by the County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

Section 320.5 - Basis of Payment: "A" - Asphalt Concrete Plant Mix Materials for Maintenance and Construction. The accepted quantities of Asphalt Plant Mix will be paid for at the contract unit price per ton.

Attest: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published January 29 and Feb. 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$38.63 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25208

second quarter, where they quickly built a 21-13 lead, forcing Dell Rapids to burn two timeouts in an attempt to stop the surge.

But the Tigers wouldn't be denied. Behind a suffocating defense and efficient shooting, Groton extended their lead to 33-21 at halftime. The turning point came at the end of the second quarter when the Tigers went on a nine-point run that stretched into the third, ballooning their lead to 40-21. By the end of the third quarter, Groton held a comfortable 53-33 advantage, leaving little doubt about the outcome.

### Johnson Leads the Charge

Ryder Johnson was the catalyst for Groton's success, delivering a stellar all-around performance with 20 points, seven rebounds, four as-

sists, and four steals. His dominance on both ends of the floor earned him Player of the Game honors. Keegen Tracy added 17 points, while Becker Bosma chipped in 12 to round out the Tigers' trio of double-digit scorers.

### Key Stats and Team Play

Both teams grabbed 24 rebounds, but Groton capitalized better on mistakes. The Tigers forced 22 Dell Rapids turnovers, converting them into 10 points, while Dell Rapids managed only two points off of Groton's 14 turnovers.

Shooting efficiency played a major role as well, Groton hit 17 of 27 two-pointers and drained eight three-pointers on 22 attempts. At the free throw line, the Tigers were nearly automatic, knocking down nine of 10 shots.

For Dell Rapids, Karson Paye led with 11 points, but the Quarriers struggled to find offensive rhythm against Groton's aggressive defense. While they recorded six blocks on the night, Dell Rapids couldn't keep up with the Tigers' pace.

### Looking Ahead

With the victory, Groton improved to 8-4 on the season and will prepare for another test on Tuesday at Roncalli. Meanwhile, Dell Rapids falls to 8-7 and will look to bounce back in their next contest.

For Groton, this win wasn't just another victory - it was a statement. The Tigers proved they belong among the conference's best, and they'll look to carry that confidence forward as they chase more success in the season ahead.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

- Ryder Johnson: 20 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, 2 fouls.
- Keegen Tracy: 17 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 3 steals, 1 foul.
- Becker Bosma: 12 points, 4 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, 4 fouls.
- Karson Zak: 7 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 1 steal, 2 fouls.
- Gage Sippel: 5 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 fouls, 1 block.
- Blake Pauli: 2 points, 1 foul.
- Turner Thompson: 2 points.
- Logan Warrington: 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 steal.
- Easton Weber: 2 assists, 1 for.
- Jayden Schwan: 1 rebound, 1 steal, 4 fouls.
- Teylor Diegel: 1 rebound.

Totals: 2-pointers: 17-27 63%, 3-pointers: 8-22 36%, Free Throws: 9-10 90%, 24 rebounds, 14 turnovers, 19 assists, 14 steals, 20 fouls, 1 block.

Dell Rapids: Field Goals: 16-33 48%, Free throws: 8-16 50%, 24 rebounds, 12 fouls, 22 turnovers.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Ag-

tegra, 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, The Meat-house in Andover. Paul Kosel and Jeslyn Kosel were on hand for the action.



**Ryder Johnson was chosen as the Player of the Game Saturday at the DAK XII-NEC Clash after Groton Area defeated Dell Rapids.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

## Weekly SUDOKU

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

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!

© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

**GROTON**  
Ford  
605/397-2311  
www.grotonford.com

**Groton Chiropractic Clinic**  
Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.  
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

## Tigers Roar Past Rival Roncalli in Gritty 50-40 Victory

ABERDEEN - The Groton Area Tigers made a statement Tuesday night, out muscling cross-county rival Aberdeen Roncalli 50-40 in a hard-fought road win. The victory, which improved Groton to 9-4 on the season, was powered by key scoring bursts, tenacious defense, and a dominant effort on the glass.

The Tigers wasted no time setting the tone, racing out to a 5-0 lead. However, Roncalli clawed back to take an 11-8 advantage late in the first quarter before the scoreboard showed matching digits - 11-11 - at the break, a moment that had fans joking about seeing "French fries" on the board.

Groton regained control in the second quarter with a decisive eight-point run that fueled a 23-14 halftime lead. The Tigers never looked back, as another eight-point surge in the third quarter extended their lead to 31-16. Roncalli attempted to rally but trailed 37-25 entering the final period, and Groton closed the door to seal the win.

### Johnson Leads the Charge

Ryder Johnson led the way with a double-double, tallying 14 points and 10 rebounds while coming up clutch at the free-throw line, sinking all four of his fourth-quarter attempts. Karson Zac matched Johnson's 14-point effort and dished out four assists, while Keegen Tracy added 12 points, five rebounds, and four assists of his own.

Gage Sippel contributed in multiple ways, finishing with eight points, nine rebounds, and two blocks. Becker Bosma added two points, six rebounds, and an impressive four steals.

The Tigers were efficient inside, shooting 75% (18-for-24) on two-pointers. While their three-point shooting struggled (2-for-15), Zac and Tracy connected on the only triples of the night for Groton.

Roncalli, hindered by 16 team fouls, sent the Tigers to the free-throw line 14 times, where Groton converted eight shots (57%). Meanwhile, Groton committed 11 fouls, with Roncalli making four of six free throws (67%).

### Complete Program Sweep

The Tigers' success wasn't limited to the varsity game. Groton also won the junior varsity matchup 37-27, the C game 43-33, and both junior high contests, completing a program-wide sweep over their county rivals.

With momentum on their side, Groton will look to keep the winning streak alive as they continue their season hosting Deuel on Thursday in a double header. Meanwhile, Roncalli (6-8) will regroup and seek a bounce-back performance in their next contest.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Ryder Johnson: 14 points, 10 rebounds, 2 assists, 3 steals, 3 fouls, 1 block.

Karson Zak: 14 points, 1 rebound, 4 assists, 2 steals, 1 foul.

Keegen Tracy: 12 points, 5 rebounds, 4 assists, 3 fouls.

Gage Sippel: 8 points, 9 rebounds, 2 blocks.

Becker Bosma: 2 points, 6 rebounds, 4 steals, 3 fouls.

Turner Thompson: 1 rebound.

Taylor Diegel: 2 assists, 1 foul.

2-pointers: 18-24 75%, 3-pointers: 2-15 13%, Free Throws: 8-14 57%, 32 rebounds, 22 turnovers, 12 assists, 9 steals, 11 fouls, 3 blocks.

Roncalli: Aiden Fisher 10, Cam Olson 9, Parker Grieben 8, Jesse Hernandez 5, Sam Franks 4, Brody Weinmeister 4. Field Goals: 17-41 41%, Free Throws: 4-6 67%, 16 fouls, 12 turnovers.

JV Game: Groton Area 37, Roncalli 27

Groton Area: Jace Johnson 7, Asher Johnson 7, Anthony Tracy 7, Easton Weber 5, Jayden Schwan 5, Ethan Kroll 4, Logan Warrington 2.

Roncalli: Creighton Fisher 9, Austin Fisher 8, Ezra Feickert 6, Mason Berndt 4, Lucas Daggett 1.

C Game: Groton Area 43, Roncalli 33

Groton: Anthony Tracy 18, Jace Johnson 9, Asher Johnson 7, Ethan Kroll 6, Jordan Schwan 2.

