

Electric rates increase by 3%, base increases by \$5

The Groton City Council approved the first reading of the electric rates as WAPA is increasing its electric rate. The \$5 base increase to help pay for the metering costs. Those on LIEAP will not have to pay the \$5 increase. Electric rates will see an increase of 3 percent except for dual fuel meters which will see an increase to \$25 (from \$10) for a minimum fee for the months of November through April. Electric rates will increase form 10.7 cents per KWH to 11.0 cents per KHW. Dual Fuel will increase from .05 to .057. Geo rates will increase from .085 to .087. Demand customers will see a KWH increase from .085 to .087. The KW rate will remain unchanged at \$14 per Kilowatt.

Dwight Zerr, sewer superintendent, said, "We're doing well with the sewer end of things. It's pretty dry." He said there are three broken clean-outs and instead of digging up the whole street, they could be repaired for a total of \$18,000.

Terry Herron reported that there was a water break with lead pipe. Looking at getting the chip seal project ready for bid.

Todd Gay reported that he will be meeting with the Hecla City Council to discuss a project that they need help with.

Mike Shilhanek - Vice President of the Groton Development Corporation, came before the council to talk about an activity center. They are looking at getting the property south of the Groton Community Center. It would like a pole barn for an indoor playground. "We think it's a great location in Groton," Shilhanek said. Long term plans could also include having the Thrift Store and Pantry in the facility along with a youth center. He said that in a couple of months they will bring in the day care providers to get their input on it. Councilman Kevin Nehls said, "It's a nice concept."

There was also short discussion of possibly moving the city hall back to the original city hall, but Mayor Scott Hanlon quickly said, "That won't fly. The girls have a done a great job with the library and we are not so cramped here. This has been a Godsend for us."

The council approved the transfer of a liquor license of the Red Horse Inn. There is a Contract for deed sale of the Red Horse from Darren and Lisa Locke, dba D & L Enterprises, to Keith Landwehr, dba American Grain LLC.

The baseball scoreboards at Nelson and Falk Fields need some repair work. Councilman Jason Wambach said the controllers need to be replaced which would cost \$2,300 each. Replacement of the scoreboards range from \$4,985 to \$\$6,560. "I hate to throw \$2,300 at it and still have an old system," Wambach said.

The council approved the purchase of scoreboards similar to the size we have now for \$4,985. If the foundation or Legion want a bigger board, they can chip in the difference.

Garbage bids will be going out for the next three years. This time, there will be no bid for automatic pickup as the city's streets are not garbage truck to use when there is spring load limits in place.

Bids will also be let for painting the exterior of City Hall.

Lipp and Tricia Keith in attendance.

The second reading of the summer salary ordinance was approved. playing in the Festival Band. Applications are open for the summer recreational positions. The assistant part-time swimming pool manager's position was eliminated SD Middle School All-State Band on Saturday March 8, 2025 in the as the council will go with co-managers. The equalization meeting is set for March 18th after the regular will feature 200 6th - 8th graders from across the state performing in council meeting. The council approved for Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich to attend Amundson. finance officers/human resource school June 10-13 in Pierre.



Krueger is state champion

Liza Krueger took first place at the State Wrestling Tournament held this past weekend in Rapid City.

Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting.
 ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer

Four musicians selected for Middle School All State Band



Pictured are Novalea Warrington, Aspen Beto, Kyrie Yeigh and Liam Johnson. (Courtesy photo)

Aspen Beto (Clarinet), Liam Johnson (Alto Saxophone), Novalea Warcapable handling the load. There was discussion if they have a smaller rington (Flute/Piccolo) and Kyrie Yeigh (Clarinet) have been accepted into the 2025 South Dakota Middle School All State Band. This year there was a record breaking of 563 auditions from 82 different schools. The council went into executive session for nearly an hour with Kami Liam and Novalea are both second year members and will be playing in the Honor Band. Aspen and Kyrie are first year members will be

The South Dakota Music Education Association will present the 2025

The council tabled the hiring of summer recreation employees.

No Groton elections this year

Board or the Groton City Council. Petitions were due Friday.

Samantha Weber turned in her petition and will begin her term in July. of band, choral, general music and orchestral teachers. All three positions are three-year terms.

Meanwhile on the Groton City Council, incumbent Mayor Scott Hanlon turned in his petition for another three-year term as mayor. On the council, incumbent Karyn Babcock turned in her petition for Ward 3 for a two-year term. Incumbent Shirley Wells did not turn in a petition in Ward 2; however, Michael Shilhanek did and will begin his two-year term in June in Ward 2. Incumbent Kevin Nehls did not take out a of Lori Herron was drawn. She had card number 27 and the card was petition for Ward 1. Some one will have to be appointed to filled that the Ten of Clubs. The Queen of Hearts will now continue into week position for a one-year term.

Mitchell High School Performing Arts Center at 3:00 PM. This concert two bands under the direction of Dr. Kevin Kessler and Dr. Bethany

There is a \$5.00 admission fee for the concert. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door the afternoon of the concert. Students 18 and under are free.

The mission of the National Association for Music Education is to There will be no election this year for either the Groton Area School advance music education by promoting the understanding and making of music by all. SDMEA is a state affiliate of the National Association For the Groton Area School Board, incumbents Tigh Fliehs and Travis for Music Education. With over 400 members, SDMEA is the largest Harder turned in petitions while incumbent Deborah Gengerke did not. association of instructional musicians in the state catering to the needs

Queen of Hearts

The Queen of Hearts drawing was Thursday night at the Groton American Legion. The jackpot is \$16,519. Ticket sales for the week was \$1,185 with 10% (\$118) going to the consolation winner. The name number 20.

Liza Krueger is state champion

The state wrestling tournament concluded Saturday with Groton Area's Liza Krueger, sophomore, becoming a state champion at 100 pounds. She pinned Kyra Vandenberg of Belle Fourche in 5:26. Krueger finishes the season with a 46-2 record.

The two senior Doland wrestlers, Kyla Logan at 138 pounds and Reganne Miles at 165 pounds, have been practicing at Groton Area and both placed third.

Two senior boys were also in the finals with Christian Ehresmann placing fourth at 144 pounds and Korbin Kucker winning the seventh place match at 175 pounds.

G100: Liza Krueger (46-2) placed 1st and scored 28.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 46-2 won by fall over Vanessa Anderson (Watertown) 29-25 (Fall 2:56)

Quarterfinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 46-2 won by fall over Jewel Gannon (Canton) 25-13 (Fall 3:15)

Semifinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 46-2 won in tie breaker - 1 over Madison Little (Aberdeen Central) 44-10 (TB-1 7-1)

1st Place Match - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 46-2 won by fall over Kyra Vandenberg (Belle Fourche) 40-4 (Fall 5:26)

B113: Keegan Kucker (31-12) scored 2.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Tayten Kurkowski (Webster Area) 14-8 won by decision over Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 31-12 (Dec 11-6)

Cons. Round 1 - Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 31-12 won by tech fall over Brysen Baloun (Parker) 13-22 (TF-1.5 2:35 (16-0))

Cons. Round 2 - Ruger Smokov (Bennett County) 26-14 won by fall over Keegan Kucker (Groton Area) 31-12 (Fall 4:33)

B132: Donavon Block (29-17).

