



\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 143 No. 01 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Sept. 24, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889

Utah Elk Farmers Buy Bulls from Minnesota

Two elk farmers from Utah recently made the trip to Minnesota to purchase new animals for their herd. On their way through they stopped at the Groton Dairy Queen. The farmers explained that they were short on bulls this year, so they turned to an elk farm in Minnesota that specializes in raising the animals.

They bought three elk at a cost of \$25,000 each, reflecting the high value placed on breeding stock in the elk industry. The bulls will be transported back to Utah, where they will be introduced into the herd for breeding purposes.

Elk farming is a niche but growing agricultural sector in the United States. Farmers raise the animals for a variety of reasons — including velvet antlers, breeding, hunting preserves, and even meat, which is valued as a lean alternative to beef. Because bulls play a key role in herd development and genetic diversity, quality breeding animals command steep prices, sometimes reaching tens of thousands of dollars.

For these Utah farmers, the investment represents both a commitment to herd health and a strategic move to improve future production. Their Minnesota purchase highlights the interstate ties among elk farmers, who often look beyond state lines to find the right animals for their operations.



Groton Athlete Wins \$1,000 LATC Scholarship; Deuel Running Back Named MVP

WATERTOWN – Lake Area Technical College celebrated its fourth stop on its 60th Anniversary Tailgate Tour, Friday night at the Deuel vs. Groton football game. The evening featured a scholarship presentation, community fun and recognition of one outstanding student-athlete.

Tucker Hardy, a student at Langford High School, was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Lake Area Technical College in Watertown. Presenting the scholarship was Lead Admissions Representative April Simon.

On the field, Gavin Kloos, a junior running back for the Cardinals, was named the game's MVP. Kloos received a commemorative football from LATC Agriculture Instructor and former NFL player Spencer Waage.

Lake Area Technical College President Tiffany Sanderson said the tour is a celebration of the school's six decades of successfully preparing students for high-demand, high-value technical professions.

"At Lake Area Tech, we believe education extends beyond the classroom," Sanderson said. "This tour is a fun way to connect with communities in our area, support student-athletes and showcase the fast and focused education available to students interested in jump-starting their careers."

To date, \$5,000 in scholarships have been awarded during Lake Area Tech's 60th Anniversary Tailgate Tour. The tour will continue with stops at high school football games across the region through October. Each stop includes scholarship awards, an MVP recognition and hands-on activities for fans of all ages. This week's stop will be at Madison High School, where the Bulldogs will host the Sioux Falls Christian Chargers.

Lake Area Technical College was established in 1965 in Watertown. It was South Dakota's first technical college and has grown to more than 30 programs and nearly 2,700 students. For more information on the Tailgate Tour or Lake Area Technical College, follow its social pages on Facebook and Instagram and/or visit www.lakeareatech.edu.

Two Groton Pharmacists Earn Statewide Recognition



Emily Kappes and Lori Giedt with their pharmacy awards

The South Dakota Pharmacists Association has recognized two pharmacists for their contributions to patient care and leadership in the profession.

Lori Giedt, RPh, owner of Lori's Pharmacy, received the Bowl of Hygeia Award. The honor is one of the profession's most respected recognitions, given to pharmacists who demonstrate outstanding community service and dedication to patient health.

"Lori's commitment to her patients and her community has been unwavering," said a spokesperson for the South Dakota Pharmacists Association. "She embodies what the Bowl of Hygeia represents—service, compassion, and leadership."

Emily Kappes, PharmD, was named the Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year. The award recognizes an early-career pharmacist who has shown exceptional leadership and promise in the field.

"Emily has already made a tremendous impact early in her career," the spokesperson said. "Her passion for patient care and her leadership in advancing the profession show that the future of pharmacy in South Dakota is in very good hands."

The awards were presented as part of the association's annual recognition program. Leaders emphasized that the honors highlight the essential role pharmacists play in improving access to care and supporting public health across the state.



Lake Area Technical College President Tiffany Sanderson presented Tucker Hardy with the scholarship after the game on Friday.

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2 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Sept. 24, 2025

The Life of Karen Sue Johnson



The memorial service for Karen Sue Johnson, 71, of Groton, SD, were held Monday, September 21, 2025, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Aberdeen, with the Rev. Jacob Smith officiating. Karen died Sunday, September 14, at Avera Mother Joseph Manor, Aberdeen.

