



\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 142 No. 28 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, April 2, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889



Snowballs of different kinds

The heavy snow that fell on Tuesday gave the kids at the Groton Area Elementary School something to play with. The snow was rolled into balls that contained grass, dirt and wood chips.



Meanwhile further east in the Roslyn area, a Groton man lost control on the icy road and his vehicle went into the water. This was along 129th St near 440th Ave just off of Highway 25 North of Roslyn. He escaped without injury. (Photo from the Day County Sheriff's Office Facebook Page)

Groton Robotics Teams Heading to Council Bluffs & Dallas for an Exciting End of Season!

With the State Robotics championship now completed, the Groton Robotics program is typically cleaning and getting ready for the 25'-26' season ahead. Not this year!

Team Galaxy, 9050 E: Axel Warrington & Corbin Weismantel, Co-Lead; Illyanna Dallaire & Ayce Warrington are heading to the U.S Open Robotics Tournament held this weekend in Council Bluffs, Iowa. This tournament, typically reserved for our graduating seniors as a congratulations for their Robotics career at Groton, is an open event where Robotics teams from around the world bring their robots, with modifications allowed of parts outside of standard VEX parts, to compete. Teams from around the world will be in attendance and with our 2 seniors leaving, Groton Robotics wishes Good Luck to Axel & Corbin.

The senior team members of 9050F – Gladiators: Garrett Schultz, Lead; Jameson Penning & Haden Harder have received a formal invitation to attend the 2025 VEX Robotics World Championships. This invitation came as a very much surprise to the Gladiators! The only way to receive this is to win the SD State Championship, in which they came in runner-up with Mitchell. However, after the tournament it was determined that one of the winning teams qualified in 2 categories. Mitchell was next in line – but declined. After Team Lead Garrett Schultz started receiving messages from fellow robotics students around the state stating "Don't tear down your robot yet", they received the call and accepted the invitation.

The VEX World Championships will be held on May 6th-8th in Dallas, Texas. 75 countries will be participating and competitions will be held amongst 800 teams. We believe the last time a Groton Robotics team participated in Worlds was over 10 years ago.

We are humbled by these opportunities and sincerely appreciate the Groton Community for all its support in making these opportunities a reality for our students.

Groton council awards garbage hauling contract, discusses wastewater project

By Elizabeth Varin

The Groton City Council awarded a three-year garbage hauling contract and reviewed funding for its upcoming wastewater project, both decisions that will bring an increase to residents' utility bills in the months ahead.

The city received two bids for a three-year garbage hauling contract, one from current contractor Heartland Waste and the other from A-1 Sanitation.

The A-1 Sanitation bid was \$8,094 per month to pick up one time per week for residences. Residents would have one 95-gallon container. It would equate to \$13.49 per residence per month for about 600 residences.

Heartland Waste Management's bid totaled \$19.44 per residence per month, though president/owner Kent Mauck said the two bids were not "comparing apples to apples."

Heartland has done things a little different in the last few years to help preserve city streets, he said. During times when the road bases are softer due to frost thawing,

Heartland has crews bring lighter trucks that require more manpower, but do less damage to the streets. It's a big difference from what the other companies provide.

"They would choke at the way we do it, bringing in multiple people and a pickup and cleaning up the community," he said.

Heartland Waste's bid comes with a price increase from about \$16 to more than \$19 per residence per month. With that rate increase, the city would have to raise its rate on the utility bill.

Council members said they appreciated Heartland not driving heavy trucks on city streets during spring thaw periods. They also mentioned residents didn't seem like they want to change.

"It ain't broke...," Councilman Brian Bahr said. "...I still think Heartland is the way to go, even though it's a little more money."

Bahr added he likes that Heartland even picks up garbage bags or items left next to trash cans, while A-1 Sanitation's bid only includes one can per residence. The council awarded the bid to Heartland for a three-year term.

In addition, the council examined funding for the city's upcoming wastewater project.

Ted Dickey with Northeast Council of Governments told the council about a recent South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources meeting where staff reviewed water project funding applications, including one from Groton to help with emergency discharges, infiltration and permit violations.

The proposed project includes replacing a lift station, increasing the force main size and creating a new wastewater collection cell. The cost totals \$6.587 million.

The state department funding recommendation included a \$4.587 million loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund at 3.75 percent for 30 years and an up to \$2 million grant.

To receive that loan and grant, though, the city will need to increase rates by either \$30.30 or \$35.30 depending on the city's rate structure, Dickey said.

Continues on Page 3

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Third Quarter Groton Area Honor Roll

Seniors

4.0 GPA: Axel Warrington, Payton Mitchell, Gretchen Dinger, Elizabeth Fliehs, Emma Kutter, Faith Traphagen, Turner Thompson, Brooklyn Hansen, Kennedy Hansen, Kayla Lehr, Blake Pauli, Logan Pearson, Laila Roberts

3.99-3.50: Korbin Kucker, Diego Eduardo Nava Remigio, Kaden Kampa, Jeslyn Kosel, Brevin Fliehs, Carter Simon, Abby Yeadon, Ashley Johnson, Ashlyn Feser, Rebecca Poor, Drew Thurston

3.49-3.00: Emma Bahr, Emily Overacker, Aiden Heathcote, Easten Ekern, Blake Dennert, Christian Ehresmann, Teylor Diegel, Kellen Antonsen, Corbin Weismantel

Juniors

4.0 GPA: Nathan Unzen, Jerica Locke, Jaedyn Penning, Natalia Warrington, Carly Gilbert, Talli Wright, Karsten Fliehs, Mia Crank, Ryder Johnson, Rylee Dunker, Gage Sippel, Keegen Tracy, Raelee Lilly

3.99-3.50: Becker Bosma, Karter Moody, De Eh Tha Say, Lincoln Krause, Jayden Schwan, London Bahr, Hannah Sandness, Drake Peterson, Garrett Schultz, Olivia Stiegelmeier, Cali Tollifson, Paisley Mitchell, Benjamin Hoeft, Gentry Pigors

3.49-3.00: Aiden Meyers, Lucas Carda, Logan Warrington, Emma Davies, Cambria Bonn

Sophomores

4.0 GPA: Liby Althoff, Kira Clocksene, Teagan Hanten, Carlee Johnson, Brody Lord, Ashlynn Warrington, Colt Williamson

3.99-3.50: Halee Harder, Emerlee Jones, Taryn Traphagen, Kella Tracy, Brenna Imrie, Gavin Kroll, McKenna Tietz, Jackson Hopfinger, Claire Schelke, Zander Harry, Dylan Alexander Lopez Marin, Logan Clocksene, Walker Zoellner, Avery Crank, Aiden Strom, Addison Hoffman Wipf, Blake Lord

3.49-3.00: Leah Jones, Hailey Pauli, Hayden Zoellner

Freshmen

4.0 GPA: Elizabeth Cole, Makenna Krause, Sydney Locke, Thomas Schuster, Chesney Weber

3.99-3.50: Jace Johnson, Mya Feser, Ethan Kroll, Easton Weber, Rylie Rose, Taryn Thompason, Rylen Ekern, Kyleigh Kroll, Ryder Schelle, Layne Johnson, Addison Hoeft,