Roncalli: Creighton Fisher 7, Brock Bowman 7, Andrew Bain 6, Aiden Hernandez 6, Owen Vogel 3, Lucas Daggett 2, Paul Barr-Kvapil 2.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. Varsity game sponsors were Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Dan Richardt from Groton Ford, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Locke Electric, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms, The Meathouse in Andover.

Hefty Seed sponsored the junior varsity game and Larry and Val Flihs sponsored the C game.

## Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #11 Results

Team Standings: Shihtzus 12, Chipmunks 11, Coyotes 8, Cheetahs 8, Foxes 5, Jackelopes 4

Men's High Games: Brad Waage 202, Butch Farmen 183, Brad Larson 181

Women's High Games: Darci Spanier 186, Julie Holt 172, Vicki Walter 170

Men's High Series: Butch Farmen 530, Brad Waage 513, Brad Larson 511

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter 454, Darci Spanier 447, Brenda Waage 422

Week 11 Fun Game – Most Spares – Cheetahs with 41!

## Dominant Defense, Sharp Shooting Propel Groton Lady Tigers to Victory

The Groton Area Lady Tigers put on a defensive clinic and an offensive showcase in their commanding 54-18 victory over the Florence-Henry Falcons. From the opening tip, Groton's relentless pressure and efficient shooting paved the way for a decisive win.

### Fast Start Sets the Tone

After an early 3-2 deficit, the Lady Tigers roared to life with an 11-0 run to close the first quarter, taking an 11-3 lead. Their defensive pressure forced multiple turnovers, which they quickly converted into fast-break points.

The second quarter was more of the same as Groton's stifling defense held Florence-Henry to just one point in the period. Meanwhile, the Tigers kept their offense rolling with a 17-point surge that carried into the third quarter, extending their lead to 30-4.

### Balanced Attack and Defensive Dominance

Leading the offensive charge, Taryn Traphagen poured in 11 points, while Rylee Dunker added 10. The Tigers moved the ball well, racking up 16 assists, with Kennedy Hanson dishing out six of them.

On the defensive side, Jercia Locke was a key disrupter, grabbing four of Groton's 14 steals. The Tigers forced 16 turnovers and capitalized on four of them for points. Florence-Henry struggled to find an offensive rhythm, making just six of their 30 shot attempts for 20 percent from the field.

### Strong Finish

Even as Florence-Henry found some footing in the second half, Groton never let up. By the end of the third quarter, the Tigers held a 40-13 advantage, and they cruised through the final period to seal the 54-18 victory.

The Lady Tigers' efficiency was evident as they shot 49 percent from two-point range (17 of 35) and an impressive 50 percent from beyond the arc (5 of 10). Florence-Henry had a slight edge in free throws, making three of four compared to Groton's four of six, but it wasn't nearly enough to shift momentum.

### Statement Win

With just six turnovers on the night and a dominant defensive showing, Groton proved they are a force to be reckoned with. Their combination of aggressive defense, unselfish ball movement, and efficient shooting made for an all-around stellar performance.

This victory not only adds another win to their record but also serves as a statement that the Lady Tigers are ready to take on any challenge ahead.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Taryn Traphagen: 11 points, 1 rebound, 2 steals, 1 foul.

Rylee Dunker: 10 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal.

Chesney Weber: 7 points, 2 steals, 1 foul.

Jerica Locke: 6 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 4 steals, 1 foul.

Jaedyn Penning: 6 points, 2 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 3 fouls.

Kennedy Hansen: 4 points, 6 assists, 2 fouls.

Faith Traphagen: 4 points, 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 2 fouls.

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

McKenna Tietz: 2 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist.

Laila Roberts: 1 rebound, 1 assist, 1 steal, 1 foul.

Talli Wright: 1 rebound.

2-pointers: 17-35 49%, 3-pointers: 5-10 50% (Taryn Traphagen - 3, Brooklyn Hansen - 1, Chesney Weber - 1). 18 rebounds, 6 turnovers, 16 assists, 14 steals, 11 fouls.

Florence-Henry: Ashlynn Vavruska 6, Ashelyn Klitzke 3, Brooke Hlavacek 3, Addison Byer 2, Mylee Sumner 2, Grace Kahnke 2. Field Goals: 6-30 20%, Free throws: 3-4 75%, 4 fouls, 16 turnovers.

Ashlynn Warrington made a basket with 1:14 left in the game to life the junior varsity team to a 34-32 win over Florence-Henry. The game was tied six times and there were seven lead changes. The game was tied at eight after the first quarter, the Falcons led, 18-16 at half time and the game was tie dat 27 after three quarters. Chesney Weber led Groton Area with 9 points followed by Talli Wright 6, McKenna Tietz 5, Kella Tracy 4, Ashlynn Warrington 4, Mia Crank 3, Emerlee Jones 2, Makenna Krause 1.

Ana Byer led Florence-Henry with 13 points while Lucy Bloom had 9, Addison Byer 6, Madison Stemwedel 2, Avari Gusso 2.

Groton Area won the C game, 40-13. Ashlynn Warrington led Groton Area with 19 points followed by Makenna Krause with 9, Sydney Locke 4, Kinsley Rowen 2, Kella Tracy 2, Emerlee Jones 2, Tevan Hanson 2.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. 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, 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 and Larry and Val Flihs sponsored the C game. Paul Kosel and Jeslyn Kosel were on hand for the game.

# Groton Tigers Rally Past Webster Bearcats for 55-43 Victory

GROTON - After a slow start, the Groton Area Tigers stormed back to defeat the Webster Area Bearcats 55-43 in Friday night's girls' basketball matchup.

The Bearcats came out strong, taking control early in the first quarter. After trailing 6-2, Webster found its rhythm and surged ahead to a 15-11 lead at the end of the first frame. However, Groton's resilience showed in the second quarter as they clawed their way back, grabbing a 19-18 lead before heading into halftime up 25-18.

The Tigers turned up the defensive pressure in the third quarter, capitalizing on Webster's mistakes. By the end of the period, Groton had built a commanding 39-26 advantage, fueled by their ability to convert turnovers into points. Webster committed 22 turnovers, and Groton took full advantage, turning 11 of those into 26 points.

Jayden Penning led the charge for Groton with 17 points, while Kennedy Hanson added 10. The Tigers' defensive efforts were anchored by Layla Roberts, who tallied five steals, and Jerica Locke, who pulled down seven of the team's 22 rebounds. Locke also contributed four assists, while Hanson and Taryn Traphaget each recorded a block.

Groton's shooting efficiency helped them maintain control down the stretch. The Tigers hit 8 of 23 shots from beyond the arc (35%) and went 12 of 36 (33%) from two-point range. They also converted 7 of 13 free throws (54%).

For Webster, Erin Sannes put on an impressive performance, leading all scorers with 21 points, including 10 in the fourth quarter. However, despite her efforts, the Bearcats struggled to overcome their turnovers and Groton's relentless defense.

With the win, Groton improved to 10-4 on the season, while Webster fell to 6-7.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

- Jaedyn Penning: 17 points, 2 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul.
- Kennedy Hansen: 10 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 2 steals, 1 foul, 1 block.
- Jerica Locke: 9 points, 7 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul.
- Taryn Traphagen: 5 points, 3 rebounds, 2 steals, 4 fouls, 1 block.
- Laila Roberts: 4 points, 1 rebound, 2 assists, 5 steals, 2 fouls.
- Chesney Weber: 4 points, 4 rebounds, 5 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul.
- Brooklyn Hansen: 3 points, 1 assist, 1 steal.
- Faith Traphagen: 3 points, 3 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls.
- Totals: 2-Pointers: 12-36 33%, 3-Pointers: 8-23 35%, Free Throws: 7-13 54%, 22 rebounds, 7 turnovers, 19 assists, 15 steals, 12 fouls, 2 blocks.