Karen Sue Redlinger was born June 5, 1954, to John Marvin and Lola Mae (Burt) Redlinger in Columbus, OH. Her family moved to San Diego, CA and then to Seattle, WA. She grew up and attended school in Seattle, WA where Karen met the Johnson clan. She graduated from West Seattle High school in 1972.

On June 8, 1972, Karen was united in marriage to Clayton Johnson in Seattle. They moved several times including Wyoming, Minnesota, California, Washington, and finally to South Dakota in 1991. Karen earned an accounting degree from Lake Area Tech

in Watertown, SD.

Karen was mostly a stay-at-home mom and grammy-nanny. After raising her own four children, she took in four of her grandchildren. She was a very talented seamstress and sewed clothes for herself and many of her family members, and even doll clothes. She enjoyed crafting, crocheting, cross stitching, and knitting. Most of the things she made were given away. She also loved reading and attending church when she was able.

Grateful for having shared Karen’s life are her husband: Clayton; her children: Kari Johnson, Tara (Clint) Fjelstad, Tami Johnson, and Mari (Aaron) Sundberg; her grandchildren: Kyle Kohrs, Kaitlin Kohrs, Kelli Kohrs, Kimberly (Jesse) Chandler, Nathan (Jessee) Fjelstad, Jenifer Fjelstad, Trystian (Nikki) Johnson-Sanders, Veronica Johnson, Gabriella Johnson, Elizabeth Johnson, Rebekah Sundberg, Caralyn Sundberg, and Scarlett Sundberg; her great-grandchildren: Ronnie Gruenstein, Clayton Kohrs, and Eliana Fjelstad; and her siblings: Gloria Bertsch, John Paul (Bonnie) Redlinger, Chuck Jason Redlinger, and Orval (Elizabeth) Redlinger.

Preceding Karen in death are her parents: John Marvin Redlinger, Lola Mae (Richard) Iverson, and her brother William Edward ‘Ed’ Redlinger.



Grandkids Rylan and Emery Blackwood help their Grandfather Bruce Babcock pick up the flower vases in the Groton Veterans Circle at the Groton Union Cemetery this past weekend. (Courtesy Photo Bruce Babcock)

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

A	G	E	R	T	I	S	A	B	C	D
N	A	S	A	A	M	O	P	U	R	E
D	U	S	T	M	O	P	S	I	S	E
S	L	O	E	S		Q	U	S	T	E
			R	T	E	S	A	H	A	
D	A	M	S		L	O	A	M	G	A
I	O	U		C	L	A	S	S	U	R
E	L	S		H	A	R	P		A	T
			T	E	A		S	S	T	S
G	A	R	C	I	A		N	I	T	R
O	R	E	O		J	U	S	T	D	O
D	I	A	L		A	N	A	E	R	A
S	A	D	E		R	I	D		S	I



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Furrier Trunk Show Schedule

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Rapid City Sept. 26 & 27, 10am-6pm & Sept. 28, 10am-1pm., DoubleTree by Hilton Rapid City Downtown Conv. Center, BOARD Room, 505 N 5th St.

Dakota Dunes Oct. 4, 2-7pm. Country Inn & Suites, 151 Tower Rd.

Aberdeen Oct. 30 10am-4:30pm & Oct. 31, 10am-3pm. Lily's Floral Design & Gifts, 423 S Main St.

Fargo Nov. 7 & 8, 10am-6pm. Laurie's Boutique, 3265 45th St. S., Ste. 100.

Tigers Tackle Busy Week Across Courts and Fields

It was a full slate of action for the Groton Area Tigers this past week, with volleyball taking on a demanding schedule, boys soccer battling one of the state’s top-ranked teams, and football grinding through a rain-soaked road test.

The volleyball team began its stretch against unbeaten Clark-Willow Lake, where the Cyclones’ size and consistency proved too much in a straight-sets loss. Groton dropped the opener 25-17, battled closely in a 25-23 second set, and fell 25-14 in the third. Even in defeat, the Tigers showed grit with Jaedyn Penning collecting 16 digs, Chesney Weber handing out 20 assists, and Traphagen adding eight kills. Coach Chelsea Hanson said she wanted her team to embrace the challenge. “Competition is good for us,” she noted. “Playing against some of the best teams helps us see what it takes to finish out those close sets.”

That experience paid dividends at the Hamlin Tournament on Saturday. Groton opened strong with a sweep of Sisseton, highlighted by 11 kills from Rylee Dunker and 28 assists from Weber. The Locke sisters anchored the back row defense, while the Tigers held off a late charge to win the second set 28-26.