3.49-3.00: Brayden Barrera, John Bisbee, Brysen Sandness, Gracie Pearson, Karson Zak, Wyatt Wambach, Alex Abeln, Thomas Aalseth, Braeden Fliehs, Aimee Heilman

Eighth Graders

4.0 GPA: Wesley Borg, Abby Fjeldheim, Zachary Fliehs, Tevan Hanson, Asher Johnson, Brooklyn Spanier, Novalea Warrington

3.99-3.50: Neely Althoff, Kolton Antonsen, Jordan Schwan, Aspen Beto, Lincoln Shilhanek, Madison Herrick, Logan Olson, Sydney Holmes, Connor Kroll, Aurora Washenberger, Arianna Dinger

3.49-3.00: Adeline Kotzer, Jose Fernando Nava Remigio, Samuel Crank, Wesley Morehouse, Kaedynce Bonn, Tenley Frost, Kyrie Yeigh, Raquel Tracy, May Dallaire

Seventh Graders

4.0 GPA: Axel Abeln, Hudson Eichler, Amelia Ewalt, Sophia Fliehs, Gavin Hanten, Liam Johnson, Liam Lord, Asher Zimmerman

3.99-3.50: Andi Gauer, Jameson Penning, Ryder Schwan, Trayce Schelle, Trey Tietz, Illyanna Dallaire, Elias Heilman, Kinzleigh Furman

3.49-3.00: Jace Hofer, Keegan Kucker, Major Dolan, Gavin Younger, Haden Harder, Kyson Kucker, Rowan Patterson, Nolan Bahr

Sixth Graders

4.0 GPA: Gracie Borg, Lillian Davis, Brynlee Dunker, Libby Johnson

3.99-3.50: Amara El Salahy, Victoria Schuster, Easton Larson, Mason Locke, Kinley Sandness, Rylee Stoltenburg, Ayce Warrington, Taylynn Traphagen, Ambrielle Feist, Charli Jacobsen, Knox Mulder, Bella Barrera, Maycee Moody, Zoe Olson, Kendyll Kroll, Addison Steffes, Hank Hill, Rylee Hofer, Andi Iverson, Drew Fjeldheim, Brinley Guthmiller, Hadley Heilman, Mya Moody, Ivan Schwan

3.49-3.00: Parker Zoellner, Keith Furman, Gradyn Rowen, Colton Morehouse, Charles Telkamp, Jaela Fliehs, Quinton Flores, Hallie Perkins, Graham Rose

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #18

Team Standings: Cheetahs 14, Chipmunks 13, Jackelopes 10, Coyotes 10, Shihtzus 9, Foxes 4

Men’s High Games: John Sippel 204, Butch Farmen 193, Brad Waage 190

Women’s High Games: Michelle Johnson 182, Hayley Johnson 173, Emily Sternhagen 170

Men’s High Series: Butch Farmen 543, John Sippel 531, Brad Larson 500

Women’s High Series: Hayley Johnson 453, Nancy Radke 444, Sue Stanley 534

Queen of Hearts goes out!

The Queen of Hearts went out Thursday night. Greg Bonn’s name was drawn and he picked card number 9. Behind the card was the Queen of Hearts. He won \$10,704. The Olive Grove Golf Course and The Groton American Legion will each get \$5,352. Ticket sales were \$1,555. This was the 23rd week. That will conclude the Queen of Hearts.

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3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
4th consecutive week is free

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BIDS

THE ENEMY SWIM DAY SCHOOL is seeking qualified contractors to upgrade and refurbish the school Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system for the Enemy Swim Day School located at 13525 446th Avenue, Wau-bay, SD 57273. NOTICE TO RESPONDERS: Pro- posals will be received until Wednesday, April 30, 2025 at 4:00 pm CT. The RFP documents may be obtained by e-mail request submitted to Dr. Nadine Eastman, Supt., neastman@esds. us or on the school website at esds.us under the employment page. The Owner’s Budget is \$1.1 million

EMPLOYMENT

FINANCE OFFICER immediate opening, City of Plankinton, EOE. Attractive benefits, state retirement, competitive salary with experience in accounting, billing, payroll, grants, public af- fairs. Apply 605-942-7767.

CUSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT is seeking a highly qualified/experienced Director of Special Education. Apply online www.csd.k12.sd.us 527 Montgomery Street, Custer, SD, 57730, 605- 673-3154. Open until filled.

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

LIVESTOCK

SELLING 108 PAIRS - 58 F1 & 50 Black. Black Angus Calves at side. Tuesday, April 15, 2025, at noon, at Philip (SD) Livestock. Herber Ranch 605-488-0079 or 605-488-0360

MISCELLANEOUS

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection due to use of a Bair Hugger (Blue Blanket), between 2020 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call attorney Charles H. Johnson 800/535-5727

NOTICES

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WANTED TO BUY

Wanted: old machinery, junk cars, com- bines, tin, wire, steal bins, blue tubes, battery, appliances. Will haul and clean up with a skid steer. Also mobile homes block and level. 605-770-9211. Tracy Farms (0402.0423pd)



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Weekly Vikings Roundup
By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings underwent a signifi- cant change on the defensive side of the ball last offseason, and no move was bigger than the team letting Danielle Hunter walk in free agency. Hunter spent his first eight seasons in Minnesota, accumulating 87.5 sacks and making the Pro Bowl four times (which is es- pecially impressive considering he only started one game in his first two seasons). Hunter, unfortunately, was more of a 4-3 defensive end, and when the Vikings switched to a 3-4 defense, they had to find players who better fit the scheme. And so, in an effort to replace Hunter, the Vikings signed two lesser-known players in free agency last year, Jonathan

City Council
Continued from front

“You’re not going to need to have the money immediately, but at some point or another, a year down the line, you’re going to have to be at that rate,” he said. “In order to close the loan, we’re going to need to have your rates up and set aside.”

The next steps would be to sign a contract with an engineer to draw up designs, Dickey said. However, if the council’s not ready to do that yet, a decision can be pushed back a month without hurting the funding.

The council asked representatives from IMEG and the Northeast Council of Govern- ments to attend the May 6 council meeting, which may be moved to the Community Center to allow for more people to attend.

- The council approved hiring more sea- sonal summer staff.
 - o Ashlynn Warrington was hired as a lifeguard with one year of experience.
 - o Emma Kutter was hired as a lifeguard with three years of experience.
 - o Jerica Locke was hired as a lifeguard with two years of experience.
 - o Sydney Locke was hired as a lifeguard with no previous experience listed.
 - o Laila Roberts was hired as a lifeguard with two years of experience.
 - o Addison Hoffman was hired as a life- guard with one year of experience.
 - o Faith Traphagen was hired as a life- guard with three years of experience.
 - o Talli Wright was hired as a lifeguard with two years of experience.
 - o Emerlee Jones was hired as a lifeguard with one year of experience.
 - o Avery Crank was hired as a lifeguard with one year of experience.
 - o Libby Cole was hired as a lifeguard with no previous experience listed.
 - o Brevin Fliehs was hired as a grounds- keeper with no previous experience listed.
 - o Tevan Hanson was hired as a gate- keeper with no previous experience listed.
 - o Axel Abeln was hired as a gatekeeper (with a start date after June 10) with no previ- ous years of experience listed.
 - o Previous hire Gracie Pearson, originally hired as a lifeguard, accepted a position else- where.
- The city clarified one summer recre- ation position hire. Kami Lipp, originally hired as swimming pool manager, is co-manager of the pool, along with Tricia Keith.
- City offices will be closed April 18 and 21 for Good Friday and Easter Monday.
- The council renewed three malt bev- erage licenses for 2025-2026, including ones for MJ’s Sinclair, Ken’s Food Fair and Dollar General.
- The council approved a special event alcoholic beverage license for the April 12 Fire- man’s Fun Night at 305 East Railroad Avenue.
- After receiving no sealed bids for exte- rior painting of City Hall, the council decided to hold off on the project to save funds.