Webster Area: Erin Sannes 21, Harley Johnson 8, Carrington Hanson 6, Mallory Steiner 4, Bailee Ninke 3. Field Goals: 15-29 52%, Free Throws: 10-13 77%, Fouls: 12, Turnovers: 22.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 41-21. Kella Tracy 16, McKenna Tietz 10, Talli Wright 5, Sydney Locke 2, Makenna Krause 2, Ashlynn Warrington 2, Teagan Hanten 2, Chesney Weber 2:

Webster: Karli Sannes 7, Cartney Hanson 6, Barelynn Breske 4, Mallory Steiner 1.

Groton Area won the C game, 30-10. Teagan Hanten 11, Makenna Krause 5, Kella Tracy 4, Ashlynn Warrington 4, Emerlee Jones 4, Kinsley Rowen 2.

All games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. 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, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Locke Electric, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms, The Meathouse in Andover.

The junior varsity game was sponsored by Weber Landscaping. The C game was sponsored by Larry and Val Flihs. Shane Clark, Jeslyn Kosel and Paul Kosel were on hand for the broadcast.

## Thursday's Double-Header with Deuel in Groton schedule change

- 4pm - Boys JV
- 5pm - Girls JV
- 6:15pm - Boys varsity
- 7:45pm - Girls varsity

## 2025 Dak XII/NEC Conference Clash

Girls Event - February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025

SCHEDULE (AUXILIARY GYM)			
Time	Dak XII Team		NEC Team
11:00am	Madison Bulldogs	vs.	Redfield Pheasants
12:30pm	Dell Rapids Quarriers	vs.	Deuel Cardinals
2:00pm	West Central Trojans	vs.	Webster Area Bearcats
3:30pm	Tri-Valley Mustangs	vs.	Rapid City Christian Lady Comets
5:00pm	Canton C-Hawks	vs.	Milbank Bulldogs

SCHEDULE (MAIN GYM)			
Time	Dak XII Team		NEC Team
11:45am	Lennox Orioles	vs.	Clark/Willow Lake Cyclones
1:15pm	Vermillion Tanagers	vs.	Sisseton Redmen
2:45pm	Elk Point/Jefferson Huskies	vs.	Groton Area Tigers
4:15pm	Sioux Falls Christian Chargers	vs.	Aberdeen Roncalli Cavaliers
5:45pm	Dakota Valley Panthers	vs.	Hamlin Chargers

# TOP 6

## SD GIRLS

### STAT LEADERS

### 3PT NEAR FALLS

2/2/25

#1 Olivia Anderson Watertown	11
#2 Mataya Jacobs RC Central	10
#3 Kaia Hunter Bennett Co.	9
#4 Vi Anderson Sisseton	6
#4 Liza Krueger Groton Area	6
#6 Katie Snyder Hot Springs	5

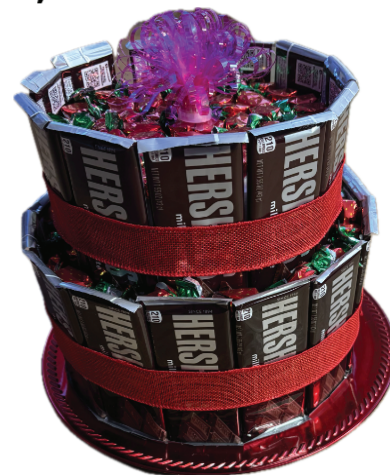
**Tina's Baskets! Text/Call at 605-397-7285 to reserve your basket now. They are going fast! Cash, check or Venmo.**



2. White vase with sour suckers. \$7.50



3. Kit Kat Cake with Valentine suckers on top. \$35



4. Hersheys Cake, two tier with strawberry hard candy. \$40



7. Valentine container with fake roses and white bears. \$5



8. Reeses candy bars with Valentine suckers. \$50



9. Heart basket with assorted candy. \$15



10. Vase filled with strawberry drops and chocolate rose candy. \$9



12. Valentine's love balloon with fake flowers, MMs, skittles. \$15



14. Mini chip ahoy's cookies, be mine valentines book, a bear with a love heart on it and some hot wheels in it. \$12



15. Bet-sie Voucher book, puppy, mini chocolate hearts. Behind the dog a bag of heart bear gummies and a small box of mix chocolates. \$12

## Ehresmann earns 200th win, Groton wins own tournament

Christian Ehresmann earned his 200th wrestling win at the Groton Invitational Wrestling Tournament held Saturday. In addition, Groton Area won the team title, easily outdistancing runner-up Watertown JV, 291-185.5.



**Christian Ehresmann (right) is pictured with Coach Darin Zoellner. Ehresmann earned his 200th win at the Groton Invitational Wrestling Tournament held Saturday.** (Photo from Kelsie Ehresmann's facebook page)

Placing first were Wyatt Hagen, Keegan Kucker, Chris Schwab, Christian Ehresmann and Korbin Kucker. Runner-up titles went to Donavon Block, Walker Zoellner, Ben Hoefft, Charlie Frost and Gavin Englund.

Karter Moody placed third. Those in fourth place were Kyson Kucker and Layne Johnson. In fifth were Lincoln Krause and Isiah Scepaniak. And in sixth place were Noah Scepaniak and Grayson Flores.

1. Groton Area 291.0, 2. Watertown JV 185.5, 3. Clark/Willow Lake 115.5, 4. Potter County 109.5, 5. Huron JV` 91.5, 6. Britton/Hecla 91.0, 7. Webster Area 76.5, 8. Sully Buttes 59.5, 9. Warner/Northwestern 57.0, 10. McLaughlin 46.5, 11. Canistota 39.0, 12. Wessington Spings/Woonsocket/Wolsey/Wessington 36.5, 13. Timber Lake 36.0, 14. Redfield 34.0, 15. Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle 32.0, 16. Sioux Falls O`Gorman JV 30.0, 17. Milbank JV 13.0, 18. McIntosh 12.0, 19. Tiospa Zina 0.0

### **106: Wyatt Hagen (21-8) placed 1st and scored 25.5 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 21-8 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 21-8 won by fall over Lincoln Kilker (Britton/Hecla) 10-17 (Fall 1:31)

Semifinal - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 21-8 won by decision over Easton Rausch (Potter County) 32-19 (Dec 5-2)

1st Place Match - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 21-8 won by tech fall over Jonah Anderson (Watertown JV) 9-12 (TF-1.5 4:27 (18-2))

### **113: Keegan Kucker (24-9) placed 1st and scored 27.5 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 24-9 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 24-9 won by fall over Aksel Gjerde (Clark/Willow Lake ) 7-8 (Fall 1:36)

Semifinal - Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 24-9 won by tech fall over Ernest Walette (Huron JV`) 7-5 (TF-1.5 2:17 (16-0))

1st Place Match - Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 24-9 won by fall over Tanner Urdahl (Watertown JV) 13-14 (Fall 3:10)

### **138: Chris Schwab (19-16) placed 1st and scored 28.5 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Chris Schwab (Groton Area) 19-16 won by major decision over Gunnar Knittel (Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle) 2-11 (MD 14-5)

Quarterfinal - Chris Schwab (Groton Area) 19-16 won by fall over Parker Grabow (Milbank JV) 0-7 (Fall 1:19)

Semifinal - Chris Schwab (Groton Area) 19-16 won by fall over Carmine Crow Ghost (McLaughlin) 10-12 (Fall 2:38)

1st Place Match - Chris Schwab (Groton Area) 19-16 won by tech fall over Damian Severson (Clark/Willow Lake ) 15-14 (TF-1.5 2:43 (17-1))

### **157: Christian Ehresmann (25-3) placed 1st and scored 28.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 25-3 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 25-3 won by fall over Owen Petersen (Watertown JV) 4-10 (Fall 1:25)

Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 25-3 won by fall over Austin Nash (Warner/Northwestern) 5-19 (Fall 0:33)

1st Place Match - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 25-3 won by fall over AJ Olivier (Sully Buttes) 15-16 (Fall 0:40)

### **175: Korbin Kucker (29-4) placed 1st and scored 27.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 29-4 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 29-4 won by tech fall over Tanen Schmiege (Milbank JV) 2-5 (TF-1.5 3:03 (16-1))

Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 29-4 won by fall over Ivan Stuwe (Potter County) 15-12 (Fall 3:56)

1st Place Match - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 29-4 won by tech fall over Justin Rohrbach (Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle) 16-10 (TF-1.5 5:38 (17-1))

### **132: Donavon Block (25-12) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 25-12 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 25-12 won by fall over Jayze Kuhl (Canistota) 0-2 (Fall 1:06)

Semifinal - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 25-12 won by fall over Sidney Morgan (Timber Lake) 12-17 (Fall 3:51)

1st Place Match - Isaac Johnson (Clark/Willow Lake ) 31-13 won by major decision over Donavon Block (Groton Area) 25-12 (MD 14-1)

### **144: Walker Zoellner (20-8) placed 2nd and scored 20.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 20-8 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 20-8 won by fall over Joesph Haag (Canistota) 7-11 (Fall 1:39)

Semifinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 20-8 won by decision over Tanner Vander Vorst (Potter County) 13-16 (Dec 7-3)

1st Place Match - Austin Vig (Clark/Willow Lake ) 29-12 won by major decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 20-8 (MD 11-0)

### **165: Ben Hoefft (18-15) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Ben Hoefft (Groton Area) 18-15 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Ben Hoefft (Groton Area) 18-15 won by fall over Tyler Cronin (Huron JV`) 1-16 (Fall 1:07)

Semifinal - Ben Hoefft (Groton Area) 18-15 won by fall over Jacoby Carry Moccasin (McLaughlin) 4-12 (Fall 3:45)

1st Place Match - Gavin Boyle (Sioux Falls O`Gorman JV) 17-12 won by decision over Ben Hoefft (Groton Area) 18-15 (Dec 8-5)

### **215: Charlie Frost (19-16) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 19-16 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 19-16 won by fall over Cody Wiik (Milbank JV) 1-8 (Fall 2:56)

Semifinal - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 19-16 won by fall over Quentin White Mountatin (McLaughlin) 8-11 (Fall 5:29)

1st Place Match - Tucker Hardy (Britton/Hecla) 24-8 won by fall over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 19-16 (Fall 1:33)

### **285: Gavin Englund (25-7) placed 2nd and scored 22.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 25-7 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 25-7 won by fall over Terrell Wojahn (Milbank JV) 0-7 (Fall 2:16)

Semifinal - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 25-7 won by fall over Zach Bonin (Redfield) 2-7 (Fall 1:34)

1st Place Match - Preston Cavalier (Warner/Northwestern) 29-2 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 25-7 (Dec 4-1)

### **285: Karter Moody (14-8) placed 3rd.**

Champ. Round 1 - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 14-8 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 14-8 won by fall over Rollie Betten (Redfield) 4-7 (Fall 2:54)

Semifinal - Preston Cavalier (Warner/Northwestern) 29-2 won by fall over Karter Moody (Groton Area) 14-8 (Fall 1:58)

Cons. Semi - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 14-8 won by fall over Jaspur Gran (Wessington Spings/Woonsocket/Wolsey/Wessington) 8-14 (Fall 0:39)

3rd Place Match - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 14-8 won by fall over Rollie Betten (Redfield) 4-7 (Fall 0:56)

### **120: Kyson Kucker (22-10) placed 4th and scored 17.5 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) 22-10 won by fall over Taggen Paxton (Timber Lake) 4-16 (Fall 1:42)

Quarterfinal - Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) 22-10 won by fall over Carter Grobe (Britton/Hecla) 10-15 (Fall 5:19)

Semifinal - Brode Lohr (Watertown JV) 11-5 won by tech fall over Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) 22-10 (TF-1.5 3:24 (15-0))

Cons. Semi - Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) 22-10 won by tech fall over Stephen Martens (Huron JV`) 8-10 (TF-1.5 2:51 (16-0))

3rd Place Match - Kadrian Moreno (Huron JV`) 10-9 won by major decision over Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) 22-10 (MD 17-8)

### **190: Layne Johnson (11-21) placed 4th and scored 16.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 won by fall over Liam Lehman (Potter County) 3-6 (Fall 3:14)

Semifinal - Kady Westergren (Sully Buttes) 21-20 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 (Fall 2:15)



Cons. Semi - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 won by fall over Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 (Fall 2:47)  
 3rd Place Match - Isaac Nelson (Webster Area ) 19-15 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 (Fall 0:58)

**126: Lincoln Krause (19-13) placed 5th and scored 13.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Braxten Petersen (Watertown JV) 7-8 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 (Fall 3:39)

Cons. Round 2 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 won by fall over Xavior Ellenbecker (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 0:25)

Cons. Round 3 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 won by fall over Lucas Mathieu (Canistota) 2-17 (Fall 0:33)

Cons. Semi - Evan Mack (Watertown JV) 8-4 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 (Fall 2:22)

5th Place Match - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 won by fall over Jax Le (Watertown JV) 2-3 (Fall 2:06)

**190: Isiah Scepaniak (4-9) placed 5th.**

Champ. Round 1 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Isaac Nelson (Webster Area ) 19-15 won by fall over Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 (Fall 2:54)

Cons. Round 2 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 won by fall over Kameron Hunnel (Potter County) 3-19 (Fall 4:12)

Cons. Semi - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 11-21 won by fall over Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 (Fall 2:47)

5th Place Match - Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-9 won by fall over Jensen Wientjes (Watertown JV) 4-15 (Fall 1:18)

**120: Noah Scepaniak (16-15) placed 6th.**

Champ. Round 1 - Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 16-15 won by fall over Jacob Giles (Milbank JV) 1-15 (Fall 1:57)

Quarterfinal - Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 16-15 won by fall over Chase Dunsmore (Wessington Spings/Woonsocket/Wolsey/Wessington) 16-14 (Fall 2:59)

Semifinal - Jack Stuwe (Potter County) 26-14 won by fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 16-15 (Fall 1:01)

Cons. Semi - Kadrian Moreno (Huron JV` ) 10-9 won by tech fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 16-15 (TF-1.5 3:00 (22-7))

5th Place Match - Stephen Martens (Huron JV` ) 8-10 won by decision over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 16-15 (Dec 9-6)

**132: Grayson Flores (5-14) placed 6th.**

Champ. Round 1 - Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Koda Popkes (Canistota) 6-16 won by tech fall over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 (TF-1.5 2:54 (15-0))

Cons. Round 2 - Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 won by medical forfeit over Ryder Berninghaus (Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle) 3-12 (M. For.)