Next came a showdown with No. 1-ranked Dell Rapids, and Groton nearly pulled off an upset in the first set. The Tigers tied the score late and even held a 24-23 lead before the Quarriers rallied to win 26-24. Dell Rapids carried that momentum into a 25-17 second set, but Hanson came away encouraged. “That’s a team full of talent, and we matched them point for point for a long stretch. Those are the kinds of matches that make us better,” she said.

Groton capped the day with a victory over Castlewood to claim third place. The Tigers dominated the opening set 25-12 and then fought through 10 ties in the second before pulling away for a 27-25 win. Jerica Locke collected 16 digs, while Hanson credited her team’s determination. “I thought we really dug in — literally and figuratively,” she said with a grin. “When we turned those digs into points, that’s when we separated ourselves.”

The week wrapped up with a road trip to Warner on Tuesday night, where the Tigers again found themselves in a tight opening set. Groton built a 21-17 lead and even held set point, but Warner rallied to take it 27-25. From there, the Monarchs used the momentum to sweep the match with 25-19 and 25-16 wins. Hanson and Dunker each tallied six kills, Weber chipped in five kills and 20 assists, and Penning added four kills and 16 digs. Hanson said the first set was the difference. “That one hurt because we were right there. We just didn’t quite finish, and it took the wind out of us,” she explained.



Rylee Dunker gets a hit at the net at the Hamlin Tournament. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Meanwhile, the boys soccer team stepped into the spotlight with a 1-1 draw against Freeman Academy, which entered ranked No. 3 in the state. Becker Bosma netted Groton’s goal off a pass from Karson Zak, while goalkeeper Gage Sippel turned away 14 shots to preserve the tie. The result kept the Tigers firmly in the playoff hunt with only three matches left in the regular season, including a critical showdown this week with top-ranked James Valley Christian.

On the football field, Groton endured a wet and muddy night at Deuel, falling 20-0. The Cardinals scored on a one-yard run and later turned an 80-yard interception return into a backbreaker before halftime. Despite the loss, the Tigers’ defense stood tall. Connor Glines led the way with 12 tackles, earning a \$1,000 scholarship award for his effort, while Keegen Tracy and Lincoln Krause each recorded eight stops. Freshman quarterback Asher Johnson completed two passes for 17 yards, both to Anthony Tracy and Ryder Johnson, but Groton managed just 36 rushing yards on 27 carries against a stout Cardinal defense.

Coach Shaun Wanner said his squad continues to grow despite the record. “Our kids played hard tonight. I thought we played harder and more physical than last week, and that’s what we’re trying to do — just keep getting a little better every week,” he said.

With volleyball sharpening its edge against elite competition, soccer holding its ground against ranked opponents, and football battling through tough conditions, the Tigers left the week with plenty of lessons — and plenty to build on — as the fall season pushes forward.



Talli Wright got an ace serve on her first serve of the game in the Clark/Willow Lake match. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)



Coach Shaun Wanner gives directions to Asher Johnson and Anthony Tracy. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Groton Area Junior High School hosted a junior high golf tournament Monday at the Olive Grove Golf Course. Groton golfers placing in golf tournament L-R Rylan Blackwood 7th; Graham Rose 5th; Easton Larson 3rd place. (Photo courtesy of Katie Blackwood)

Moving Goods Around the World

What is Needed to Ship Goods?

1. airport

2. runway

3. warehouse

4. store

5. pipeline

6. train station

7. tunnels

8. ports

9. roads

10. railroad tracks

11. canal

12. dock

13. bridges

14. causeways

Roll-on/Roll-off ship.

Where Does it Come From?

1. B

2. A

3. E

4. D

5. G

6. C

7. F

1. F

2. G

3. A

4. C

5. B

6. D

7. E

1. cars

2. motorcycle

3. trolley

4. bus

5. airplane

People Movers!

Things that move people and their stuff!

1. cars

2. motorcycle

3. trolley

4. bus

5. airplane

Goods are moved...

1. through the air

2. across water

3. over land

EXPORT

TRAILER

HANDLING

PIPELINE

CUSTOMS

DELIVERY

IMPORT

UNLOAD

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“Just when I thought I was out, they pull me back in.” Michael Corleone’s famous line from The Godfather Part III feels tailor-made for the Minnesota Vikings this week. After an embarrassing performance last week that had fans questioning everything, the Vikings stormed back on Sunday and absolutely dismantled the Cincinnati Bengals, 48-10. It was the team’s biggest victory since 1998, and the kind of statement win that showed just how dangerous this team can be when everything clicks. Even more impressive when you consider that J.J. McCarthy was out of this game due to an injury, and Carson Wentz was filling in, after arriving less than a month ago.