Champ. Round 1 - Daniel Dorsey (Mount Vernon/Plankinton/ Corsica-Stickney) 43-17 won by fall over Donavon Block (Groton Area) 29-17 (Fall 3:30)

Cons. Round 1 - Kason Barry (Philip/Kadoka Area/Wall) 40-17 won by fall over Donavon Block (Groton Area) 29-17 (Fall 0:43)



Liza Krueger, sophomore, is a state champion at 100 pounds. Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer



Kyla Logan, Doland senior, placed third at 138 pounds. Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer



Reganne Miles, Doland senior, placed third at 165 pounds

G138: Kyla Logan (37-12) placed 3rd and scored 18.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Kyla Logan (Doland) 37-12 won by fall over Hailey Fortney (West Central) 26-14 (Fall 5:34)

Quarterfinal - Kyla Logan (Doland) 37-12 won by decision over Reese Olson (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 41-10 (Dec 9-5)

Semifinal - Kezrey Benning (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 30-4 won by decision over Kyla Logan (Doland) 37-12 (Dec 8-2)

Cons. Semi - Kyla Logan (Doland) 37-12 won by decision over Rakyrah Wallace (Aberdeen Central) 40-18 (Dec 5-3)

3rd Place Match - Kyla Logan (Doland) 37-12 won by fall over Reese Olson (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 41-10 (Fall 1:57)

Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer



Christian Ehresmann, senior, placed fourth at 144 pounds. Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer

B144: Christian Ehresmann (33-6) placed 4th and scored 17.5 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 won by major decision over Tel Gropper (Philip/Kadoka Area/Wall) 18-10 (MD 15-1)

Quarterfinal - Kellan Hurd (Miller/Highmore-Harrold) 46-4 won by fall over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 (Fall 1:36)

Cons. Round 2 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 won by tech fall over Owen Rigg (Elk Point-Jefferson) 19-17 (TF-1.5 1:13 (17-2))

Cons. Round 3 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 won by major decision over Bryce Hawkinson (Britton-Hecla) 34-5 (MD 10-2)

Cons. Semi - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 won by fall over Leighton Sander (Custer) 44-14 (Fall 2:27)

3rd Place Match - Ryken Orel (Winner) 46-7 won by major decision over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-6 (MD 8-0)

B157: Walker Zoellner (29-12) scored 1.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Treyson Richter (Tri-Valley) 39-11 won by major decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 29-12 (MD 13-0)

Cons. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 29-12 won by decision over David Lewis (Custer) 24-27 (Dec 4-0)

Cons. Round 2 - Gage Reichert (Parkston) 38-16 won by fall over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 29-12 (Fall 1:41)

G165: Réganne Miles (38-10) placed 3rd and scored 20.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Reganne Miles (Doland) 38-10 won by fall over Faith Slavin (Viborg-Hurley/ Irene-Wakonda) 23-19 (Fall 1:31)

Quarterfinal - Reganne Miles (Doland) 38-10 won by fall over Jayda Steinke (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 22-15 (Fall 1:28)

Semifinal - Marieda Kalahar (Rapid City Stevens) 41-3 won by fall over Reganne Miles (Doland) 38-10 (Fall 1:25)

Cons. Semi - Reganne Miles (Doland) 38-10 won by fall over Taylor DeJong (Mitchell) 26-15 (Fall 4:19)

3rd Place Match - Reganne Miles (Doland) 38-10 won by decision over Lilly Nelson (Aberdeen Central) 35-14 (Dec 3-0)

B175: Korbin Kucker (39-6) placed 7th and scored 6.0



Korbin Kucker, senior, placed seventh at 175 pounds. Photo courtesy of South Dakota Public Broadcasting. ©2025 SDPB | Landon DeBoer

B285: Gavin Englund (30-11).

Champ. Round 1 - Preston Cavalier (Warner/Northwestern) 43-3 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-11 (Fall 0:50)

Cons. Round 1 - Derek Fenenga (Winner) 34-20 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-11 (Dec 4-2)

Conde National League

March 3 Team Standings: Braves 39 (winner of second half), Cubs 29, Giants 25, Pirates 22, Stooges 21, Mets 20.

Men's High Games: Butch Farmen 213, Skip Kettering 198, Aaron Severson 173.

Men's High Series: Butch Farmen 549, Skip Kettering 495, Dion Bahr 479.

Women's High Games: Sam Bahr 189, Nancy Radke 177, Suzi Easthouse 171, Sandy Hoops 171.

Women's High Series: Sam Bahr 535, Suzi Easthouse 507, Nancy Radke 457.

School looking at offering LiveTicket.TV

by Dorene Nelson

There may soon be three choices for remote viewing of Groton Area School District sporting events. Two of the three are already available. GDILIVE has been broadcasting local games and events for 10 years. Hudl TV is available for sporting events in the arena. The third option is an offer from LiveTicket.TV.

LiveTicket.TV has contacted the Groton Area School Board with an offer to broadcast the home sporting events. Their offer could include video and commentary recording, if local people do the play-by-play action can be found. There are no subscription fees for the viewers since all costs for this service are covered by corporate sponsors.

The cameras to do this broadcasting will have to be purchased by the school district at a cost of about \$6000; however, the school district would receive revenue from the sponsors which should cover the cost of the cameras. The school currently has revenue from graduated class accounts to cover the start-up equipment expenses. No public tax funds are needed to begin this project.

Large corporation sponsors as well as local supporters pay for the bulk of the cost of LiveTicket.TV. Sponsorships provide ongoing support for the use of the system that produces the broadcasts and to support the student activities that viewers want to see.

There are four tiers of sponsorship for LiveTicket.TV. These increase in number and cost depending upon the areas covered. Currently the Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation has a contract with LiveTicket. TV to broadcast their games in Groton.

Another source of broadcasting sporting events is Hudl TV, already installed in the school, and providing some of the same features that LiveTicket.TV does. The coaching staff uses Hudl recordings to review how their athletes are doing, check on the statistics for each game and player, and for general information on games.

Coaches are also able to view the strategies and statistics from other schools. They can watch videos of other schools and their games and players to get a good idea of what the competition has to offer.

LiveTicket.TV needs sponsorships with half of the revenue being returned to the school district. Most of these sponsors are large, corporate companies.

The broadcasts are only provided for home games since no one hauls the equipment from school to school as is now being done by Paul Kosel. GDILIVE doesn't provide any revenue for the school, but he does devote much of his "free" time to broadcasting local events that are of great interest to local citizens. Kosel also broadcasts all sporting events, whether they are held in Groton or in another town. In addition to GDILIVE, Kosel also publishes the Groton Independent, a weekly printed newspaper as well as a daily online publication, very rare in towns the size of Groton. Many local events, including school activities, are featured in his newspapers. GDILIVE charges viewers \$5 per game to watch from the comfort of their home. A \$50 yearly subscription to the Groton Daily Independent includes free viewing of all GDILIVE recordings. GDILIVE is also exploring the option of free viewing on YouTube. LiveTicket.TV is mainly for sporting events and not for other local school activities such as homecoming coronation, school plays, Veterans' Day programs, Christmas programs, the Ice Carnival, and non-school events like live-streaming funerals and city council meetings. Only Paper Paul covers these special events on GDLIVE. LiveTicket.TV would however be available for broadcasting school board meetings. GDILIVE also broadcasts the school board meetings. LiveTicket.TV equipment can be used to broadcast any event in the school. The sponsorship agreements require the production of football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball, and wrestling. If LiveTicket.TV is approved by the school board, the earliest it would be available is in the fall of 2025. Long term goals might include an elective class to teach students how to provide commentary and explanations during the broadcast of the games. Those individuals who support the addition of LiveTicket.TV to the school's sporting events must consider everything involved. Free viewing of sporting events vs. a local newspaper and coverage of all school and city events, not just sports. Groton can do both!

team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Kolter Kramer (Parkston) 21-8 won by decision over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 39-6 (Dec 6-4)

Cons. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 39-6 won by fall over Taylor Snaza (Sisseton) 28-20 (Fall 2:23)

Cons. Round 2 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 39-6 won by decision over Justin Klein (Flandreau) 43-18 (Dec 10-4)

Cons. Round 3 - Korbin Whiteley (Deuel/Deubrook Area) 27-6 won in tie breaker - 1 over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 39-6 (TB-1 4-1)

7th Place Match - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 39-6 won by decision over Ben Suther (Britton-Hecla) 38-17 (Dec 7-2)

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Groton Tigers Dominate Aberdeen Christian in **Convincing Victory**

ABERDEEN - The Groton Area Tigers put on a dominant display Friday night at the Aberdeen Civic Center, rolling past the Aberdeen Christian Knights 58-28 in a statement win.