Cons. Round 3 - Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 won by fall over Chance Little Bear (McLaughlin) 4-11 (Fall 1:28)

Cons. Semi - Sidney Morgan (Timber Lake) 12-17 won by fall over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 (Fall 1:29)

5th Place Match - Leo Dunn (Watertown JV) 2-4 won by decision over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) 5-14 (Dec 11-7)

**120: Aiden Strom (1-2).**

Champ. Round 1 - Kadrian Moreno (Huron JV` ) 10-9 won by tech fall over Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 1-2 (TF-1.5 2:12 (19-4))

Cons. Round 1 - Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 1-2 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Chase Dunsmore (Wessington Spings/Woonsocket/Wolsey/Wessington)

**Girls NEC Standings**

Roncalli	7-0	12-2
Hamlin	6-0	11-2
Groton Area	6-2	11-4
Clark/Willow Lake	4-2	9-4
Milbank	4-3	8-6
Sisseton	3-3	9-5
Webster Area	3-5	7-7
Deuel	2-3	3-10
Britton-Hecla	2-4	3-11
Redfield	1-9	1-12
Tiospa Zina	0-7	5-10

Milbank 60, Deuel 40  
 Clark-Willow Lake 56, Redfield 17  
 Groton 55, Webster 43  
 Hamlin 71, Sisseton 58  
 Aberdeen Roncalli 67, Britton-Hecla 22  
 Aberdeen Roncalli 64, Tiospa Zina 26  
 Sisseton 67, Britton-Hecla 28  
 Hamlin 62, Milbank 54

Feb. 6  
 Deuel at Groton Area  
 Milbank at Roncalli  
 Redfield at Webster Area  
 Clark/Willow Lake at Sisseton

Feb. 11  
 Hamlin at Roncalli  
 Clark/Willow Lake at. Britton-Hecla  
 Sisseton at Milbank

Feb. 13  
 Sisseton at Tiospa Zina  
 Hamlin at Deuel

Feb. 18  
 Hamlin at Britton-Hecla  
 Sisseton at Deuel  
 Tiospa Zina vs. Clark/Willow Lake at Clark

Feb. 20  
 Deuel at Roncalli  
 Milbank at Webster Area  
 Clark/Willow Lake at Hamlin

Feb. 21  
 Groton Area at Britton-Hecla  
 Tiospa Zina at Redfield

		Season			Seed Pts
#	Name	W	L	PCT	PTS
1	Aberdeen Roncalli	11	2	.846	44.846
2	Groton Area	11	4	.733	44.067
3	Sisseton	9	5	.643	42.857
4	Webster Area	7	7	.500	40.429
5	Milbank	8	6	.571	40.143
6	Britton-Hecla	3	11	.214	37.500
7	Redfield	1	12	.077	36.385

16-14 won by fall over Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 1-2 (Fall 0:50)

**126: Xavior Ellenbecker (0-6)**

Champ. Round 1 - Evan Mack (Watertown JV) 8-4 won by fall over Xavior Ellenbecker (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 0:38)

Cons. Round 1 - Xavior Ellenbecker (Groton Area) 0-6 received a bye ( ) (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 19-13 won by fall over Xavior Ellenbecker (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 0:25)

**Boys NEC Standings**

Hamlin	6-0	13-2
Groton Area	7-1	9-4
Clark/Willow Lake	5-1	12-3
Deuel	4-1	10-4
Roncalli	4-2	6-8
Britton-Hecla	3-4	8-5
Milbank	2-4	5-9
Sisseton	2-4	4-8
Webster Area	2-6	4-11
Tiospa Zina	0-5	1-13
Redfield	0-6	1-12

Aberdeen Roncalli 76, Britton-Hecla 35  
 Deuel 51, Milbank 38  
 Hamlin 77, Sisseton 22  
 Clark-Willow Lake 82, Redfield 30  
 Groton 50, Aberdeen Roncalli 40  
 Sisseton 54, Britton-Hecla 45  
 Hamlin 66, Milbank 32

Feb. 6  
 Deuel at Groton Area  
 Redfield at Webster Area

Feb. 7  
 Roncalli at Milbank  
 Sisseton vs. Clark/Willow Lake at Clark

Feb. 11  
 Hamlin at Roncalli  
 Clark/Willow Lake at Britton-Hecla  
 Sisseton at Milbank

Feb. 13  
 Hamlin at Deuel

Feb. 14  
 Tiospa Zina at Sisseton

Feb. 17  
 Tiospa Zina at Roncalli

Feb. 18  
 Hamlin at Britton-Hecla  
 Sisseton at Deuel  
 Tiospa Zina vs. Clark/Willow Lake at Clark

Feb. 20  
 Deuel at Roncalli  
 Clark/Willow Lake at Hamlin

Feb. 21  
 Groton Area at Britton-Hecla  
 Webster Area at Milbank  
 Tiospa Zina at Redfield

Feb. 28  
 Milbank at Tiospa Zina

		Season			Seed Pts
#	Name	W	L	PCT	PTS
1	Groton Area	9	4	.692	42.462
2	Aberdeen Roncalli	6	8	.429	40.286
3	Britton-Hecla	8	5	.615	40.000
4	Milbank	5	9	.357	39.286
5	Webster Area	4	11	.267	37.933
6	Sisseton	4	8	.333	37.667
7	Redfield	1	12	.077	34.538

**Krueger is winner at Groton Invitational**

Groton Area's Liza Krueger (35-2), at 107 pounds, took first place at the Groton Invitational Wrestling Tournament held Saturday. She pinned all three of her opponents.

Round 1 - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 35-2 won by fall over Olivia Borgen (Britton/Hecla) 1-13 (Fall 1:41)

Round 2 - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 35-2 won by fall over Kaylee Tessman (Ortonville) 14-10 (Fall 2:59)

Round 3 - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 35-2 won by fall over Eva Eustice (Ortonville) 22-6 (Fall 3:41)

## Groton Grapplers have clean sweep in quadrangular

Groton Area's wrestling squad easily won all three matches at the quadrangular held Friday in Groton. Groton Area defeated Britton-Hecla, Canistota and McLaughlin. In the other matches, Britton-Hecla defeated Canistota, 54-24, and McLaughlin, 51-21. McLaughlin defeated Canistota, 41-18. Liza Krueger had only one match where she defeated Britton-Hecla's Olivia Borgen with a technical fall, 18-2, in 2:11.

### Groton Area 74, Britton-Hecla 6

- 106: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) over Lincoln Kilker (Britton-Hecla) (TF 15-0 3:51)
- 113: Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 120: Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) over Carter Grobe (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 3:52)
- 126: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 132: Aiden Strom (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 138: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Max Suther (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 5:06)
- 144: Chris Schwab (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 150: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 157: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) over Dasher Davidson (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 1:12)
- 165: Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) over Colton Chapin (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 5:52)
- 175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) over Ben Suther (Britton-Hecla) (Dec 7-2)
- 190: Layne Johnson (Groton Area) over Liam Paxton (Britton-Hecla) (Fall 1:04)
- 215: Tucker Hardy (Britton-Hecla) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) (Fall 3:58)
- 285: Gavin Englund (Groton Area) wins by forfeit

### Groton Area 72, Canistota 9

- 106: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) over Colt Evenson (Canistota) (Fall 0:41)
- 113: Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 120: Kyson Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 126: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) over Lucas Mathieu (Canistota) (Fall 1:02)
- 132: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Jayze Kuhl (Canistota) (Fall 1:37)
- 138: Koda Popkes (Canistota) over Grayson Flores (Groton Area) (Fall 0:54)
- 144: Chris Schwab (Groton Area) over Joseph Haag (Canistota) (Fall 1:29)
- 150: Joshua Popkes Jr (Canistota) over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) (Dec 5-2)
- 157: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 165: Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 190: Isiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) over Will Globke (Canistota) (Fall 4:24)
- 215: Charlie Frost (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 285: Karter Moody (Groton Area) wins by forfeit

### Groton Area 82, McLaughlin 0

- 106: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) over Wambli White Tail (McLaughlin) (TF 16-0 2:43)
- 113: Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 120: Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) over Ryken McCloud (McLaughlin) (TF 21-4 5:28)
- 126: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) over Amiel Spotted Horse (McLaughlin) (Fall 2:14)
- 132: Grayson Flores (Groton Area) over Chance Little Bear (McLaughlin) (Fall 3:31)
- 138: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Keyen Crow Ghost (McLaughlin) (Fall 4:00)
- 144: John Bisbee (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 150: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 157: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 165: Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) over Jacoby Carry Moccasin (McLaughlin) (Fall 2:00)
- 175: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 190: Layne Johnson (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 215: Charlie Frost (Groton Area) over Quentin White Mountain (McLaughlin) (Fall 2:55)

- 285: Gavin Englund (Groton Area) wins by forfeit



## Groton Legion remodeling project

The Groton American Legion is remodeling their main area. It is a \$40,000 project, according to the building permit. They are enclosing the lottery machine area, putting a new bar top, replacing the tiles and the carpet, and will also have some painting done. The main area will be out of commission for about 4-5 weeks; however, the bar area and lottery machines have been moved to the back room. Pictured below are John Sippel and Todd McGannon doing the tile work. The photo above shows behind the counter with the old tile removed. The bottom photo shows the lottery machine area being enclosed.