The Vikings received the opening kickoff and drove right down the field to find the endzone thanks to a 12-yard pitch and catch from Wentz to Josh Oliver. On the Bengals’ second drive, their backup QB (and former Viking) Jake Browning threw an interception to Isaiah Rodgers, who returned it 87 yards for a touchdown.

After 15 minutes, the Vikings led 14-0.

The second quarter is where things started to really go downhill for Cincinnati. Midway through the quarter, after both teams had traded punts and field goals, Isaiah Rodgers forced a fumble and returned it for another TD. On their next drive, Rodgers forced ANOTHER fumble, which was recovered by Jeff Okudah to give the ball right back to Minnesota. Three plays and 52 yards later, Jordan Mason rumbled into the endzone to make the score 31-3. After a third consecutive fumble by CIN, the Vikings tacked on a field goal as time expired in the first half.

The Bengals got the ball to start the second half and went three-and-out. 10 plays and 74 yards later, Mason ran in for another rushing TD. The Bengals threw an INT on their next possession, and the Vikings responded with another long TD drive, this one caught by T.J. Hockenson, and the score was 48-3.

The fourth quarter was irrelevant for the most part, since with such a large lead, the Vikings put in their backups. The Bengals scored another meaningless touchdown, but the final result was never in question, and the Vikings won 48-10.

Carson Wentz completed 14 of 20 passes for 173 yards and two touchdowns. Jordan Mason had 116 yards and two touchdowns on 16 carries. Justin Jefferson had five catches for 75 yards, and T.J. Hockenson had five catches for 49 yards and a touchdown.

Defensively, the Vikings had four sacks (Andrew Van Ginkel x2, Chaz Chambliss, Austin Keys), two interceptions (Isaiah Rodgers, Josh Metellus), five pass breakups (led by Rodgers with two), and nine QB hits (led by Ivan Pace Jr. with three). The Bengals were held to just 171

total yards, 67 of which came in the fourth quarter against the Vikings’ backups.

The player of the game is clearly Isaiah Rodgers. Brian Flores targeted him early in free agency as a potential difference-maker in the Vikings’ secondary, but even he probably didn’t expect this much production. Rodgers was everywhere, forcing fumbles, recovering them, and setting up interceptions. He became the first defensive player in Vikings’ history to score two defensive touchdowns in a single game.

Looking ahead, the Vikings will be traveling across the pond for two straight overseas games. First up will be against the Pittsburgh Steelers in Dublin. This offseason, Aaron Rodgers made it clear he wanted to play in Minnesota, but the Vikings decided to roll with McCarthy. Now Rodgers is leading the Steelers, and might have a little bit of revenge on his mind. The game will be on the NFL Network, and the kickoff will be 8:30 a.m. Central time.

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The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- “We the People” -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



By David Adler

Constitution Day 2025: Our Troubled Soul, Battered by Domestic Violence

Our battered Constitution, the victim of domestic violence inflicted by current governmental officials who wield daily tortuous blows to its structure, vital principles and psychology, presents a slumping posture, worn down by abuse, robbed of its dignity and traumatized by the indifference of former friends and allies who refuse to defend it and offer up lame excuses for their failure to provide aid and comfort. On the 238th anniversary of its adoption by the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 2025, our Constitution, the soul of the nation, is more troubled than at any moment in our history since the Civil War. Worse, remedies seem remote.

The essential vulnerability of the U.S. Constitution, hailed by English Prime Minister, William Gladstone, in 1878, as “the most wonderful work ever struck off at a given time by the brain and purpose of man,” lies in the fact that it is not a machine that goes by itself. It’s canny, even brilliant, governing mechanisms—separation of powers, enumeration of powers and checks and balances—require at the helm, men and women of integrity, lest the exquisite ballast be lost, as it has been, to executive usurpation and abuse of power, abject acquiesce in, and surrender to, a plebiscitary presidency by the GOP-controlled Congress, and a Supreme Court that provides judicial succor to the authoritarian values and principles of President Donald Trump.