The Tigers wasted no time seizing control, jumping out to a 13-4 lead after the first quarter. Their defensive intensity and rebounding prowess set the tone early, forcing the Knights into difficult shots and capitalizing on turnovers. By halftime, Groton extended its lead to 28-16, and by the end of the third guarter, they had stretched it to 44-25, effectively putting the game out of reach.

Balanced Attack Leads the Way

Ryder Johnson was a force inside, recording a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds. His dominance on the boards helped Groton control possessions and limit second-chance opportunities for the Knights. Karson Zac added 13 points while also dishing out four assists to lead the team in playmaking. Keegen Tracy contributed 11 points, while Becker Bosma had nine points, seven rebounds, and a team-high four steals.

The Tigers were efficient from the field, hitting 21 of 41 shots inside the arc for a solid 51%. While their three-point shooting (4-for-15) was not their strongest suit, their ability to attack the basket and control the paint made up for it.

Defense and Rebounding Key to Victory

Groton's defensive effort was relentless, forcing 13 turnovers from Aberdeen Christian and converting six of those into 13 points. The Tigers also racked up 10 steals, with Bosma leading the way. Groton's rebounding advantage was evident, as they hauled in 35 total boards, including seven each from Sippel and Bosma.

On the other end, Aberdeen Christian struggled to find an offensive rhythm. Brooks Jett led the Knights with 13 points, but as a team, they shot just 28% (10-for-36) from the field. Their offensive struggles were magnified in the fourth quarter, where they failed to make a single field goal, leading to their lowest-scoring game of the season.

Groton Sweeps the Night

The Tigers' success wasn't limited to the varsity level, as Groton dominated across all age groups.

Junior Varsity: Groton cruised to a 54-14 victory, with Anthony Tracy leading the charge with 14 points. Jayden Schwan added 10, while Easton Weber chipped in with eight.

Eighth Grade: A 36-20 win showcased the Tigers' depth and future talent.

Seventh Grade: The youngest Tigers secured a 33-17 victory to complete the program sweep. With this win, Groton Area proved why they are a formidable force this season. Their combination of defensive intensity, rebounding dominance, and balanced scoring makes them a tough matchup for any opponent. Both varsity teams are now 15-5 on the season. Groton Area will host the second round region game on Friday at 7 p.m. The Tigers have a first round bye as the number one seed team in the region.

- Story compiled by ChatGPT

Ryder Johnson: 16 points, 13 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls, 1 block.

Keegen Tracy: 11 points, 1 rebound, 3 assists, 1 steal, 2 fouls.

Gage Sippel: 5 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 1 steal, 1 foul.

Becker Bosma: 9 points, 7 rebounds, 1 assit, 4 steals, 2 fouls.

Karson Zak: 13 points, 3 rebounds, 4 assists, 1 steal, 1 block.

Easton Weber: 1 assist.

Turner Thompson: 2 points, 2 rebounds, 1 foul.

Jayden Schwan: 1 steal, 1 foul.

Logan Warrington: 2 rebounds.

Teylor Diegel: 2 points.

2-Pointers: 21-41 51%, 3-Pointers: 4-15 27%, Free Throws: 4-9 44%, 35 rebounds, 6 turnovers, 13 assists, 10 steals, 9 fouls, 2 blocks.



Aberdeen Christian: Brooks Jett 13, Ellis Russell 6, Grady Jett 5, Dylan Hofer 2, Luke Kaiser 2. Field Goals: 10-36 28%, Free Throws: 6-12 50%, 8 fouls, 13 turnovers.

Groton Junior Varsity: Anthony Tracy 14, Jayden Schwan 10, Easton Weber 8, Ryder Schelle 7, Jordan Schwan 4, Jace Johnson 3, Asher Johnson 2, Ethan Kroll 1. Aberdeen Christian JV: Charles Eichler 9, Daniel Opdahl

3, Owen Russell 1.

The varsity and junior varsity games were broadcast live on

the GDI/Video Archives.
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FEBRUARY 25, 2025 - GEN-ERAL 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 Dinger, Gage, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Dennert was absent. Commissioner Wiese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVÁL OF ÁGENDA: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent shared that he wanted to bring up load limits and have a discussion at the March 4th Commission meeting as to what date to put them on.

Dr. Becky Guffin, Superintendent of the Aberdeen Public Schools informed the Commission that it is Public Schools Week and wanted to say Thankyou to the County Employees, stating they wouldn't be able to do what they do without you. She also shared that all the interactions they have with the County Employees have been exemplary, whether it is an election question, tax question or school boundaries just to name a few. Dr. Guffin commented that Dirk is good to work with as well, they rely on him in the wintertime to make decisions about school closings regarding road conditions to keep students safe. She left some information that has been happening with the School District over the past year.

Commissioner Dinger shared that Commissioner Dennert, and his wife had a healthy baby boy last night. Congratulations to them and their family. AWARD BID FOR SMALL ANI-

MAL BARN: Chairman Sutton shared that Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager wasn't able to attend the meeting but had sent her recommendation to accept the bid from Mega Construction in the amount of \$116,101.44, with \$11,101.44 in sponsorship leaving final price at \$105,000.00 based on the following reason: Mega Construction plans to use 28-gauge steel vs. JH Construction plans to use 29-gauge steel, going with thicker steel. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve Rachel's recommendation to award the bid to Mega Construction for final cost of \$105,000.00; rejecting bids from JH Construction for \$102,800.00; North Central Steel for \$128,372.00 and Quest for \$145,300.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried

FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR BROWN COUNTY FAIR: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Fireworks permit for RKM Fireworks (Joel Mann) to do a fireworks display on August 16, 2025 at the Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS COUNTY LIEN: Commission was sent a letter asking for a lien to removed from a property so the individual that was handling the estate could sell the property. Commissioner Gage moved to remove the lien from the property, there was not so, the motion died second

Magazine \$300.00; Southwest Messenger Press, Inc \$89.04; The Dakota Scout \$12.64. Radios Rentals: Advantage Self Storage \$276.00. Repairs & Mainte nance: Big Scoop Snow Removal \$27.00; Interstate Powersystems \$969.86; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$945.28; Lawson Products, Inc. \$13.24; Montgomery's Furniture Inc \$420.00; Pro Ag Supply, Inc \$585.09; Quest Construction LLC \$83,800.00; Schwan Welding \$1,950.00; Vosika Fencing \$1,681.75; Western States Fire Protection Co \$2,070.00. Sup-plies: Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$1,012.27; Avera LTC Phar macy Aberdeen \$9,729.09; Century Business Products \$242.39; Cole Paper Inc \$721.23; Com-mTech Inc \$1,731.06; Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equipment \$139.72; Erin Spencer \$70.00; Full Circle Ag \$2,582.22; Government Forms & Supplies \$280.41; Kuck Law Office \$23.25; Lawson Products, Inc. \$65.21; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$23.08; Lucy Lewno \$5.73; Marco Technolojies, LLC \$19.14; Northern Truck Equipment Corporation \$709.45; Performance Oil \$304.20; Tyler Business Forms \$680.02. Trave & Conference: Chris Hemen \$54.00; Crossroads Hotel & Huron Events Center \$900.00; Dean Zumbaum \$28.00; Greqory DeClue \$5,548.64; Jerry Lehrkamp \$54.00; John Florey \$28.00; Joshua Ulmer \$28.00 Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$80.00; Mike Rohrbach \$54.00. Utilities: Big Scoop Removal \$108.00; Dependable Sanita-tion, Inc \$580.00; T-Mobile USA Inc \$2,184.00; Verizon Wireless \$1,354.03.

Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,936.80; Auditor \$10,626.81; Treasurer \$18,515.35; SA \$36,800.36; Maintenance \$12,181.18; As sessor \$16,581.77; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$10,005.68; HR \$5,556.18; Sher iff \$51,032.00; Jail \$71,059.83; Coroner \$750.00: Court Security \$8,114.65; JDC \$31,035.70; Welfare \$2,604.27; Museum \$13,101.38; Parks/Fairgrounds \$6,720.69; Fair Board \$3,626.65 4-H \$877.20; Weed \$1 Planning & Zoning \$8,075.86; Highway \$60,590.92; Dis patch \$38,717.64; Emergen-cy \$5,405.61; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,593.68; Landfill \$17,570.34; Meal Benefits \$56.00; FICA \$27,211.44; Medicare \$6,363.93; Discoverv-HSA \$2,639.91 Health Insurance-Wellmark BCBS \$129,184.46; Dental Insurance-Delta \$9,122.58; Life Insurance-Dearborn \$1,068.62; Retirement-SDRS \$59,855.21. All members present voting aye. Motion carried

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:

o Hiring of Bradley Borge as Brown County Chief Public Defender, FT; starting wage \$5,384.61/pay period – effective April 1, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, 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. ABATEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the following abatements: For Tax Yr. 24PY25 Parcel #22455-\$98.99; Parcel #22592-\$98.99. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADVERTISING: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to set hearing date and authorize publication for the first reading of the following zoning ordinance to be held on March 18, 2025 in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota. Proposed Ordinance #290, applicant Brown County Planning & Zoning for the purpose of rezoning from Agriculture Preserva-tion District (AG-P) to Municipal District (M) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: 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.). Proposed Ordinance #291, applicant North Western Energy – Robert Gehm/Owners: Donald Young and Harlan Young for the purpose of rezone Lot 1 & Lot 3 from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Heavy Industrial District (H-I) and rezone Lot 2 from the Multi-Zone District (M-Z) to Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) 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: Description of property roposed Lot 1, Lot 2, and Lot , "NWE Generation Addition" in ection 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 = 90 SW 135th St; Aberdeen Twp.). All members present vot-

HEARING DATE/AUTHORIZE

ing aye. Motion carried. LEIKVOLD-RATH ADDITION PLAT:

RESOLUTION #2025-12

Moved by Commissioner Dinger and seconded by Wiese and motion carried that the plat as shown hereon and as described on the accompanying plat of "LEIKVOLD-RATH ADDITION" in the SW ¼ of Section 26, Town-ship 124 North, Range 64 West of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, be approved and accepted. Resolution adopted NWE GENERATION ADDITION

PI AT:

RESOLUTION #2025-13 Commissioner Wiese brought the following resolution "Be it resolved by the County Commission of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing NWE GENERATION ADDITIOÑ IN SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 123 NORTH, RANGE 64 WEST OF THE 5TH P.M., BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA" having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Resolution adopted

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to go into Executive Session for Personnel and Contracts 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 Wiese, seconded by Gage to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:57 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published March 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/ Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 5th day of March 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and Scott Bader - P&Z Director

25 Market Street Aberdeen, SD 57401

Office: (605) 626-7144 Published March 5, 2025 at



NOTICE

Application has been made by Brown County Planning & Zoning to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on March 18, 2025 for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Municipal (M) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use:

Description of property: Lot "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.).

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 290.

County Auditor Published March 5, 2025 at

\$12.88 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-



NOTICE

Application has been made by petitioner North Western – Robert Gehm/Owners: Energy Donald Young and Harlan Young to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on March 18, 2025 for the purpose of re-zoning the following described properties: Rezone Lot 1 and 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



NOTICE OF HEARING

Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/ Zoning Commission for a CON-DITIONAL USE PETITION (CUP). A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on March 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Owner / Petitioner: TC Wright Trust / Efraimson Electric

Legal description of property: Lot 2, "Don and Eunice Weismantel First Addition" in the NE1/4 of Section 19-T123N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13305 395th Avenue; Bath Twp.). Reason: A Conditional Use

Petition (CUP) to build a proposed garage/shop/office buildng for an electrical contracting business in a Highway Commercial District (HC).

The public may attend the hearing and present comments and testimony regarding the proposed Conditional Use Petition (CUP) request. Dated this 5th day of March

2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and

Scott Bader – P&Z Director 25 Market Street

Aberdeen, SD 57401 Office: (605) 626-7144

Published March 5, 2025 in he Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$13.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 25315



NOTICE OF HEARING

Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/ Zoning Commission for a VARI-ANCE PETITION. Hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Wade Young Real Estate LP I

Description of property: Pro-posed Lot 1, "Young Family Second Addition" in the SW1/4 of Section 26-T121N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (Approx. 39242 147th Street; West Rondell Twp.). Reason: Variance to Lot Size

in an AG-P District to allow Proposed Lot 1 to be smaller than 40.0 acres and stav 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 March 2025 Planning/Zoning Commis-

sion & Scott Bader - P&Z Director

25 Market Street Aberdeen, SD 57401 Office: (605) 626-7144 Published March 5, 2025 in The Groton Independent at the

in an AG-P District to allow Proposed Lot 1 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 March 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission &

Scott Bader – P&Z Director 25 Market Street Aberdeen, SD 57401

Office: (605) 626-7144 Published March 5, 2025 in The Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$13.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 25316



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 March 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Donald & Jolene Bonn

Description of property: Lot 6, "Greg Hoffman Addition" in the E1/2 of Section 14-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (126979 West Shore Drive, Ravinia Twp.).

Reason: Rezone parcel from Mini-Aariculture District (M-AG) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present com-ments and testimony regarding the proposed rezone petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/ Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 5th day of March 2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and

Scott Bader – P&Z Director 25 Market Street

Aberdeen, SD 57401

Office: (605) 626-7144 Published March 5, 2025 in

The Groton Independent at the total approximate cost of \$14.72 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 25318



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BROWN)))) SS

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown the total approximate cost of



due to lack of a second.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the General Meeting Minutes of February 18, 2025. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried. CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen ED \$5,506.52; Avera St. Luke's \$434.88; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$1,917.49; Bill Schaeffer \$16.00; Blackburn & Stevens, Prof. LLC \$204.73; Carrels & Bain Family Dental Care, LLC \$528.51; CenturyLink-Lumen \$239.50; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$8,812.50; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$1,380.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$2,494.00; Gregory DeClue \$1,000.00; Kuck Law Office \$1,218.00; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$1,080.00; Lewis & Clark BHS \$450.00; Lucy Lewno \$180.00; Mark Katterhagen \$16.00; Northeastern Mental Health Center \$75.00; Northern Plains OMS \$656.40; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$210.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$713.50. Pub-lishing: Groton Daily Independent \$197.58; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$698.72; Prevention

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: Patricia Kendall & Brandon Duxbury from the Dacotah Prairie Museum to attend Aberdeen Day at State Capital on February 20, 2025 in Pierre. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ACKNOWLEDGE REVISED GOLF CART, ATV & UTV RULES & **REGULATIONS FOR BCF: Moved** by Commissioner Dinger, sec-onded by Wiese to acknowledge the revised Golf Cart, ATV & UTV Rules & Regulations for the Brown County Fair. All members present voting ave. (A copy of the rules & regulations are available at the Brown County Fair Office)

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following Lease Agreements: Northern Electric Cooperative for lease of Holum Expo Building and adjacent parking lot on June 16-17, 2025 for the NEC Annual Meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. ZONIŃG ORDINANCES - SET

\$106.24 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25312



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 March 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Donald & Becky Wegleitner

Description of property: The E 42.5 Rods of the S 77.75 Rods in the NE1/4 of Section 4-T125N-R60W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (11831 409th Ävenue, Claremont Twp.). Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

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.

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 = 270 SW 135th St; Lot 3 = 90 SW 135th St; Aberdeen Twp.).

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 291.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor Published March 5, 2025 at

the total approximate cost of \$15.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25314

total approximate cost of \$13.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 25317



NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/ Zoning Commission for a VARI-ANCE PETITION. Hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on Tuesday, March 18, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Young Homestead Limited Partnership

Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Young Family First Addition" in the NE1/4 of Section 34-T121N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (Approx. 14719 392nd Avenue; West Rondell Twp.).

Reason: Variance to Lot Size

IN CIRCUIT COURT FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT A&N 25-03 NOTICE OF CONTINUED AD-

VISORY HEARING THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE INTEREST OF

M, B. AND I. 8., MINOR CHIL-DREN, AND CONCERNING

NINA LAFORGE, MERVIN BISHOP, NATOSI SUMMERS, RESPONDENTS.