**Happy Valentine's Day!**  
Good Fun and Good Business too!

Whew! Finished deliveries!

• "I've wanted to be your friend."

• "No kidding, want to 'steer' to recess?"

**Hearty Sayings!**

- change of heart
- cross my heart
- eat your heart out
- half-hearted
- heart of gold
- heart of stone
- to have your heart set on something
- having a heart-to-heart
- taking something to heart
- to your heart's content
- his/her heart is in the right place
- heart skips a beat

**Special Delivery!**

- A. is kind and caring
- B. to want something a certain way and not to willing to work out a different way to do it
- C. make an important promise
- D. very uncairng
- E. not giving something your full effort
- F. take something very personally
- G. to make someone jealous
- H. frightened or excited
- I. as much as you want
- J. change your mind
- K. meant well
- L. have a meaningful talk

**Friendly Messages!**

"I'm your 'more' man and I'm not 'less'."

"You make me want to sing a 'Tuna'."

"I'll 'steer' you in the right direction."

"Only 'be' your friend!"

Arnimills LLC © 2025

# Happy Valentine's Day!

Good Fun and Good Business too!



Whew! I've been delivering Valentine surprises all day long. I'm tired, but happy because it's nice that so many people care about other people and want to send them nice Valentines!

Read these clues to fill in the crossword to discover the most popular gifts given on Valentine's Day:

- Poetry and fun Valentine stories will fly off store and library shelves.
- The first box, introduced by Richard Cadbury, had a painting of his daughter holding a kitten on its cover. Later, he created the first heart-shaped box.
- These used to be made by hand and delivered in person. Now they are machine-made and a billion are enjoyed all over the world.
- These snuggly birds, along with doves, have been popular to give or use in designs for Valentine's Day. Each year, Fort Worth Zoo in Texas lets people add a "wild child" to their family by buying a Valentine's Day or other "adoption" package. The money raised goes to care for animals.
- People will sell a lot of pizza, doughnuts and other food items in this shape.

6. Red roses are thought to be the most romantic and the most popular kind given on Valentine's Day.

7. The first type of this gift may have been made out of shells and bones. Ancient Egyptians gave this gift made out of gold with precious stones to kings.

8. Some people will go to plays or comedy \_\_\_\_\_.

9. These sugary messages were invented by Oliver Chase in 1847. Today, the Necco company makes about 100,000 pounds of these a day!

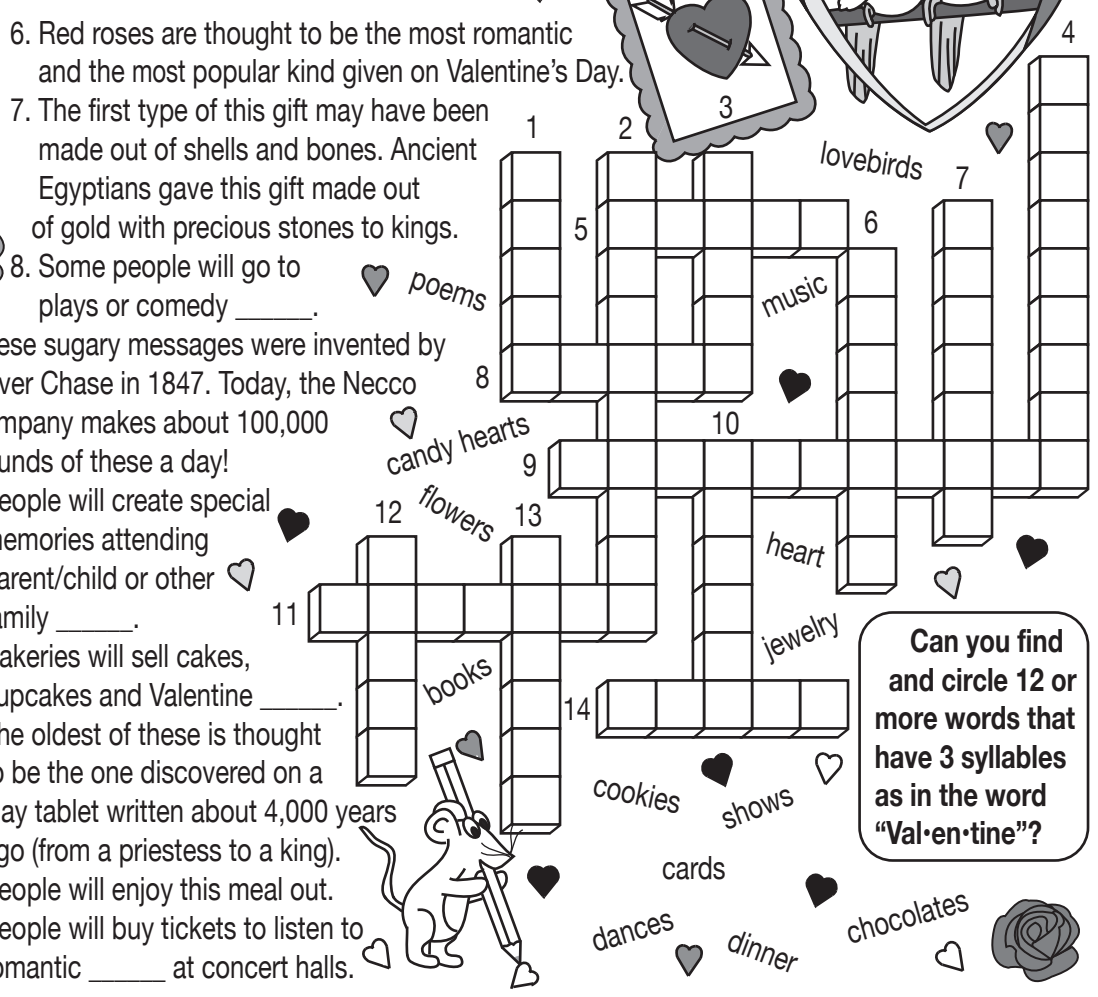
10. People will create special memories attending parent/child or other family \_\_\_\_\_.

11. Bakeries will sell cakes, cupcakes and Valentine \_\_\_\_\_.

12. The oldest of these is thought to be the one discovered on a clay tablet written about 4,000 years ago (from a priestess to a king).