The magnificent Bill of Rights, envisioned by its framers as an instrument to protect the great rights of mankind from governmental abuse of its authority, through a barrage of attacks by the Trump Administration on the essential liberties of the citizenry, including freedom of speech, freedom of the press and due process of law. Trump’s ongoing assault on the independence of the judiciary, critical to the preservation of the rule of law, constitutes yet another effort to remove protections of Americans’ rights.

Many Americans, but still too few, have been rushing to the defense of the Constitution. Despite nationwide protests of Trump’s lawless acts that defy the Constitution, there is yet missing a breathless urgency among a majority of the people, the sort that raises to a fever pitch the fear inspired by the pending loss of constitutional government. We should recall Judge Learned Hand’s “Spirit of Liberty” speech, his reminder that liberty “lies in the hearts of men and women” and that while constitutions, laws and courts are important, they cannot save us it dies within the people. Hand’s words echoed Benjamin Franklin’s declaration that the framers had created a republic, and that its continuation depended on the people themselves. “A Republic,” he said, “if you can keep it.”

The rising concerns of the second coming of McCarthyism—enemies lists, loyalty oaths, suppression of left-wing speech and “naming names”-- spawned in part by the Trump Administration’s reaction to the tragic murder of conservative activist Charlie Kirk, but which, in truth had preceded that horrific moment, has been manifested in threats and pledges from White House officials warning that they will crackdown on the “liberals” responsible for the death of Kirk, even though all evidence points to the actions of a single gunman.

For a short, painful moment on September 16, U.S. Attorney General Pam Bondi, threatened to “go after” those who, while denouncing the murder of Charlie Kirk, nonetheless criticized his politics. She said the justification for targeting Kirk’s critics was their engagement in what she called “hate speech,” until conservative lawyers and journalists corrected her misunderstanding of First Amendment law and pointed out that criticism of Kirk’s positions was, indeed, protected speech under the First Amendment. If Kirk’s death is to mean anything to our nation, it must stand for his commitment to freedom of speech. The White House should protect, not repress, the essential constitutional right of free speech.

Fear and grief characterize Constitution Day 2025, but it could be the day we recognize a “Turning Point” in the life of America and renew our commitment to defending the Constitution. Members of the GOP majority in both Houses of Congress should reassert the doctrine of checks and balances and reclaim their constitutional powers. American citizens should, immediately, renounce violence and retribution as illegitimate and futile means of redressing acts of violence, for that path ensures nothing but an endless spiral of death and destruction. “There is no way to peace,” Gandhi said, “because peace is the way.”

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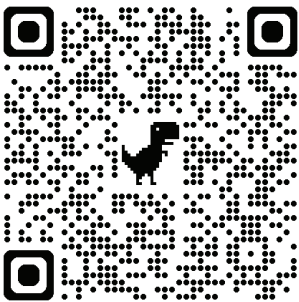
Sept. 22 Team Standings: Cubs 10, Mets 8, Braves 6, Giants 5, Stooges 4, Pirates 3.
Men's High Games: Butch Farman 201, Chad Furney 200, Skip Kettering 185.
Men's High Series: Butch Farman 615, Chad Furney 461, Skip Kettering 452
Women's High Games: Suzi Easthouse 185, Sam Bahr 178, Deb Schuelke 175.
Women's High Series: Sam Bahr 494, Suzi Easthouse 480, Vickie Kramp 473