TO: Mervin Bishop

Please take notice and be advised that the above-entitled matter has been scheduled for a CONTINUED ADVISORY HEAR-ING on the 26th day of March, 2025, at the hour of 10:30 a.m. of said day, before the Honorable Circuit Court Judge Julie Dvorak, atthe Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Dated this 28th day of February, 2025. Karla Nelson, Deputy

Brown County States Attorney Published March 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$11.34 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-

tices.com. 25320

Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Mar. 5, 2025 ♦ 5



February 25, 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, Wells, Cutler, Wambach, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Douglas Heinrich, Elizabeth Varin, and Ashley Bentz.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Nehls to approve the agenda with the addition of discussion regarding spring thaw garbage routes. All members present voted aye.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1. Ashley Bentz thanked the Groton City Council for their continuing support of the Groton Chamber of Commerce.

Bentz exited the meeting.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wells to award the roof repair project to Dakota Roofing in the amount of \$99,985. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Bahr to begin accepting bids for the 2025 Street Resurfacing Project. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Cutler to begin accepting 2025 gravel quotes. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Nehls to sign the audit engagement letter with Eide Bailly for the 2023/2024 biannual audit. All members present voted aye.

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

Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to begin the spring thaw garbage routes starting on March 4th, 2025. All members present voted aye.

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

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

Payroll, \$31,463.68, Employee salaries; , Administrative, , Public Safety, \$5,153.51, \$10,630.93 , Public Works, \$15,297.32, Culture & Recreation, \$381.92, ; , USPS, \$303.46, Utility billing postage; , SD State Treasurer, \$10,316.76, Sales and Excise Tax -January 2025; , WEB Water, \$21,755.39 Water services - January 2025 Dacotah Bank, \$6,719.45 Withholding/SS/Medicare; , Dakotaland FCU, \$450.00, Employee savings; , Dacotah Bank, \$810.41, HSA contributions; , Brock Abeln, \$40.00, Purchase of Brock Abeln's book x2; , Dacotah Bank, \$3,516.06, Withholding/ SS/Medicare; , Dacotah Bank, \$100.00, HSA contributions; ,

Stacy Mayou, \$158.35, Med flex; Heartland Energy, \$72,381.65, Power services - January 2025; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; James Valley Telecommunications, \$845.06, Telephone and internet services; Dacotah Bank Visa, \$1,523.25, Prestamped envelopes, copy paper, printer ink, water sample post-

age, electric uniform purchases, GDI subscription, fuel purchase, ibuprofen, car adapter, hotel stay for JUTS 2025, paper towels, paper bowls, coffee, creamer, toilet paper, facial tissues - Multiple Depts. ; , Full Circle Ag, \$62.52, Tank rental - Sewer Dept. ; , Groton Ford, \$65.12, Oil filter for bucket truck - Electric Dept. ; , April Abeln, \$246.00, Med flex; , Kellie Locke, \$40.00, Med flex RDO Equipment Co., \$470.77, Cutting edges - Street Dept.; Heartland Waste Management \$10,160.15, Garbage hauling; , Vestis, \$67.26, Rug rent - City Hall; , WAPA, \$30,846.85, Power services - January 2025; , Run-nings, \$174.91, Winter gloves, chainsaw chains, fitting adapters - Multiple Depts.; , Core & Main, \$911.63, Subsurface locator - Water Dept.; , IT Outlet, \$125.00, Server troubleshooting - City Hall; , The Groton Indepen-dent, \$53.10, Publishing costs; , Irby, Inc., \$9,838.50, Split bolts, cutting/crimping tools, arresters, u-quards, transformer bushing covers, clamps, tape, copper wire - Electric Dept.; , MJ's Sinclair, \$1,522.32, Fuel purchases, light bulbs, batteries - Multiple Depts. ; , Altec Capital Services, ILC., \$2,189.93, Digger truck lease - Electric Dept. ; , Geffdog Designs, LLC, \$221.53, Tote bags - Library; , Farmers Union Co-op Assoc., \$1,580.00, Diesel - Street Dept.; , WESCO, fuel \$5,132.45, Current tranformer -Electric Dept.; , Dakota Pump & Control, \$714.29, Repairs to Aspen Lift seal - Wastewater Dept. ; , NW Energy, \$56.55, Natural gas service - Water Tower; , Colonial Research, \$228.63, Impact grease - Street Dept. Aaron Anderson, \$100.00, Replace cables on hoop barn door: , Cole Papers, Inc., \$112.00, Paper towels - City Hall; , Verizon Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - Rubble Site: Share Sweep-Corporation, \$114.72, ing compound oil - City Shop; , Greg's Repair, \$61.58, Valve stem repair and coolant topoff - Police Dept.; , Kellie Locke, \$28.00, Employee mileage reimbursement - Geffdog in Aberdeen; , Reminder: Applications are open for the following summer recreational positions: Baseball Coordinator, Softball Coordinator,

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 Wambach to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3)

at 7:23pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:13pm. Varin reentered the meeting. Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to begin accepting

by Wambach to begin accepting applications for the remaining summer employment positions. All members present voted aye. The available positions are as follows: Public Works Laborer/ Park Caretaker, Cemetery Caretaker, Assistant P/T Swimming Pool Manager, Swimming Pool Lifeguard, Baseball Gatekeeper, Baseball Groundskeeper.

The first reading of Ordinance No. 786 – 2025 Summer Salaries was approved on a motion by Nehls and seconded by Wells. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Nehls to hire Kami Lipp as Swimming Pool Manager, Aaron Severson as Jr. Legion Coach, Sydney Kurtz as U10 Softball Coach, and Kyle Gerlach as Jr. Teener Coach. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to adjourn the meeting at 8:21pm. All members present voted aye. Scott Hanlon, Mayor

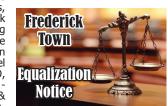
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published March 5, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$58.78 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-



Putney Township equalization will be at Mark Thompson's shop on Monday, March 17, 5 p.m. Prior notification to the clerk is required.

Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$5.86 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25328



Henry Township March 17, 2025 Equalization Notice

Notice is hereby given that

the governing body section will serve as review board of Henry Township Brown County. They will be meeting at 7 p.m., Monday, March 17, 2025, at Doug Abeln's Seed Company Office for the purpose of reviewing and correcting of the assessment set of the tax districts for the year 2025. All persons considering disputing their assessments are requested to notice the clerk of the board in writing no later than March 14, 2025. Hearings are by appointment only.

Darlene Sass Henry Township Clerk

13120 403rd Ave.

Groton, SD 57445 Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$15.45 and may be

viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 25327



Town of Frederick

Equalization Meeting Notice PUBLIC NOTICE TO FREDER-

ICK PROPERTY OWNERS Notice is hereby given that the Frederick Town Board, sitting as the Local Board of Equalization, will meet at the Frederick Community Center for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of property on March 17, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Appeals must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation by 5:00 PM Friday, March 21, at the Frederick Community Center or mail appeals to the Frederick Finance Officer, PO Box 546, Frederick, SD, 57441. Those appealing will be noti-

I hose appealing will be notified of their scheduled time to meet with the board. Contact Finance Officer at 605-329-2242 with any questions.



Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road rightof-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and expenses charged to the landowner. Landowner is responsible for

spraying all noxious weeds. Bates Township Board of

upervisors Betty Geist

Township Clerk Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$11.59 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 25322



INVITATION TO BID NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT The Groton City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota, will open bids for the 2025 resurfacing of City Streets on March 18, 2025, at 7:00pm (local time) at City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, SD. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work on this project in-

cludes the following: Approximately 44,000 square vards of bituminous seal coat.

·Approximately 2,200 square yards of bituminous prime coat. All work areas are located

within the city limits of Groton, SD. The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the follow-

ing locations: City Hall, 120 N Main Street,

Groton, SD 57445 The approximate quantities mentioned above are subject to increase or decrease. Questions or requests for further information should be directed to the City Finance Office, 605-397-8422, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445.

The City reserves the right to refuse any or all bids, to waive any informalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the City of Groton, SD.