Greenard and Andrew Van Ginkel.

Jonathan Greenard was a third-round pick by the Houston Texans and played there for four seasons before coming to Minnesota. In his first year with the Vikings, Greenard racked up 12 sacks and made his first Pro Bowl. He was the 2024 week three defensive player of the week in the NFC and the defensive player of the month in November last year. He will be 28 when the season starts and should be a main piece of the Vikings’ defense next season.

Andrew Van Ginkel was an under-the-radar acquisition last offseason when he signed with the Vikings. He was a fifth-round pick by the Miami Dolphins in 2019 and spent his first five seasons in the league there. He was coming off the best season of his career with six sacks in 2023. In 2024 with the Vikings, AVG had 11.5 sacks and made his first Pro Bowl. He was also named the Week 16 NFC Defensive Player of the Week.

Dallas Turner was a first-round pick last year, but he didn’t see the field as much as most people anticipated. However, that’s not his fault, since the Vikings had Greenard and AVG playing at Pro Bowl levels. Tuner played in 16 games last season but didn’t start any of them. However, he started seeing the field more as the season progressed, and that should carry over into 2024.

Besides Greenard, Avg, and Turner, the Vi- kings had Patrick Jones Jr., Gabriel Murphy, Bo Richter, and Jihad Ward get some playing time at outside linebacker last year. Patrick Jones Jr. was the most impressive of the group, and he turned a productive 2024 into a new contract with the Carolina Panthers this offseason. Gabriel Murphy and Bo Richter are still on the roster, while Jihad Ward is a free agent and waiting to sign with a new team soon.

At inside linebacker, the Vikings’ 2024 start- ers were Blake Cashman and Ivan Pace Jr., and both will be back for the 2025 season. However, both players have injury concerns (Cashman started 14 games last season while Pace only started 10). To add some depth to the iLB position, the Vikings brought back a familiar face this offseason when they signed Eric Wilson. Also on the roster is Brian Asa- moah, who will battle it out with Wilson for the primary backup this upcoming season. While Cashman and Pace are good players when they are on the field, I wouldn’t be surprised to see the Vikings bring in more depth, either through free agency or the draft.

Weekly SUDOKU

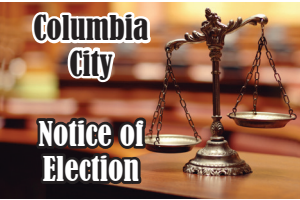
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DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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NOTICE OF MUNICIPAL ELECTION
MUNICIPALITY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH DAKOTA

A Municipal Election will be held on the 8th day of April, 2025, in Columbia, South Dakota. If the polls cannot be opened because of bad weather, the election may be postponed one week.

The election polls will be open from seven a.m. to seven p.m. central daylight time on the day of the election.

At the election the following office will be filled:

MAYOR – TWO YEAR TERM
Corey Mitchell
Dana Mohr

The polling place of this municipality is as follows:

Columbia American Legion – Columbia, SD

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the municipal finance officer at 605-396-2655 before the election for information on polling place accessibility for people with disabilities.

Cara Dennert
Finance Officer

The City of Columbia is an equal opportunity provider.

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MARCH 25, 2025 – GENERAL MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Chairman Sutton informed the Commission there was a lease agreement to add to the consent calendar, then asked for approval of the amended agenda. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to approve the amended agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

BID – WOOD WASTE GRINDING: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider bids for 2025 Wood Waste Grinding for the Brown County Landfill. One bid was received from Dakota Wood Grinding at \$800.00/hour and \$2,700.00 Mobilization (Mob). Mike Scott, Landfill Manager recommended accepting this bid. Moved by Dinger, seconded by Gage to award the Wood Waste Grinding Bid to Dakota Wood Grinding at \$800.00/hour and \$2,700.00 for Mob. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – WASTE TIRE REMOVAL: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider bids for 2025 Brown County Waste Tire Cleanup at the Landfill. Two bids were received: Saber Shred in the amount of \$214.00/ton and Liberty Tire in the amount of \$214.50/ton. Mike Scott, Landfill Manager recommended accepting the bid from Saber Shred. Moved by Dennert, seconded by Wiese to award the Waste Tire Removal bid to Saber Shred in the amount of \$214.00/ton. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

WAIVE FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL SPRING CLEAN-UP: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager asked the Commission to waive the Tipping Fees at the Brown County Landfill during the Residential Spring Clean-up from April 25 to May 10, 2025; 4 Tire Car or Pickup Limit. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve waiving the Tipping Fees during the Spring Residential Clean-up from April 25 – May 10, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PICKUP PURCHASES FOR LANDFILL: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager presented the Com-

mission with two pickups that he wants to purchase from Pierson Ford, which are willing to match the State Bid for the Landfill. One is a One-Ton Pickup/F350 for \$68,671.00 to replace pickup with 233,000 miles; second one is for a Half-Ton Pickup/F150 for \$48,536.00 to replace the pickup with 165,000 miles on it. One will be going from a gas to a diesel because of the efficiency and number of miles that are put on the vehicle. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve purchasing the One-Ton F350 Pickup for \$68,671.00 and Half-Ton F150 Pickup for \$48,536.00 from Pierson Ford. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager informed the Commission that he has a Grant Hearing on Thursday, March 27th for Landfill Compactor and Cell Construction. Mike shared that he will be at calling in from Helms Office if any Commissioners want to join them, the hearing is being held in Pierre. Mike enlightened the Commission, that the Compactor is going to be around \$1 Million, so hoping there will be some grant funds available to purchase it. The last compactor was purchased in 2019, and they are pushing 10,000-hour mark on that one, which at that time cost \$678,949.00. There are two vendors, compactor dealers: Cat & Bomag (TranSource). Mike stated he will be back in after the hearing, probably within two-weeks so they can get something purchased, lead time is currently 3 to 6 months.

BID- CHEMICALS FOR WEED & PEST: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider bids for furnishing of chemical for the Brown County Weed & Pest Board for 2025. Bids were received from Van Diest, Supply Company, Nutrien and Adapco plus State Bid. Chris Hemen, Weed & Pest Supervisor asked to postpone the decision, so he had time to review all the prices on the different chemicals. Chris had not returned by the end of the meeting with a recommendation, so decision was postponed until next week.