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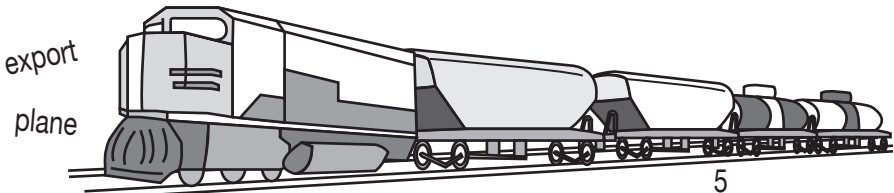
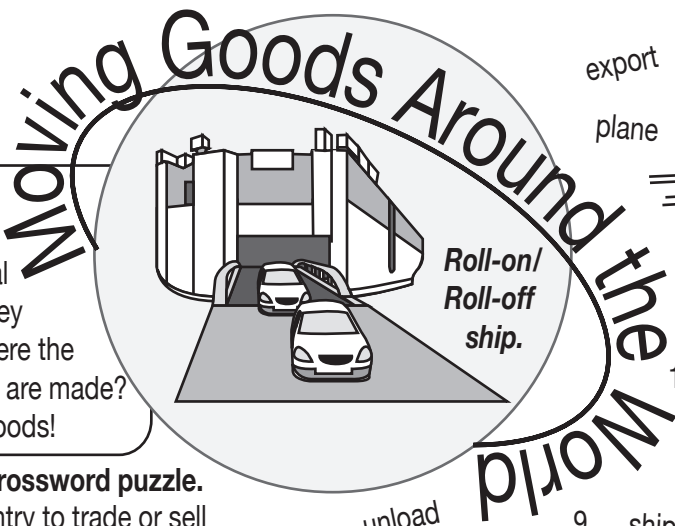
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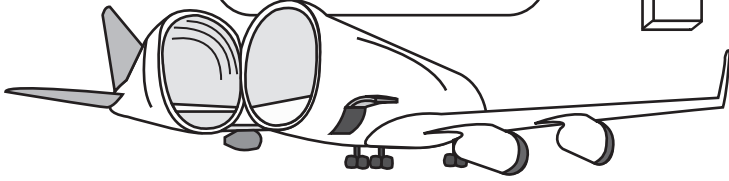
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...the world and right to our doorstep?
Kids: color stuff in!

Have you ever wondered how all the goods in your local stores got there and where they came from? Do you know where the food is grown or the products are made? Let's learn about shipping goods!



Read the clues to fill in the puzzle:

- 1. sending goods out of a country to trade or sell
- 2. special section of train that can hold liquid
- 3. a semi-_____ truck can attach long boxes full of cargo to a hitch
- 4. a _____ truck can travel on the roads carrying liquid in a large container
- 5. factories and warehouses are often built near its tracks
- 6. what we move from place to place; freight
- 7. packaging cargo for safe shipping
- 8. a cargo _____ carries very heavy items long distances over water
- 9. a car _____ is a vehicle that can hold up to 12 cars
- 10. series of tubes used to move oil over great distances
- 11. where people check cargo before entrance is allowed
- 12. business of moving items from one place to another
- 13. carries cargo quickly through the air



Goods are moved
1. through the _____
2. across _____
3. over _____

People Movers!
Fill in the blanks to name things that move people and their stuff!

1. ____ a ____ s
2. m ____ t ____ rcy ____ le
3. tro ____ ____ ey
4. ____ us
5. ai ____ pla ____ e



- 14. dropping cargo off where it is supposed to go
- 15. bringing goods into a country
- 16. once a delivery truck has pulled in, workers _____ the merchandise

What is Needed to Ship Goods?

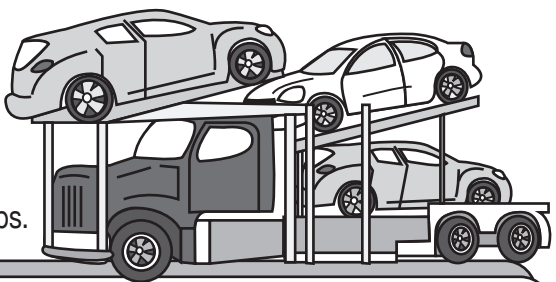
People want to ship goods, trade with others, and have well-stocked stores. We all know that it takes vehicles to do these things. But, what else is needed? Warehouses, train stations, airports and ports on waterways have to be built. Fill in the missing letters to name the support systems or "infrastructure" needed for shipping.

- 1. ____ ir ____ ort
- 2. ru ____ wa ____
- 3. ____ are ____ ouse
- 4. ____ t ____ re
- 5. pi ____ el ____ ne
- 6. t ____ ain s ____ a ____ ion
- 7. tu ____ n ____ ls
- 8. ____ ort ____
- 9. r ____ a ____ s
- 10. ra ____ lroa ____ tra ____ ks
- 11. c ____ na ____
- 12. ____ oc ____
- 13. ____ rid ____ es
- 14. ca ____ sewa ____ s



Who Moves the Freight?

To move cargo around the world it takes many people doing a lot of jobs.



Can you find and circle these workers in the puzzle?

- truck driver
- train engineer
- dock worker
- traffic clerk
- dispatcher
- pilot
- ship's captain
- forklift operator
- cargo inspector
- car hauler

Word search grid containing letters for finding workers.