February 6, 2025 Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$24.84 and may be viewed free of charge at www.



Notice

Bates Township Equalization Meeting Notice: The Bates Township Board

of Equalization will meet at the Clerk's home on Tuesday, March

Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright

The NFL Combine was last week, but there wasn't a whole lot of Vikings-related news coming out of the annual event. So we'll jump right into the roster breakdown, this week focusing on the wide receiver group.

The Vikings have one of the best WR groups in the NFL, and it all starts with Justin Jefferson. Not only is Jefferson considered the best receiver in the league, but he is also one of the most popular athletes in the sport. He's been setting records every year that he's been in the league, and that didn't change in year five. Jefferson caught 103 passes for 1,533 yards and 10 touchdowns, all the more impressive when you consider that most teams focus solely on stopping number 18. And, thanks to a massive contract he signed in 2024, Jefferson will be in purple and gold for many more years to come.

With most teams double (or even triple) teaming Jefferson, it leaves other players free to take advantage of single coverage. No player benefited from that more than Jordan Addison, who caught 63 passes for 875 yards and nine touchdowns in his sophomore season. Addison, a first-round pick in 2023 and a Fred Biletnikoff Award winner (given to the top receiver in college) would be the number-one option on most teams around the league. He still has two more years on his rookie deal, plus a fifth-year option, meaning he'll be in Minnesota through at least through the 2027 season.

Jalen Nailor was the team's third receiver in 2024 and caught 28 passes for 414 yards and six touchdowns. Nailor is a great WR3, and because the team also has tight end T.J. Hockenson on the team, not much is expected of Nailor. 2025 will be the last year of his rookie deal, so this is an important year for him.

Trent Sherfield Sr. and Brandon Powell rounded out the Vikings' receiving group. Sherfield had eight catches for 83 yards and a touchdown, while Powell caught seven passes for 71 yards. Both of these players are solid teammates who mostly play on special teams. It's likely the team will bring them back for another season on cheap deals. Powell was also the team's top punt returner last season, so if the team has to decide between him and Sherfield, Powell will likely get the nod.

At tight end, the Vikings have T.J. Hockenson, one of the best tight ends in the league. Because of an injury suffered at the end of the 2023 season, Hockenson didn't see the field until November last year. In just 10 games, he caught 41 passes for 455 yards but didn't find the endzone. With a full offseason under his belt, I expect Hockenson to play a bigger role next season.

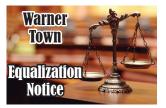
Josh Oliver was signed as the Vikings' blocking tight end, so even though he got more playing time last season because of Hockenson's injury, he only caught 22 passes for 258 yards and three touchdowns. In 2023 he signed a pretty large contract to be a backup tight end, and this will be the final year of his deal. With Hockenson out, and Oliver being a blocking tight end, Johnny Mundt filled in as the team's pass-catching TE. In the seven games that Hockenson was out, Mundt caught 20 passes for 93 yards and a touchdown. In the 10 other games, he only caught seven passes for 49 yards and a touchdown. He is a free agent this offseason, but the team could bring him back as the TE3 if he's cheap enouah.



6 ♦ Groton Independent **♦** Wed., Mar. 5, 2025

Jennifer Morlock

Frederick Finance Officer Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$17.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 25324



PUBLIC NOTICE

The Town of Warner will be having an Equalization meeting on Monday, March 17th, 2025 between the hours of 7PM and 8PM at the Warner Community Center.

A letter of intent to appeal is due to a board member or the Finance Officer no later than Thursday, March 13th, 2025. Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer-P.O. Box 301-Warner, SD 57479

Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$10.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 25323

18th, 2025 at 6:30 pm.

All persons disputing their assessments are requested to notify the clerk prior to the meeting. Betty Geist

Bates Township Clerk 14523 409th Ave Conde, SD 57434 Published March 5 and 12, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$10.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 25321

subscription



Sisseton Outlasts Groton in Overtime Thriller to Advance in **Region 1A Tournament**

GROTON – The second round of the Region 1A girls basketball tournament delivered a game for the ages Thursday night, as Sisseton and Groton battled through four grueling guarters and an overtime period before the Redmen emerged victorious, 52-44.

It was a contest defined by momentum swings, defensive intensity, and clutch performances, with seven lead changes and five ties in the third quarter alone. The Tigers came out strong, jumping to a 7-2 lead before Sisseton settled in. By the end of the first quarter, Groton held a slim 9-8 advantage.

The second guarter saw both teams struggle at times offensively, but Sisseton's more efficient shooting (56% compared to Groton's 27%) helped them gain an 18-17 lead at halftime. The back-and-forth battle continued into the third quarter, with neither team able to maintain control for long. The Tigers clung to a 33-30 lead heading into the final period, but Sisseton remained within striking distance.

The fourth quarter saw both teams dig deep, with defensive pressure ramping up. Groton shot just 15% from the field, but Sisseton also struggled, making only 2 of 7 shots. However, free throws proved to be a major factor, as Sisseton capitalized on Groton's foul trouble, making 7 of 12 attempts from the line.

With Sisseton leading by one with just 6.9 seconds left in regulation, Groton's Rylee Dunker had ice in her veins, hitting one of two free throws to send the game into overtime.

Once the extra period began, Sisseton quickly seized control. Elliott Hortness buried a clutch three-pointer, followed by a Krista Langager basket, giving the Redmen a lead they would never relinquish. Groton struggled offensively in overtime, making just one of six shots, while Sisseton shot 50% from the field and continued to find success at the free-throw line to seal the victory.

Krista Langager led all scorers with 20 points for Sisseton, while Ruby Rice added 11 points, including nine crucial free throws. Saylor Langager also contributed 11 points, helping push the Redmen to the win.

For Groton, Kennedy Hansen led the way with 12 points before fouling out with 38 seconds left in regulation. Taryn Traphagen had a strong all-around game with 10 points and seven rebounds. Chesney Weber came off the bench to provide eight points, while Dunker finished with six points and five rebounds.

Defensively, Groton was relentless, recording 18 steals—six of them from Jerica Locke, who fouled out with 2:07 left in the fourth quarter. However, the Tigers' aggressive style led to 27 team fouls, which Sisseton capitalized on by converting 21 of 33 free throws.

With the win, Sisseton (15-7) punches its ticket to the SoDak 16, while Groton (15-7) sees its season come to a heartbreaking end. Despite the loss, the Tigers showcased resilience, defensive tenacity, and a never-quit attitude that defined their season.

Groton Area

Jerica Locke: 3 points, 2 rebounds, 3 assists, 6 steals, 5 fouls.

Jaedyn Penning: 3 points, 4 rebounds, 2 steals, 4 fouls.

Kennedy. Hansen: 12 points, 1 rebound, 1 assist, 2 steals, 5 fouls. Brooklyn Hansen: 1 assist.

Rylee Dunker: 6 points, 5 rebounds, 2 steals, 3 fouls.

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

Laila Roberts: 3 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 3 fouls, 1 block.

Taryn Traphagen: 10 points, 7 rebounds, 2 assists, 2 steals, 2 fouls.

Chesney Weber: 8 points, 4 rebounds, 1 assist, 1 steal, 3 foulws.

2-Pointers: 11-30 37%, 3-Pointers: 4-22 18%, Free throws: 10-15 67%, 29 rebounds, 21 turnovers, 10 assists, 18 steals, 27 fouls, 1 block.

Sisseton: Krista Langager 20, Saylor Langager 11, Ruby Rice 11, Elliot Hortness 5, Piper Langager 2, Tara Nelson 2, Fallon Hawkins 1. Field Goals: 15-38 39%, Free Throws: 21-33 64%, 17 fouls, 22 turnovers.

Record: Groton area 15-7. Sisseton: 15-7.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bary Keith of Harr Motors, Bierman Farm service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Farmers Union Coop of Ferney and Conde, Greg Johnson Construction of Bristol, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Dairy Queen, Groton Ford, Hanlon Brothers, John Sieh Agency, Ken's Food Fair, Lori's Pharmacy, Olive Grove Golf Course, Rix Farms/R&M Farms, S & S Lumber, Spanier Harvesting, Sun & Sea Travel, The MeatHouse of Andover and the Weismantel Agency of Columbia. Shane Clark provided the play-by-play, Jeslyn Kosel ran the camera Paper Paul kept the stats and did the technology.