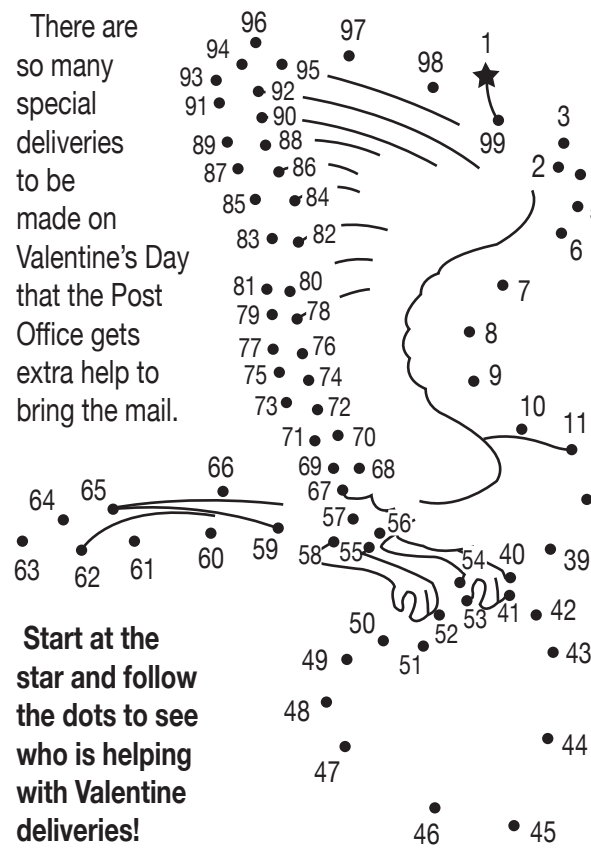
13. People will enjoy this meal out.

14. People will buy tickets to listen to romantic \_\_\_\_\_ at concert halls.



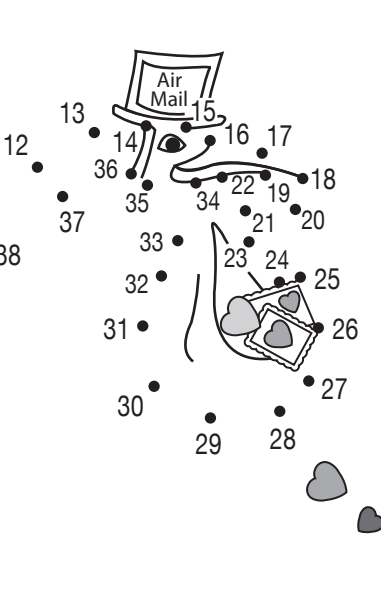
Can you find and circle 12 or more words that have 3 syllables as in the word "Val-en-tine"?

There are so many special deliveries to be made on Valentine's Day that the Post Office gets extra help to bring the mail.



Start at the star and follow the dots to see who is helping with Valentine deliveries!

## A Special Valentine Delivery!

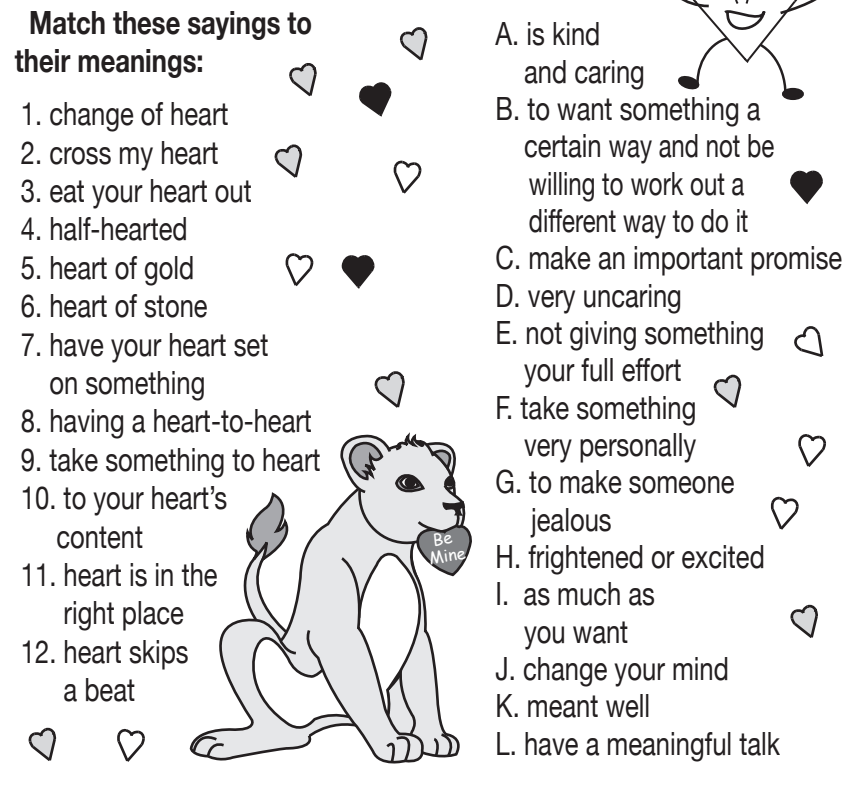


## Hearty Sayings!

Match these sayings to their meanings:

- change of heart
- cross my heart
- eat your heart out
- half-hearted
- heart of gold
- heart of stone
- have your heart set on something
- having a heart-to-heart
- take something to heart
- to your heart's content
- heart is in the right place
- heart skips a beat

A. is kind and caring  
 B. to want something a certain way and not be willing to work out a different way to do it  
 C. make an important promise  
 D. very uncaring  
 E. not giving something your full effort  
 F. take something very personally  
 G. to make someone jealous  
 H. frightened or excited  
 I. as much as you want  
 J. change your mind  
 K. meant well  
 L. have a meaningful talk



## Friendly Messages!

Here are some fun Valentine messages. They each use a "play on words." Can you write the name of the animal that completes each pun in the blanks?

No kidding, want to "\_\_\_\_\_ " to recess? tuna

I'm your 'mane' man, and I'm not "\_\_\_\_\_ ." steer

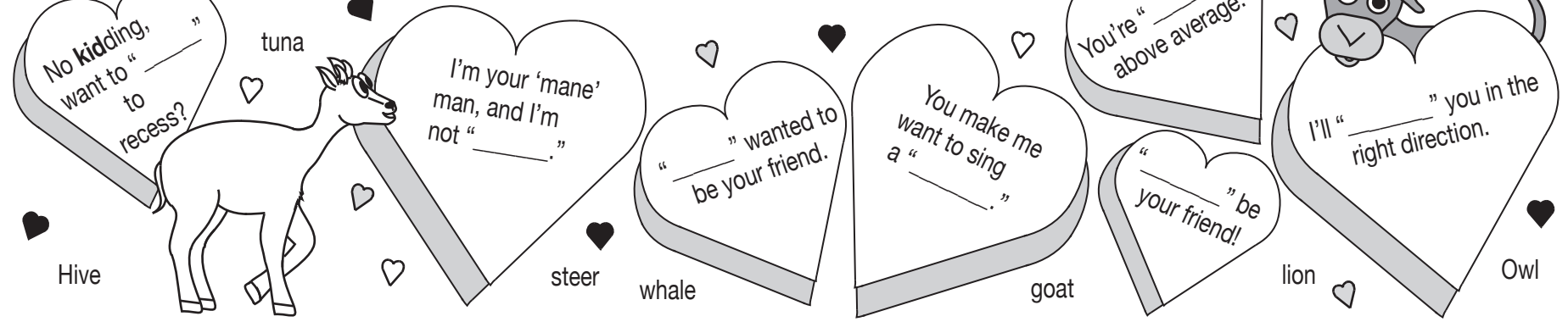
"\_\_\_\_\_ " wanted to be your friend. whale

You make me want to sing a "\_\_\_\_\_ ." goat

You're "\_\_\_\_\_ " above average. lion

"\_\_\_\_\_ " be your friend! Owl

I'll "\_\_\_\_\_ " you in the right direction.



Dear EarthTalk: What's the connection between climate change and an increase in so-called atmo-

spheric rivers? 2100, the Pacific Northwest could experience such severe atmospheric rivers that would temporarily raise ocean levels up to three times higher, creating a significant flooding risk. Regions up and down the West Coast will be at the forefront of these impacts, with California especially vulnerable to intense swings between drought and heavy precipitation. The Pacific Northwest can expect to face severe flooding and coastal impacts as well.