SURPLUS PROPERTY: Chris Hemen, Weed & Pest Supervisor requested to surplus 3 data loggers and 6 flow meters and dispose of them at the Landfill. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to declare the 3 data loggers and 6 flow meters as surplus and be disposed of at the Landfill. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2025-15 – LIEN SETTLEMENT

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution

RESOLUTION #2025-15

RELEASE OF PROPERTY-LIEN SETTLEMENT

WHEREAS, Brown County has filed a Poor Relief Lien in the total amount of \$7,042.38, and

WHEREAS, Brown County has determined it to be in the best interest of the taxpayers to release certain property from the effect of said lien, on condition that \$7,042.38 is paid per contract with Welfare Office, and

WHEREAS, Brown County will write-off the County Appointed Attorney lien in the amount of \$1,012.00 from said property

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following property in Brown County, SD which is described as follows:

.....E 63' LT 12 BK 20 1st ADD and W 79' LT 12 BK 20 1st ADD, Brown County, SD (315-317 2nd Ave. SW, Aberdeen)

will hereby released from the effect and force of said lien, on condition that \$7,042.38 is paid per contract with the Welfare Office.

Dated this 25th day of March 2025.

Seconded by Commissioner Gage. Roll call vote: Commissioners Dennert-aye; Dinger-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye and Wiese-aye. Resolution adopted.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve the General Meeting Minutes of March 18, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Blackburn & Stevens, Prof LLC \$372.73; Brick's TV and Appliance \$1,788.75; CenturyLink-Lumen \$214.97; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,074.15; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$360.00; Cogley Law Office \$528.00; Dakota Group LLC \$2,500.00;

Gellhaus & Gellhaus \$320.00; John Noyes – Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$2,340.00; Kuck Law Office \$3,534.00; Lauren Nikolas \$1,000.00; Lenling Law Office \$1,080.00; Lucy Lewno \$192.00; Mark Katterhagen \$20.00; Matthew Bender & Co., Inc \$115.43; Northern State University \$112.50; RegistrationMax, LLC \$750.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$588.00; SD Department of Health \$580.00; Valerie Larson \$20.00. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$35.26; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$619.19; West River Eagle \$21.63. Rentals: Advantage Self Storage \$276.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Auto Glass Solutions, Inc \$45.00; B&B Contracting, Inc \$8,025.00; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$1,513.52. Supplies: Aberdeen Downtown Association \$250.00; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$393.14; Applied Concepts, Inc \$13,807.50; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$6,286.16; Bob Barker Company Inc \$2,549.88; Brown County Treasurer \$2,100.00; Central Network Retail Group LLC \$738.96; Cole Paper Inc \$1,059.66; Cook's Correctional \$93.37; Division of Motor Vehicles \$7.50; Geffdog Designs \$340.32; Gellhaus & Gellhaus \$80.00; Hanlon Brothers, LLC \$167,853.62; John Noyes – Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$49.22; Kuck Law Office \$98.09; Lang's Audio, TV & Appliance \$689.99; Lauren Nikolas \$446.38; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$223.09; Lucy Lewno \$6.73; Matthew Bender & Co., Inc \$115.43; Menards \$139.96; Ryan McClain \$108.32; Safety Service \$167.48; Thomson Reuters – West Payment Center \$1,951.46; Valstone Corporation Inc \$125.79; Violet Dinger Estate \$40,408.56; Woodman Refrigeration, Inc \$282.67. Travel & Conference: Scott Bader \$476.17; Carrie Weisenberger \$49.05; Dale Kurth \$160.41; David North \$150.36; Heartland Critical Incident Stress Management Network \$210.00; James Meyers \$30.15; Lenling Law Office \$40.00; Lynn Heupel \$100.03; Mariann Malsom \$97.08; Patrick Keatts \$48.72; Paul Johnson \$132.27; Sarah Jesz \$213.06; SD Association of County Officials \$125.00; SD Narcotics Officers Association \$100.00; Stan Beckler \$26.13. Utilities: Dependable Sanitation, Inc \$396.00; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$589.43; T-Mobile USA Inc \$2,150.40; Verizon Wireless \$1,357.74. Others: Clinton Sanger \$79.09; Justin Feyereisen \$12.77; Lisa or James Kiesz \$79.07; Tony Arampatzis \$79.07; Jury Duty Participants \$5,704.54.

Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,936.80; Auditor \$15,677.89; Treasurer \$18,293.95; SA \$36,600.93; Maintenance \$12,549.95; Assessor \$16,592.03; Register of Deeds \$10,905.92; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$10,005.68; HR \$5,438.85; Sheriff \$51,442.95; Jail \$77,553.59; Coroner \$1,000.00; Court Security \$7,183.11; JDC \$34,307.22; Welfare \$2,604.27; Museum \$12,971.23; Parks/Fairgrounds \$6,777.68; Fair Board \$3,626.66; 4-H \$877.20; Weed \$1,179.67; Planning & Zoning \$8,062.16; Highway \$54,775.15; Dispatch \$39,144.50; Emergency \$5,413.36; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,697.54; Landfill \$18,581.83; Meal Benefits \$98.00; SDRS Pay-out \$915.84; FICA \$27,887.88; Medicare \$6,522.17; Discovery-HSA \$5,025.47; Health Insurance-Wellmark BCBS \$128,168.19; Dental Insurance-Delta \$9,071.04; Life Insurance-Dearborn \$1,077.80 and Retirement-SDRS \$59,296.31. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following Lease Agreement: Brown County Fair Foundation for lease of Holum Expo Building on March 29, 2025, for the Hall of Fame Banquet. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following Lease Agreement: Brown County Fair Foundation for lease of Holum Expo Building on March 29, 2025, for the Hall of Fame Banquet. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

- Governor granted the following State Holidays off: Good Friday, April 18, 2025, and Easter Monday, April 21, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Auditor Heupel to sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of col-

lecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITOR REPORT OF AC-COUNTS FOR JANUARY 2025: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the Auditor's Report of Accounts for January 2025: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances \$21,787,100.21; Total Savings Account Balances \$1,190,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit: \$9,173,681.71; Grand Total Cash and Balances: \$32,158,929.34. General Fund Cash & Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$19,683,631.86; Road & Bridge Fund \$1,054,784.39; Road & Bridge Fund-Restricted \$231,883.27; 911 Service \$914,280.59; Emergency & Disaster \$54,504.47; Domestic Abuse \$404.79; Federal/State Grant \$32.11; SA Grants \$122,615.61; Truancy Court \$135.68; 24/7 Sobriety \$29,304.05; ROD M&P \$88,285.51; Rural Access Infrastructure \$559,577.54; TIF Debt Service \$59,888.97; Landfill + Cash Change \$6,822,046.63; Landfill-Restricted \$1,894,495.06; Trust & Agency Funds \$2,769,434.14; Grand Total General Fund Cash & Investments \$32,158,929.34. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following abatement: Abatement for Tax Yr. 24PY25: Parcel #32024 - \$98.99. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: Mariann Malsom, Register of Deeds and Patty VanMeter, Treasurer to attend Lake Region District Meeting in Waubay on March 20, 2025; Mariann Malsom, Register of Deeds to attend New Officials Workshop in Pierre on April 9-10, 2025; Mariann Malsom, Register of Deeds to attend SDAO Spring Workshop in Pierre on May 13-15, 2025; Patricia Kendall, Brandon Duxbury and Marianne Marttila-Klipfel from Museum to attend SD Historical Society Annual History Conference in Deadwood on May 7-9, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOTTERY PERMIT: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the application submitted by Brown County Fair Foundation for a lottery to be held on March 29, 2025, at the Hall of Fame Banquet. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ZONING ORDINANCES – SET HEARING DATE/AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING:

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to set hearing date and authorize publication for the first reading of the following zoning ordinances to be held on April 15, 2025, in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota. Proposed Ordinance #292, applicant Donald & Jolene Bonn for the purpose of rezoning from Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: 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.). Proposed Ordinance #293, applicant Donald & Becky Wegleitner for the purpose of rezoning from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: 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 (1831 409th Avenue, Claremont Twp.).