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #15 Results

Team Standings: Jackelopes 3, Cheetahs 3, Coyotes 3, Shihtzus 1, Chipmunks 1, Foxes 1

Men's High Games: Brad Larson 217, Lance Frohling 203, Tony

SDCUC Seeks Farmers	
for Open District	



The South Dakota Corn Utilization Council (SDCUC) is a visionary and influential producer leadership organization in the state. The 9-member Board manages and invests South Dakota's 1-cent per bushel corn checkoff.

The SDCUC is announcing a Director position open in District 5. A SDCUC Director's position consists of a threeyear term ending on February 29, 2028.

If you are a corn farmer from District 5 and are interested in seeking a Board seat, you must obtain a nominating petition with the SDCUC office. All nominating petitions must contain at least 15 "participating" corn producer signatures who reside in your district. (A "participating" corn producer produced corn in the state during the current or preceding marketing year.) Both a "participating grower" and eligible candidates who wish to seek a Director's position cannot have requested a checkoff refund since January 2024. Nominating petitions must be returned to the SDCUC office by 5pm on April 7, 2025.

To request a nomination petition please contact the SDCUC office in person at 4712 S. Technopolis Dr., Sioux Falls, SD 57106 or by calling 605.334.0100.

If more than one nominating petition is received by the SDCUC office for any district, an election will be conducted for that district. The election will be held April 25, 2025 by absentee voting.

The counties assigned to District 5 are noted below: District 5: Brown, Campbell, Corson, Harding, McPherson, Perkins, Walworth

King Crossword

ACROSS	1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11		
1 Rug cleaner,	12				13				-	14					
briefly					13										
4 500 sheets 8 Nursery cry	15			16						17					
12 — -de-France			18				19	-	20			-			
13 "Prometheus"									<u> </u>						
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15 Pottery	32			33		34		35		36					
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Waage 199 Women's High Games: Vicki Walter 181, Darci Spanier & Sue Stanley 170, Hayley Johnson 163, 161 Men's High Series: Tony Waage 545, Lance Frohling 533, Butch Farmen 528 Women's High Series: Vicki Walter 482, Hayley Johnson 457, Darci Spanier 449 Week 15 Fun Game – Low Series – Foxes with 1617!

Thank you for subscribing!



Groton Independent \diamond Wed., Mar. 5, 2025 \diamond 7

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

CARD OF THANKS

Thank you to each of you who reached out with your good wishes and memories shared for my 90th Birthday! We had a wonderful day of fun, visiting and making more memories. Thank you for being a special part of my day. MaryAnn Wehde

EMPLOYMENT

CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT in Custer, SD, has teaching vacancies: Special Education, 8-12 Art, K-8 Music, Agricultural Science. Apply online csd.k12.sd.us. Salary DOE. Until filled. 605-673-3154.

FOR SALE

THREE BEDROOM HOME: Wishek, ND. Recently remodeled. \$95,000. Could be furnished. Appliances, Andersen windows, metal roof, attached oversize single garage, 30 x 40 shop available \$80,000. Call 701-325-0710.

LAND

IN SEARCH OF PASTURE for 50-300 Pairs. 5th Generation, SD, ranchers looking to expand. Long term lease preferred but would consider short term. Call (605)690-1997

MISCELLANEOUS

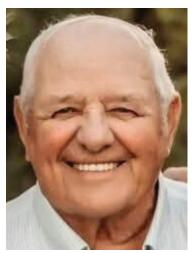
FOR MY RESEARCH on place attachment, I'm surveying South Dakotans to explore the most influential factors in staying or leaving. Please consider taking/sharing at americanrootsmigration.com

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.

WANTED

WANTED: TRACTORS. Select farm machinery. John Deere tractor parts. Vintage farm primitives. Guaranteed funds . No hassle. We do all the work from start to finish. 605-464-4683



The Life of Jerry Bonn

A lifelong farmer, devoted family man, and cherished pillar of the Conde community, Jerry Bonn passed away peacefully on February 26, 2025, at the age of 84.

Services were held Monday, March 3, 2025, at United Methodist Church in Groton, with Rev. Rob Moorlach officiating. Burial followed at Bates-Scotland Cemetery, rural Verdon, under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. The service was live-streamed at GDILIVE.com.

Born on June 12, 1940, in Webster, South Dakota, to Joseph and Nina (Mereness) Bonn, Jerry grew up in Groton, where his passion for farming took root. He spent decades tending the land, earning a reputation as a skilled dairy farmer whose dedication to his craft was matched only by his love for his family. On September 7, 1961, Jerry married Beverly Morehouse in Webster, and together they raised five children on the family farm—a home filled with love, laughter, and the rewards of hard work.

Jerry's life was rich with simple joys. An avid hunter and fisherman, he eagerly hosted family and friends for pheasant season's opening day and cherished fishing trips brimming with camaraderie, good food, and shared stories. His farm shop became a beloved gathering spot, where the aroma of fresh coffee mingled with the warmth of conversation among hunters, neighbors, and loved ones. Each morning, Jerry was a familiar face at Marlins, joining friends for coffee, breakfast, and storytelling—an enduring ritual of connection and laughter.

Known for his playful spirit, quick wit, and welcoming smile, Jerry left an indelible mark on all who knew him. His grandchildren and great-grandchildren brought out his lighthearted side, filling his later years with immense joy. A masterful card player, he excelled at Pinochle, Whist, and Euchre, often delighting in friendly competition.

Jerry's commitment extended beyond his family to his community. He served over 50 years on the Scotland Township Board, a testament to his loyalty and sense of duty. After the passing of his beloved wife, Beverly, on February 7, 2013—following 52 years of marriage—Jerry gradually entrusted the farm to his son, Greg, while finding companionship in his later years with Helen Munger.

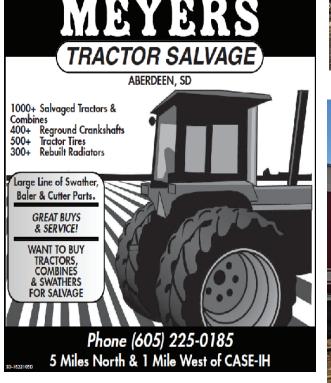
Jerry is survived by his children: Jeffrey (Gail) Bonn of Mobridge, SD, and their children, Brett (Abbie) Johnson and their children, Dylin and Max, Jared, and Allie; Patty (Rick) Mattox of Bel Air, MD, and their children, Ryan (Christel), Brent (Lia) and daughter, Isla, Kyle, and Cody; Penny (Michael) Polasky of Brandon, SD, and their children, Kara, Kirstyn(Austin) Ryan, and Kenzie; Greg (Stacey) Bonn of Conde, SD, and their children, Skyler (Tyler) Wadman and son, Emmett, Paityn (Braiden) Craig, and Paxton (Taylor); and Clint (Chris) Bonn of Madison, MN, and their children, Austin, Addyson, Aidyn, and Aaron. He also leaves behind his brother, Ronnie Bonn, and sisters, Audrey Christenson, JoAnn Haar, Joyce Smith, and MaryJo Geffre. He was preceded in death by his parents, Joseph and Nina; his wife, Beverly; his brothers, Donnie, Richard, Eugene, and Marvin; and his sisters, Blanche, Marlys, Carol, Lois, and Margery.

Jerry Bonn's legacy—of love, laughter, and an unwavering work ethic—will live on in the hearts of his family, friends, and the community he so dearly cherished.

Structure Fire in Columbia

Five fire departments battled a structure fire in Columbia Saturday afternoon. A multi building shop structure was reported on fire around 1:30 p.m. Crews from Columbia, Aberdeen Rural, Aberdeen City, Groton, and Claremont were on scene for much of the afternoon. Strong winds worked against fire fighting efforts. 1 minor injury was reported. The Brown County Emergency Management Office and Brown County Sheriff's office also responded.