SEPTEMBER 16, 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 and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese was absent. Auditor Heupel led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOMENT OF SILENCE: A Moment of Silence was held in remembrance of Carl Wright; he worked at the Brown County Landfill for over 40 years.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT: Senator Perry shared with the Commission that he just attended the International Legislative Forum in Deadwood, SD, that included people from South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota and Manitoba, Canada that has been meeting since Red River Flooding (over 25 years ago). One of the topics discussed was on farming issues due to tariffs. On Thursday there will be a SD Public Broadcasting Town Hall in Pierre. On the following Monday, he will be attending the final Property Tax Task Force meeting in Pierre, then on Tuesday there is a special session regarding the prison reset.

Scott Sunberg with Hub City Radio added that the theme for September 18th is Separation of Powers Town Hall and the system of checks and balances work in South Dakota.

REQUEST USE OF GREEN SPACE FOR MUSEUM FALL FESTIVAL: Patricia Kendall, Museum Director met with the Commission to ask permission to use the Courthouse Green Space between the State's Attorney/BC Jail and Annex again this year for their Fall Festival and allow for a canopy to be pitched to provide some shade for the lawn games. Commissioner Dennert asked Patricia to tell a little bit more about the event. She shared that it will be held on Saturday, September 27th from 11am – 3pm; they will have Live Music, Pumpkin Decorating, Lawn Games, Living History Booth, etc. Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the request for use of the Courthouse Green Space and pitching a canopy. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Patricia shared some "Did You Know" tidbits about the Museum for the Commission to have as the Museum continues on the campaigning efforts for the Expansion Project to the Dacotah Prairie Museum.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR RODEO STOCK PROVIDER 2026-2028: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to get approval to publish notice requesting proposals for Rodeo Stock Providers for the 2026-2028 Fairs. The bid opening will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025. They want to get a turnkey crew that comes in and does everything, the Fair Board will retain the sponsorship and work on the payouts for the athletes. Commissioner Dennert asked if there were any differences between this request and the last one. Rachel stated the only difference was not providing 4-7 Fair Board members because Bailey Pro didn't need them and the Fair Board has plenty of other things to do. Chairman Sutton stated that at least one if not both nights of the Rodeo were sold out again this year, it is a popular event. Senator Perry shared that Rodeo is the #1 Sport in South Dakota. Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve publishing the RFP for Rodeo Stock Provider for the 2026, 2027 and 2028 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried

FAIR UPDATE: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager shared preliminary numbers for the 2025 Brown County Fair. The Grandstand Event Revenue was \$955,217.50; Booth Rent Revenue \$137,128.00; Other Revenue comes to \$665,132.46 at this time but some things can still change. Rachel also discussed Fairground Alcohol Licensing, she reported a net profit of \$53,782.51. She also shared that there are 6 openings on the Fair Board, if anyone wants to apply.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) – DRAW-

DOWN REQUEST #8: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Drawdown Request #8 for a total of \$6,000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #310 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #310. Applicant Paul Larson to rezone 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: Proposed Lot 1, "Paul Larson First Addition" in the E1/2 of the SE1/4 of Section 6-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13653 389th Avenue; Warner Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPLICATIONS FOR OCCUPANCY: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the application submitted by Scott Hansen for occupancy of Brown County 100th Street, Section 6, T128-R61, Brown County, South Dakota to install drain tile (Contractor: KW Drilling Services). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following applications submitted by Northern Electric: occupancy of Brown County 382nd Ave./Brown County Rd. 2, South ½ of NW ¼, Section 19-T124N-R64W, Brown County, South Dakota to bury primary electrical (Contractor: K & H Electrical); Brown County Highway 21, Section 12-T-122N-R61W, Brown County, South Dakota for primary electrical (Contractor: Schmidt Construction). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY UPDATE: Commissioner Dennert asked about Brown County 21 being paved. Matt Heupel, Highway Foreman stated that it is scheduled to be paved yet this Fall. Matt also shared that they opened the gates on the Jim River and Crow Creek and everything is going well, flowing as it should.