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

YOUNG FAMILY FIRST ADDITION PLAT:

RESOLUTION #2025-16

Commissioner Dennert brought the following resolution "Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Young Family First Addition in the NE ¼ of Section 34-T121N-R63W of the 5TH P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 11-3, and any amendments thereof." Seconded by Dinger. All members present voting aye. Resolution adopted.

YOUNG FAMILY SECOND ADDITION PLAT:

RESOLUTION #2025-17

Commissioner Dinger brought

the following resolution "Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota, that the plat showing Young Family Second Addition in the South 820 Feet of the SW ¼ of Section 26-T121N-R63W of the 5TH P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 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 Dennert to go into Executive Session for Personnel and Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:52 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$145.97 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25432



NOTICE

Application has been made by Donald & Jolene Bonn 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 April 15, 2025 for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) bring this parcel into compliance for its current use:

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.).

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. 292.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$11.65 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25433



NOTICE

Application has been made by Donald & Becky Wegleitner 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 April 15, 2025 for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use:

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 (1831 409th Avenue, Claremont 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. 293.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$11.65 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25434



NOTICE OF HEARING

Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for proposed Ordinance Amendments. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Brown County Planning & Zoning Department
Reason: Amendments to Brown County Ordinances in portions of Title 4

Chapter 4.01 Definitions:
Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P)
Chapter 4.16 Heavy Industrial District (H-I)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding any proposed amendments in portions of Brown County Ordinances.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$11.65 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25435



NOTICE OF HEARING

Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner/Owner: Arlyn Johnson

Description of property: Lots 5-10, Block 3, "Original Plat of Columbia" in the SE1/4 of Section 29-T125N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (107 Lake Blvd., City of Columbia).

Reason: A Variance to Building Setbacks in a Rural Urban District (RU) to have a 0'-0" East Front Yard Setback rather than the 25'-0" Setback required & a 0'-0" North Side Yard Setback rather than the 7'-0" Setback required by Brown County Ordinance to bring the existing house & shop building & new 30'x30' garage into compliance.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$14.41 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25436

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NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex on April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.
Petitioner/Owner: Adam Monson

Description of property: "El-lingson's Outlot 1" in the SW1/4 of Section 33-T121N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (14788 402nd Avenue, Garden Prairie Twp.).
Reason: A Variance for Building Setbacks in a Future Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to have a 30'-0" West Front Yard Setback rather than the 100'-0" Setback required by Brown County Zoning Ordinances.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$12.88 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25437



NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Flashrock Enterprises LLC
Description of property: "U.P.C. First Addition" in the SW1/4 of Section 15-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (5225 E Highway 12; Bath Twp.).

Reason: A Variance for Building Setbacks in a Highway Commercial District (HC) to have a 10'-0" North Rear Yard Setback and to have a 10'-0' East Side Yard Setback rather than the 25'-0" Setback required by Brown County Zoning Ordinances.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$13.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25438



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 April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.
Petitioner: Timothy & Kelly Serr

Description of property: Lot 5, "Keatts Third Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of Section 22-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (127160 West Bridge Road, Ravinia 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.

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 2nd day of April 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$15.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25439



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 April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Adam Monson
Description of property: "El-lingson's Outlot 1" in the SW1/4 of Section 33-T121N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (14788 402nd Avenue; Garden Prairie 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.

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 2nd day of April 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$14.72 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25440



NOTICE OF HEARING
Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room, Brown County Courthouse Annex, on April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: John Long
Description of property: Lot 27, Block 1, "Pleasant Valley Estates" in the SE1/4 of Section 30-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (12874 Pleasant Valley Drive E, Lincoln Twp.).

Reason: A Variance for Building Setbacks in a Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to have a 20' South Yard Setback rather than the 45' Setback required in Brown County Zoning Ordinances to avoid a natural drain field for a proposed 16'x12' storage shed.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.

Dated this 2nd day of April 2025

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$13.49 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25443



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 April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Jeffery & Tamara Sahli
Description of property: "Meyer's Outlot 1 to Millers Richmond Lake Subdivision" in the SW1/4 of Section 19-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (382228 Spillway Drive; Lincoln Twp.).

Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) 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 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 2nd day of April 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$15.33 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25441



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BROWN
)))
SS
IN CIRCUIT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
A&N 24-108

NOTICE OF REVIEW HEARING
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE INTEREST OF

L. G. AND Z. G. M., MINOR CHILDREN, AND CONCERNING ANGELA TERESA GAUTHIER CARDONA, LOUIS GAUTHIER SR., AND ZULMA MARTINEZ-TROCHE RESPONDENTS,

TO: Zulma Martinez-Troche
Please take notice and be advised that the above-entitled matter has been scheduled for REVIEW HEARING on the 28th day of May, 2025, from the hours of 9:45 a.m. of said day, before the Honorable Circuit Court Judge Julie Dvorak, at the Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Dated this 31st day of March, 2025.

/s/ Kara Nelson, Deputy
Brown County States Attorney
Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$11.34 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25444



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 April 15, 2025, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Shane Reich
Description of property: Lot 2, "Keatts Third Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of Section 22-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (127070 West Bridge Road, Ravinia 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.

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 2nd day of April 2025.

Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader – P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144

Published April 2, 2025 in "The Groton Independent," at the total approximate cost of \$14.72 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25442



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

REGULAR MEETING
March 24, 2025

President Rix called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Rix, Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Lerseth-Fliehs, Strom and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal B. Schwan (7:25pm), Principal Edwards, and Business Manager Hubsch.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Harder, to approve the agenda as amended with the addition of approval of the resignation of Desiree Yeigh. Motion carried.

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

President Rix congratulated the cheerleaders on their second in a row Spirit of Six award and congratulated the boys' basketball team on their seventh-place finish at the state tournament.

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. Beverly Sombke expressed her gratitude to the board for assisting with her dental bill due to an incident last year and for installing a new sidewalk to prevent any future incidents.

Program overview presentations were provided by Sarah Hanten, Diane Kurtz, and Mary Johnson for the English Language Arts and Reading 6-12 programs.

Buildings, grounds, and transportation committee, made up of board members Fliehs, Rix, and Harder, reported on at their last meeting as they discussed the football field on what updates would need to be done for the football field such as drainage, irrigation, sodding, and the crowd's

nest. Timelines were discussed regarding the duration of a project like this and whether it would be a joint effort involving capital outlay funds and fundraising. A discussion was also held on planning for the future of the middle/high school building and auxiliary gymnasium, as well as creating a timeline for conducting cost analyses and needs assessments with professionals, community, and staff. The building, grounds, and transportation committee will meet again and present information to the board at the next regular meeting.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan announced that the District's accreditation review is officially completed and approved. The next review is scheduled for the 2029-2030 school year. Schwan informed the board on exploring options for property and liability quotes and continuing with Co-Insurance to get renewal rates through EMC or alternative options. Schwan updated the board on legislation and highlighted acts that have been approved or are waiting for the Governor's signature.