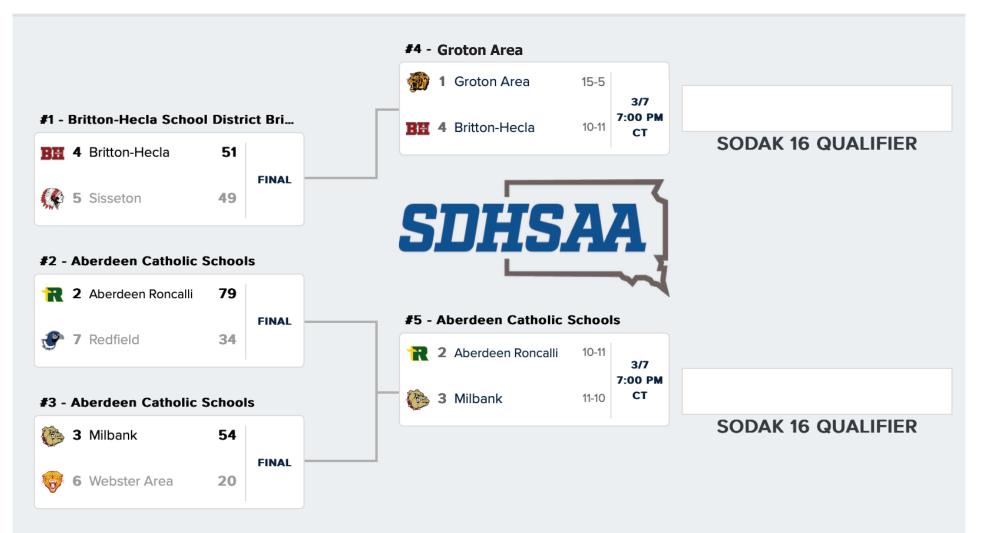




(Photo from Brown County Emergency Management Facebook Page)



(Photo from Frederick Area Fire & Rescue Facebook Page)



Seed Points Averages (calculated Mar. 1)

#1 Groton Area 43.950 - #2 Aberdeen Roncalli 40.650 - #3 Milbank 40.150 - #4 Britton-Hecla 39.600 - #5 Sisseton 38.350 - #6 Webster Area 37.850 - #7 Redfield 35.300



Dacotah Bank Farmers Union Coop of Ferney and Cond Greg Johnson Construction of Bristol Groton Ag Partners Groton Chamber Groton Dairy Queen Groton Ford Hanlon Brothers John Sieh Agency Ken's Food Fair Lori's Pharmacy Olive Grove Golf Course Rix Farms/R&M Farms S & S Lumber Spanier Harvesting The MeatHouse of Andover Weismantel Agency of Columbia

Free Viewing on www.youtube.com/@GDILIVE

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.



Groton Independent \diamond Wed., Mar. 5, 2025 \diamond 9

Dear EarthTalk: How do environmentalists feel about RFK Jr.'s oversight of health in the next Trump administration, given his background as an environmental activist lawyer?



When Time named Robert F. Kennedy Jr. one of its early 2000s "Heroes for the Planet," the outspoken lawyer was a clear choice for the honor, having gained fame during his fight to protect New York City's water supply. He advocated for "the environment [as] the most important, the most fundamental, civil-rights issue," according to a 2004 interview. Many of Kennedy's views can be summarized in the June 18, 2007 issue of Rolling Stone in which he demanded investment into renewable energy sources, blamed America for its "reckless consumption of oil and coal," and emphasized the need to slow global warming.

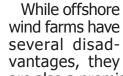
Almost twenty years later, as RFK Jr. takes the reins as America's top health official, the same magazine has quoted former friends, colleagues, and family members calling the former 'hero' a "conspiracist" with "dangerous views." The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), a leading environmental non-profit, used the term "one-man misinformation superspreader" to describe its former Senior Attorney, a statement corroborated by former allies who have stated that Kennedy is not an environmentalist, but a "science denier" and a "conspiracy theorist."

Even before his endorsement of President Trump, who has famously called climate change a 'hoax', environmentalists had begun to turn against Kennedy. Liz Barratt-Brown, a senior adviser for NRDC and Kennedy's former coworker, told the New York Times that he had begun drifting away from the environmental movement in the early 2000s when he started spreading unproven theories regarding vaccinations, such as linking vaccines to autism without evidence.

Around the same time that RFK Jr. became invested in the anti-vaccine movement, he opposed the construction of the Cape Wind Project, an offshore wind farm in Nantucket Sound that would have provided roughly 75 percent of the electricity used by Cape Cod, Nantucket, and Martha's Vineyard. Kennedy's position began as an instance of NIMBYism, or the "not in my backyard" mentality, as he owned a home nearby



and had cited unsightly aesthetics as a partial reason for his dissent, and has grown in recent years to staunchly oppose all offshore wind.





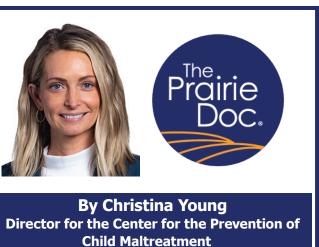
Most environmentalists consider RFK Jr. a former ally and current foe given his flop on environmental issues in recent years. Credit: Gage Skidmore, FlickrCC.

are also a promising source of clean energy; thus, Kennedy's opposition sparked disdain from climate activists like Bill McKibben who claim "he could have used his name and platform" to promote renewable energy. Furthermore, many of Kennedy's reasons for opposition have been proven repeatedly to be rumors. For example, in January 2023, Kennedy adamantly promoted the idea that offshore wind is killing whales despite the claim having been proven unfounded by a variety of organizations including by the Federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management.

Once a "hero for the planet," many environmentalists now echo Dan Reicher, a former peer and colleague of RFK Jr. and a Stanford University senior energy researcher: "Stay very far away from today's RFK Jr. if you're interested in environmental protection." RFK Jr. has told the Washington Post that he believes he can help sway President Trump's environmental policies. Environmentalists are "deeply skeptical," as less than one month into office Trump has withdrawn the U.S. from the Paris Climate Accords and dismantled a series of environmental policies and funding. It remains to be seen whether the Secretary of Health is successful in turning the tides of the environmental movement back in his favor.

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.

When businesses support working parents, they're not just boosting their bottom line – they're helping prevent child abuse and neglect. In South Dakota, 72.5% of all children under age six have all available parents in the workforce, making family-friendly workplace policies crucial for our state's families.



Research shows that workplace policies like flexible scheduling, paid family leave, and childcare assistance significantly reduce major risk factors for child maltreatment by decreasing parental stress and providing essential economic stability. When parents have the flexibility to attend school events, care for sick children, or work from home when appropriate, it strengthens family bonds and creates more nurturing environments. Access to quality childcare and living wages helps ensure families can meet basic needs without the overwhelming stress that can lead to crisis. Prevention is far better – and far less costly – than intervention after abuse occurs. Studies show that every dollar invested in prevention can save up to seven dollars in future costs related to child welfare services, healthcare, and criminal justice. By creating supportive work environments, businesses play a crucial role in building the safe, stable, nurturing relationships children need to thrive. These investments in families today help develop healthier communities and a stronger workforce for tomorrow. The Center for the Prevention of Child Maltreatment's "Businesses for Babies" campaign highlights South Dakota companies that have adopted family-friendly policies. By showcasing businesses that prioritize family well-being through flexible schedules, parental leave, and childcare support, the campaign aims to inspire more companies to implement similar policies. Together, we can create a business culture that strengthens families and protects our most vulnerable citizens – our children. Christina Young has been an influential figure in the child welfare field for over a decade, dedicating her career to the well-being of children and families. She directed an in-home family services program covering 30 western counties in Iowa, demonstrating her commitment to community-based support. Christina has a bachelor's degree in psychology and a master's in human services administration. Fol-low 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 or streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB), providing health information based on science, built on trust.

"Businesses for Babies"

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