**Climate change is making atmospheric rivers more frequent and more intense.** Credit: Pexels.com.

spheric rivers?  
-- John H., Bridgeport, CT

Atmospheric rivers are narrow bands of water vapor that form in the mid to high latitudes. These can span several miles and carry immense amounts of water - up to 27 times the flow of the Mississippi River. They primarily transport water from tropical oceans toward the poles, causing heavy precipitation during landfall. Their formation begins with evaporation over warm oceans, and then moves to cooler latitudes, with the moisture then falling as rain or snow when it reaches coastal regions. A common example of this is the Pineapple Express, which carries tropical moisture from Hawaii to the U.S West Coast

These have both positive and negative effects. They are necessary and they contribute to 50 percent of California's annual precipitation which prevents severe droughts and replenishes water supplies. On the down side, they can be destructive through flooding, landslides and ice shelf melting. In January 2023, California experienced a series of atmospheric rivers that caused widespread flooding, power outages and landslides, causing over 20 deaths and billions of dollars in damages. California and other parts of the West Coast have since experienced additional storms, highlighting their recurring impact on the region.

Climate change has amplified the intensity and frequency of atmospheric rivers, because warmer air holds more moisture. Daniel Swain, a climate scientist at University of California, Los Angeles, estimates that due to the effect of climate change, atmospheric rivers currently carry 5-15 percent more precipitation now than they would have before. Research led by scientists at NSF NCAR have also estimated that by

Individuals can be part of the solution. Reducing greenhouse gas emissions is essential, from adopting personal sustainability practices to supporting policies that address climate change, you can help mitigate the frequency of atmospheric rivers. Advocating for investments in flood infrastructure, water management systems, and forecasting technologies is also critical to improve resilience to disasters. Furthermore, educating others about the potential risks and factors can increase awareness.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: [question@earthtalk.org](mailto:question@earthtalk.org)

## Ken's

### SUPER FAIR FOODS.

FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS

ABERDEEN • GROTON • CLARK • IPSWICH • EUREKA • BRITTON • [WWW.KENSSUPERFAIR.COM](http://WWW.KENSSUPERFAIR.COM) • FOLLOW US!

Get ready to host the ultimate Big Game Day party with the Ken's Giveaway! 8 Party Packs will be given away.



Register today in any of our locations. Winner will be drawn on Feb. 7th. Must be 21 to enter.

**EVERY WEDNESDAYS IS \$6 SELECT SUSHI ITEMS**

**SERVING DAILY FRESH HOT ASIAN FOOD BAR \$9.99 LB. SIT DOWN OR TO GO!**



**USDA CHOICE DEMKOTA BONELESS BOTTOM ROUND ROAST**

**\$4.99** Lb.

SAVE \$2.00 Per Lb.

**ROMA TOMATOES**

**69¢** Lb.

**FREE PRAIRIE FARMS CHIP DIP**

With \$10 purchase and Ken's App. 8 Oz. Ctn.

**PORK BABY BACK RIBS**

**\$2.99** Lb.

SAVE \$2.00 Per Lb.

**KEN'S FRESH 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF FAMILY PACK**

**\$3.99** Lb.

**GROCERY**

**OL' WEST BBQ SAUCE**

16 Oz. Bottle **\$3.99**

**GROCERY**

**MANWICH SLOPPY JOE SAUCE**

15-16 Oz. Can **99¢**

**FROZEN**

**BREW PUB LOTZZA MOTZZA PIZZA**

20-26.82 Oz. Pkg **\$4.99**

**FROZEN**

**KEMP'S ICE CREAM**

48 Oz. Scround **\$3.49**

**GROCERY**

**NABISCO RITZ OR SNACK CRACKERS**

3.5-13.7 Oz. Box **\$1.99**

**GROCERY**

**BEST CHOICE POTATO CHIPS**

7.75-8 Oz. Bags **3/\$5**

**GROCERY**

**OLD DUTCH RESTAURANTE TORTILLA CHIPS**

10-13 Oz. Bag **\$2.99**

**GROCERY**

**POWERADE**

8 PK. 20 Oz. Bottles **\$4.99**

**LIQUOR/BEER**

**CROWN ROYAL, APPLE, VANILLA OR PEACH**

1.75 Liter **\$4.79**

**BAKERY**

**KEN'S BAKERY FRESH WHITE COCKTAIL BUNS**

12 Count **\$2.69**

**DELI**

**SNACK FACTORY PRETZEL CRISPS**

Assorted Flavors 7.2 Oz. Pkg. **2/\$6**

**STONEWALL PANCAKE & WAFFLE MIX**

COFFEE • GOURMET DRINKS & FOODS **\$2.00 OFF**

FLAVOR OF THE WEEK: RED VELVET (CHOCOLATE) / WHITE CHOCOLATE / RASPBERRY **\$3.49-\$4.49**

**BEER \$1.899**

BUSCH LIGHT 30 PK. 12 Oz. Cans

Find us on [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [Instagram](#)

PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS: **FEB 2 THUR FEB 8**

WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO LIMIT QUANTITIES AND CORRECT TYPOGRAPHICAL AND PICTORIAL ERRORS. NONE SOLD TO DEALERS. SOME ITEMS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE AT ALL STORES. © 2024 Ken's Super Fair Foods. All Rights Reserved. No Resale or Redistribution.

## "Teen Mental Health"

The most recent survey of teen mental health by the Centers for Disease Control in 2023 revealed that 20.3% of adolescents in the United States have been diagnosed with a mental health



Jill Kruse, DO

condition. This reflects a 35% increase since 2016. The survey also found that 40% of teens reported persistent feelings of sadness or hopelessness, 20% seriously considered suicide, and, tragically, 9% attempted suicide.

These statistics should alarm any parent or grandparent of a teenager. As the mother of a 12-year-old and a 14-year-old, I often think about my children's mental health and how to best support them. They are growing up in a world far different from the one I knew. Today's teens face the challenges of social media, cyber bullying, academic pressure, and the struggle to fit in with their peers, all while navigating the changes of puberty.

Like every parent, I want my children to be happy, resilient, and safe. The first step is creating a space where they feel safe sharing their thoughts and feelings. Listening to them without immediately jumping in to solve their problems or dismiss their emotions is a crucial skill for parents to practice. Taking the time to talk and ask open-ended questions about how they feel can make a significant difference. What might seem minor to an adult with years of experience and perspective can feel overwhelming to a teenager. It is essential for our kids to know we are here to support them, no matter the size of the problem.

Another key parenting strategy is modeling good self-care and emotional regulation. That can mean working on improving our own mental health. Showing teens how to be kind to themselves and handle life's setbacks teaches them invaluable lessons. Mental health is not a one-time fix; it is a lifelong process. Adolescence is the ideal time to equip teens with healthy coping strategies. Teaching them how to handle stress and overcome failures prepares them to become thriving, well-adjusted adults.

Parents should also trust their instincts when something feels off. If your teen shows a sudden drop in grades, stops enjoying activities they once loved, or seems persistently sad or angry, it's time to seek help. If teens become more withdrawn or secretive, having a discussion about your concerns is warranted. Resources like pediatricians, school counselors, and therapists can provide support and guidance.

As a mother, I am committed to walking this journey alongside my children, every step of the way. Together, we can navigate the challenges, celebrate the victories, and build the tools they need for a happy, healthy future.

Jill Kruse, D.O. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and clinical practices as a hospitalist in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show, 2 podcasts, and a Radio program, providing health information based on science, built on trust, on SDPB and streaming