Principal B. Schwan reminded everyone about the kindergarten roundup taking place on April 4 for those students who will be turning five on or before September 1. Principal Edwards reported on testing dates and congratulated the Cheerleading squad on receiving the Spirit of Six award and the boys' basketball team on placing 7th at the state tournament. Hubsch is working with the District's insurance representative on quotes

and has notified the board that the representative will be attending the second April meeting.

Moved by Gengerke, seconded by Fliehs, to approve the BAGS Backpack custodial account. Motion carried.

Moved by Gengerke, second by Weismantel, to approve participation in the South Dakota Department of Education State-wide Title III Consortium. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second by Harder, to approve Carla Tracy and Bruce Babcock as volunteer track coaches for the 2025 track season. Motion carried.

Moved by Weismantel, second by Fliehs, to approve the resignation of Desiree Yeigh, 5-12 Instrumental Music Teacher, at the end of the 2024-2025 school year. Motion carried.

President Rix called for a short recess at 7:50 pm. Rix declared the board back in session from recess at 7:54 pm.

Moved by Fliehs, second by Gengerke, to go into executive session pursuant to SDCL1-25-2(4) Negotiations at 7:54 pm. Motion carried.

President Rix declared the board out of the executive session at 8:46 pm.

Moved by Weismantel, second by Lerseth-Fliehs, to adjourn at 8:46 pm. Motion carried.

Becky Hubsch, Business Manager

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

Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$45.12 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25445

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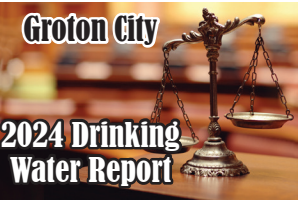
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City of Groton
DRINKING WATER REPORT
WATER QUALITY
Secretary's Award

The City of Groton has supplied twenty-two consecutive years of safe drinking water to the public it serves and has been awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Water Source
We serve more than 1,380

customers an average of 125,000 gallons of water per day. Our water is surface water that we purchase from another water system. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Groton public water supply system is low.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call (605)397-8422 and ask for Douglas Heinrich.

Additional Information
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage

treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public

water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC

guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Groton public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take

to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Detected Contaminants
The attached table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2024. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

The City of Groton public water system purchases 100% of their water from WEB Water Development Association (1089). Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$197.44 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25447.

2024 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants For Groton (EPA ID 0147)

Terms and abbreviations used in this table:

- * Maximum Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- * Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- * Action Level(AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.
- * Treatment Technique(TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU
- * Running Annual Average(RAA): Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.

Units:

- *MFL: million fibers per liter
- *mrem/year: millirems per year(a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- *NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- *pCi/l: picocuries per liter(a measure of radioactivity)
- *ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter(mg/l)
- *ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter(ug/l)
- *ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
- *ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
- *pspm: positive samples per month

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	1.0	1	08/26/23	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	3	0	08/29/23	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Antimony *	.36	0.36-0.36	10/27/22	6	6	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Barium *	0.052	0.0522-0.0522	10/27/22	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride *	0.50	0.50-.050	10/3/24	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	15.1		08/27/24	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA) *	16.48		11/12/24	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Selenium *	1.10	1.10-1.10	10/27/22	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total Coliform Bacteria *	1	positive samples		1	0	psm	Naturally present in the environment
Total trihalomethanes (RAA)	6.29		08/27/24	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Total trihalomethanes (RAA) *	9.64		11/12/24	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Turbidity *	0.18	100% samples below 0.3	09/01/24	TT	NA	NTU	Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measurement of the clarity of the water.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Terry Herron with the Groton public water system at (605)397-8422.

* WEB Water Development Association (1089) test result.

SAMPLE BALLOT

City of Columbia
Columbia, South Dakota
Tuesday, April 8, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

- I. TO MARK THE BALLOT
To vote use a cross (X) or check mark (✓) in the square in front of the name.
DO NOT make any marks other than a cross (X) or check mark (✓).
DO NOT erase anything on your ballot.
DO NOT rip your ballot or make holes in it.
DO NOT write in a name.
- II. IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE
If you make a mistake on your ballot or change your mind, give it back and get a new one.
- III. TO RETURN THE BALLOT(S) AFTER VOTING
Fold each ballot so the ballot stamp shows and take it to the ballot box.

Mayor for the City of Columbia, 2-year term,
you may vote for 1 or leave it blank.

☐ Corey Mitchell

☐ Dana Mohr

Published April 2, 2025, at the total approximate cost of \$67.50 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 25446

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Li'l Abner"
creator
- 5 Yellowstone
grazer
- 8 Cymbal's kin
- 12 Petri dish gel
- 13 Sturgeon
product
- 14 Ancient Dead
Sea land
- 15 Fierceness
- 17 Milan money,
once
- 18 PC alternative
- 19 Sheryl
Sandberg
best seller
- 21 Grating
- 24 Harangue
- 25 "Rhyme
Pays" rapper

- 26 With passion
- 30 Monk's title
- 31 Piquant
- 32 Tic-tac-toe
win
- 33 Hit song by
ABBA
- 35 Friend
- 36 Curved lines
- 37 Jiggly dessert
- 38 Rum cocktail
- 41 Pear-shaped
fruit
- 42 Spumante
source
- 43 Agitates
- 48 Actor
Schreiber

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			

- 49 Colorful card
game
- 50 Sleek, in car
lingo
- 51 Salinger girl
- 52 Journey part
- 53 Must have
- DOWN**
- 1 Half- — (latte
option)
- 2 Candle count
- 3 Standard
- 4 On time
- 5 Idle or Bana
- 6 Parcel of land
- 7 Bogart/Bacall
classic

- 8 Trattoria des-
serts
- 9 Valhalla VIP
- 10 Sushi wrap-
per
- 11 Fed. agents
- 16 Low isle
- 20 Jealousy
- 21 Jazz phrase
- 22 Estate mea-
sure
- 23 Burn some-
what
- 24 Tears apart
- 26 Imaginary
- 27 Toy store buy
- 28 Lounge
- 29 Cellist Ma

- 31 Actress Reid
- 34 Indigenous
- 35 Sea off
Greece
- 37 Comic Carrey
- 38 Like ganders
- 39 Unrepaired
- 40 Detail
- 41 Toad's kin
- 44 Away from
WSW
- 45 Formerly
called
- 46 Three, in
Rome
- 47 Turf

The Life of Ronald Hoops

Services for Ronald Roy Hoops, 88, of rural Ferney will be 11:00 a.m., Friday, April 4th at Our Savior Lutheran Church, Aberdeen. Rev. Chad Schopp will officiate. Services will be live streamed through the church website. Burial will follow at Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the funeral chapel on Thursday from 5-7 p.m. and on Friday from 10-11 a.m. at the church before the funeral. Service will be live streamed on the Our Savior Lutheran Church Facebook page.

Ron passed away March 25, 2025 at Avera McKennan Hospital in Sioux Falls.

Ronald Roy Hoops was born on September 19, 1936 in Ferney to Roy and Helena (Bahr) Hoops. He attended school in Groton where he excelled in basketball, football, track and baseball. Ron and his brother were part of the Groton baseball team that won the Junior Junior State Championship in 1951. Ron graduated in 1954 and began work as a lineman at James Valley Co-op. He married the love of his life, Maralyn Richardson, on August 11, 1957 in Groton. Together they were blessed with four children. Ron later began doing accounting for James Valley until his retirement in the late 1980’s. During all these years, he was also actively farming near their home outside Ferney.

Ron was a passionate sports fan for all of his life. For many years, he would videotape Groton High School basketball and football games with commentary and broadcast them on the local access channel at James Valley. He was an avid Minnesota Vikings and Twins fan. He and Maralyn held Viking season tickets for many years and never missed a home game regardless of the weather. Later, they followed Northern State Wolves basketball with the same intensity.

Ron had the same passion for his faith as he had for sports. He was always very active in his church in positions of leadership and was ahead of his time pioneering the “streaming” of church services on the local access channel. He and Maralyn were involved in Lutherans For Life, manning the Brown County Fair Booth for many years. He also purchased a trailer and created the Witness of the Crosses mobile display that is still in use today. Following his son’s injury, Ron became a strong advocate for victims of traumatic brain injuries. He started the Aberdeen Area Brain Injury Support Group that later influenced others around the state and even extended outside of South Dakota. He served as the chairman of the South Dakota Freedom to Work Leadership Council which advised and influenced state legislators and policy makers regarding those affected by brain and other injuries.

Celebrating his life is his wife, Maralyn of Aberdeen, his children, Kyle (Cindy) Hoops of Cedarburg, WI, Karleen (Scott) James of West Chester, IA, Kolin (Abby) Hoops of Denver, CO, Kelly (Neile) Hoops of Sturgis, eight grandchildren: Kayla (Aaron) Waller, Tyler (Gabby) Hoops, Blake James, Ashlee James, Becca Dhlwayo, Gwen Hoops, Owen Hoops, Liam Hoops and five great-grandchildren. Ron is also survived by his siblings, Delores “Dodie” Neumann, JoAnne (Henry) Elsing, Berdeen “Deenie” Fingerlin, and Darold “Darry” (Karen) Hoops.

Preceding him in death were his parents, sister, Betty Jean Jensen and three brothers-in-law, Marion Jensen, Duane Neumann and Henry Fingerlin.

Memorials may be directed to Lutherans for Life.

Casket bearers will be grandsons Blake James, Tyler Hoops, Owen Hoops and Liam Hoops, grandson-in-law Aaron Waller and son-in-law Scott James.



Groton 6th grade boys finished their season as the runner-up in the Willie Mac tournament in Brookings.

Back row: Rylan Blackwood, coach Jason Rowen, Graham Rose, Drew Fjeldheim, Mason Locke, Carter Boerger, Kinton Tracy, Coach Ryan Fjeldheim and Ivan Schwan; Front row: Hank Hill and Gradyn Rowen. (Courtesy photo)

DANR Announces Nearly \$140 Million for Statewide Environmental Projects

Groton receives \$6.5 million

PIERRE, S.D. – Today, the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) announced that the Board of Water and Natural Resources has approved \$139,791,400 in loans and grants for drinking water, wastewater, and solid waste projects in South Dakota.

The \$139,791,400 total consists of \$121,686,200 in low-interest loans and \$18,105,200 in grants to be administered by the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

“Safe and reliable water, wastewater, and solid waste infrastructure is essential for protecting our natural resources and building stronger communities for future generations, said DANR Secretary Hunter Roberts. “I want to thank the Board of Water and Natural Resources for approving the funding recommendations.”

Funds were awarded from DANR’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program, Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program, Water Environment Fund, and Solid Waste Management Program. Here are some of the recipients:

Aberdeen received a \$30,000,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan to replace equipment and implement improvements to the treatment process, increasing the capacity of its wastewater treatment facility. The project previously received funding in April 2022. The loan terms are 3.75% for 30 years.

Brown County received a \$675,600 Solid Waste Management grant to help construct a fifth cell at the landfill.

Brown County also received a \$213,700 Solid Waste Management grant to assist in purchasing a new landfill compactor.

Columbia received a \$3,714,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan with \$2,863,000 in principal forgiveness to replace sewer mains and construct a new wastewater treatment lagoon system. A lift station and a force main will also be built to reroute sewage to the new system. The loan terms are 3.75% for 30 years.

Groton received a \$4,587,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan and a \$2,000,000 Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program grant to replace a lift station, purchase a generator, construct a new force main, and add a new cell to the wastewater pond system. The loan terms are 3.75% for 30 years.

Hecla received a \$2,500,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan with \$2,000,000 in principal forgiveness to reconstruct a portion of the sewer collection system. This funding is for the second of three phases. The loan terms are 3.75% for 30 years.

Water Investment in Northern South Dakota (WINS) received a \$2,000,000 Water Environmental Fund Appropriation grant to provide up to 42.1 million gallons per day of treated drinking water to the northeast South Dakota region. The project is a collaboration between the city of Aberdeen, BDM Rural Water System, and WEB Water Development Association and consists of 148 miles of pipeline and associated water treatment and storage infrastructure.

WEB Water Development Association received a \$713,000 Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program grant to replace Pleasant Valley’s existing water system with new water lines and install new water meters, pits and valves. WEB Water will then serve Pleasant Valley as individual members.

Webster received a \$1,129,000 Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan to reline the sanitary sewer system in their Industrial Park. The loan terms are 3.75% for 30 years.



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BROWN
))ss
IN CIRCUIT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
A&N 24-70
NOTICE OF REVIEW HEARING
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE
INTEREST OF
A. 1., MINOR CHILD,
AND CONCERNING
DORI LLOYD AND RAYNARD
LEBEAU, RESPONDENTS.
TO: Dori Lloyd
Please take notice and be
advised that the above-entitled
matter has been scheduled for
a REVIEW HEARING on the 26th
day of June 2025, at the hour
of 9:00 a.m. of said day, before
the Honorable Circuit Court
Judge Julie Dvorak, at the Brown
County Courthouse, Aberdeen,
South Dakota.
Dated this 1st day of April,
2025.
Karla Nelson, Deputy
Brown County States Attorney
Published April 2, 2025, at the
total approximate cost of \$10.42
and may be viewed free of
charge at www.sdpublicnotices.
com. 25449



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BROWN
)))
SS
IN CIRCUIT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
A&N 23-7
NOTICE OF REVIEW HEARING
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE
INTEREST OF
M.N., MINOR CHILD,
AND CONCERNING LAURA LEE
SCHOLZ AND JESSE NIKODYM,
RESPONDENTS,
TO: Laura Scholz
Please take notice and be
advised that the above entitled
matter has been scheduled for a
REVIEW HEARING on the 15th
day of September, 2025, at the
hour of 1:45 p.m. of said day, be-
fore the Honorable Circuit Court
Judge Julie Dvorak, at the Brown
County Courthouse, Aber-
deen, South Dakota.
Dated this 1st day of April,
2025.
Karla Nelson, Deputy
Brown County States Attorney
Published April 2, 2025, at the
total approximate cost of \$10.73
and may be viewed free of
charge at www.sdpublicnotices.
com. 25450



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
COUNTY OF BROWN
SS
IN CIRCUIT COURT
FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT
A&N 25-8
NOTICE OF CONTINUED AD-
VISORY HEARING
THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE
OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE
INTEREST OF
E. H. MINOR CHILD, AND
CONCERNING KAITLYNN NI-
COLE HOERNER AND UNKNOWN
FATHER, RESPONDENTS.
TO: Kaitlyn Hoerner
Please take notice and be
advised that the above-entitled
matter has been scheduled for
a CONTINUED ADVISORY HEAR-
ING on the 23rd day of April,
2025, at the hour of 8:45 a.m.
of said day, before the Honorable
Circuit Court Judge Julie Dvorak,
at the Brown County Courthouse,
Aberdeen, South Dakota.
Dated this 2nd day of April,
2025.
Karla Nelson, Deputy
Brown County States Attorney
Published April 2, 2025, at the
total approximate cost of \$10.73
and may be viewed free of
charge at www.sdpublicnotices.
com. 25451

China has quickly become a dominant force in the global electric vehicle (EV) market, surpassing car makers in the U.S., Europe and Japan. Western car companies used to be the leaders in innovation, but Chinese car makers have surged ahead recently, producing affordable, high-tech EVs at record speed. This has raised concerns in the U.S. about whether Chinese automakers will soon enter the American market and how that could affect domestic car companies. With growing competition and trade tensions, the question remains: Are Chinese EVs really ahead? And will they ever make it onto American roads?

One of the main factors that brings China’s EV success is robust government support. For years, China has offered substantial subsidies, tax incentives and infrastructure investments to enhance EV sales and manufacturing. China also has control over a large part of the world-wide battery supply chain, which provides its car makers an edge regard to cost and access to crucial components. Firms such as BYD, Nio and XPeng have emerged as global leaders, providing EVs that are not only less expensive than Western options, but also equipped with advanced technology. These elements enable China to sell its EVs globally, surpassing American and European car makers in both production scale and cost-effectiveness.

Although they’ve achieved global success. Chinese EVs still face hurdles to enter the U.S. market. High tariffs increase the cost of export, and persistent geopolitical tensions between the U.S. and China further complicates trade. Concerns also exist about cybersecurity and intellectual property. As some lawmakers suggest, vehicles made in China may pose a security threat due to their sophisticated data collection and connectivity capabilities. Additionally, American car makers and lawmakers have opposed permitting Chinese competition, worrying it might undermine local EV manufacturing and lead to job reductions.

Because of these barriers, some Chinese carmakers are looking at different ways to enter the market. One possible strategy is making EVs in Mexico, whereby they’d benefit from the USMCA trade agreement and potentially avoid some tariffs. Others might partner with Western brands to supply batteries or technology, which would let them compete in a more indirect way. Many American EVs already have Chinese components, so even without full vehicle imports, China still plays a big role in the U.S. industry.

Competition between China and Western automakers is likely to get more intense. U.S. and European governments are giving more subsidies for domestic EV production, trying to close the gap. But if China keeps expanding fast, it may be really hard for Western automakers to catch up. Whether or not Chinese EVs show up in American dealerships, their influence on the global car industry can’t be denied.

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“Colon Cancer Screening is Important”

Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in men and women. The lifetime risk of developing colon cancer is 1 in 24 for men and 1 in 26 for women. Early detection and treatment are instrumental at improving survival rates, and regular screening decreases the risk of colon cancer in the first place.

Colonoscopy remains the gold standard for colon cancer screening. While detecting cancer early on is important for survival from any cancer, detecting and removing precancerous polyps during a colonoscopy before they develop into cancer is the main reason regular screenings with colonoscopy have been found to reduce colon cancer rates.

During a colonoscopy, with a patient asleep or sedated under anesthesia, a long flexible scope with a light and a camera is used to look throughout the large intestine, the colon, for any polyps or abnormalities. Those polyps can be removed with a forceps or a loop at the time they are detected. Afterwards, patients are monitored, wake up, have something to eat, and are ready to proceed about their day.

Thankfully, a large majority of patients do not have any complications from colonoscopy. The complication rate depends on age and risk factors and the reason for the procedure. The overall rate is approximately 0.5%. The most serious complication risk, a perforation or tear in the colon, is about 1 in 1,000.

Of course, oftentimes the worst part of undergoing a colonoscopy is the preparation beforehand; getting cleaned out. This is important so the physician performing the procedure has a good, thorough look everywhere in the colon. While cumbersome, with new strategies for doing the prep, many people find this process less awful than they used to.

Stool tests have been an easier, cheap, non-invasive method for colon cancer screening for many years. Often these tests look for blood in your stool. The latest, more expensive option, Cologuard, checks for blood and DNA abnormalities, and is the most successful of the stool tests at detecting colon cancer, at 94%. However, it is only about 43% effective at detecting advanced adenomas, those precancerous polyps that are already getting larger and closer to becoming cancer. This limits the test’s potential at preventing cancer.

The Cologuard test should not be used for people with risk factors such as a history of colon polyps or a family history of colon cancer. A positive test result should be followed up by a colonoscopy.

The FDA recently approved a new blood test for colon cancer screening. However, it only detected 83% of colon cancers, and only 13% of precancerous advanced adenomas. With this poor detection rate, out of 100 people with cancer, the blood test would falsely tell 17 people that they did not have cancer, and it would miss most precancerous polyps.

Ever since the Affordable Care Act in 2010, insurance companies have been required to cover colon cancer screening tests. This is because early detection not only saves lives but also saves money.

Each method has its own pros and cons, so please talk with your doctor regarding which screening method makes the most sense for you. In the end, “the best colon cancer screening method is the one that gets done.”

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



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MARCH 30 - APRIL 5, 2025

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SAVE \$1.00 Per Lb.
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WHOLE STONE FARMS BONELESS 1/2 PORK LOIN **\$1.99 Lb.**

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OLD HOME WHEAT BREAD 20 Oz. Loaf **\$1.99**

GROCERY
BEST CHOICE ORIGINAL MACARONI & CHEESE 7.25 Oz. Boxes **3/\$2**

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GREEN GIANT CORN, GREEN BEANS OR PEAS 14.5-15 Oz. Can **89¢**

GROCERY
STARKIST TUNA 5 Oz. Can **79¢**

GROCERY
CREAMETTE EGG NOODLES 12 Oz. Bags **2/\$3**

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BEST CHOICE SHREDDED OR CHUNK CHEESE 8 Oz. Pkgs. **2/\$3**

DAIRY
CASS CLAY SWISS CHOCOLATE MILK 97 Oz. Jug **\$3.99**

FROZEN
BLUE RIBBON CLASSIC ICE CREAM 128 Oz. Pail **\$5.69**

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HIGH NOON 4 PK. *ALL FLAVORS **\$8.99**

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KEN'S BAKERY FRESH WHITE PARTY BUNS 12 Count **\$3.29**

DELI
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ANY WHITE CHOCOLATE DRINK 16 Oz. \$2.99 or 20 Oz. \$3.50

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