QUOTES FOR 24/7 BUILDING ROOF: Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent and Randy Zens, Building Assistant Superintendent met with the Commission regarding the quotes for replacing the roof on the 24/7 Building. They received three quotes: Huff Construction for \$89,311.91, which included 4" insulation; North Central Steel for \$96,518.83 with 3" insulation, add an additional \$8,000.00 for 4" insulation and colored roof; Steel Structures for \$43,300 with 3" insulation, add an addition \$800.00 for 4" insulation and \$400.00 for colored roof. After some discussion, Commissioner Dinger moved to accept the quote from Steel Structures in the amount of \$44,100.00 to do the roof with no color but 4" insulation. Seconded by Dennert. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting Minutes of September 2, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Insurance: Alliant Insurance Services, Inc. \$3,040.00. Professional Fees: Aberdeen ED \$221.30; Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc \$1,174.40; Best Western Ramkota Hotel-Aberdeen \$13,058.55; Blackburn & Stevens, Prof, LLC \$240.78; Boyce Law Firm \$150.00; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,854.60; CGI, LLC \$337.50; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$24.00; Day County \$7,790.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$5,799.15; Emergency Services Marketing Corp, Inc \$6,589.00; Helms & Associates \$2,360.00; IMEG Corp \$3,683.67; ISI, LLC \$120.00; Kennedy Pier Loftus & Reynolds, LLP \$444.00; Kristi Brandt \$103.50; Kuck Law Office \$6,444.00; Language Line Services, Inc \$1,561.22; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$200.00; Lincoln County Auditor \$72.00; Medical Waste Transport, Inc \$166.20; Minnehaha County Auditor \$210.68; Network Center, Inc \$3,057.77; Northeastern Mental Health Center \$3,225.00; PharmChem \$1,487.70; Renville County Sheriff's Office \$75.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$939.00; Sanford Health \$3,092.84; Schneider Geospatial, LLC \$3,060.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$929.25; SDSU Extension 4-H Programs \$30.00;

Sewer Duck, Inc \$85.00; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$2,484.00; Taylor Bell \$1,062.50; Thomson Reuters – West Payment Center \$595.49; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$580.00; Vosika Fencing \$1,750.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$100.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$314.50. Publishing: Aanenson Media, LLC \$5,495.00; AlphaMedia-Watertown \$4,300.00; DRG Media Group \$2,242.00; Groton Daily Independent \$217.95; Hub City Radio \$1,200.00; i3G Media \$3,090.00; KSJB/KSJZ Radio \$3,000.00; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$2,881.30; Southwest Messenger Press, Inc \$97.44; The Watertown Current \$1,230.40. Rentals: Dakota Electronics LLC \$111.00; Implecho LLC \$2,975.00; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$63.18; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$259.20; Vestisti \$266.48. Repairs & Maintenance: Ace Refrigeration, LLC \$454.92; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$29.00; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$5,809.77; Custom Installation Solutions \$17,100.00; Dakota Doors Inc \$244.59; Day County Treasurer \$3,070.60; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$8,000.00; Ecolab Pest Elimination Division \$118.47; Gary's Auto Body & Accessories \$2,523.43; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$406.86; Jake's Heating & Cooling \$8,150.40; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$1,934.84; Know Inc, LLC \$5,125.00; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$719.03; Olson's Pest Technicians \$260.00; Overhead Door \$1,988.98; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$281.20; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$53.29; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$357.63; RDO Equipment Co \$5,916.09; Safety Service \$216.90; Sanitation Products Inc. \$40.79; Schwan Welding \$1,688.10; Sewer Duck, Inc \$501.50; Sherwin Williams \$27.95; Steven Lust Automotive \$243.03; Titan Machinery \$3,901.24; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$13,176.06. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$51,211.85; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$1,182.09; Auto Value Aberdeen \$1,523.78; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$33.74; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc \$671.75; Bob Barker Company Inc \$178.62; Brown County Fair Foundation \$7,019.82; Butler Machinery Company \$2,582.28; Central Network Retail Group LLC \$149.76; Century Business Products \$8,330.73; Christina M. Flack \$857.95; Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country \$2,816.50; Cole Paper Inc \$4,127.44; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$12,363.08; Crescent Electric Supply Co \$11.14; Dakota Doors Inc \$235.09; Dakota Electronics LLC \$1,185.95; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$939.09; Dakota Supply Group \$486.67; Day County \$30.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$116.74; East Side Jersey Dairy Inc \$1,329.82; Ellwein Brothers Inc \$18,901.60; Full Circle Ag \$1,422.14; Geffdro Designs \$157.98; GovConnection, Inc \$849.63; Hall Sand & Gravel, Inc \$1,426.72; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$98.00; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$59,456.70; Johnson Brothers of South Dakota, Inc. \$1,498.70; Kessler's \$250.39; Kuck Law Office \$97.90; LabSource, Inc \$1,922.24; Lang's Audio, TV & Appliance \$819.99; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$240.79; Lien Transportation Company \$334.003.50; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$193.40; Marco Technologies, LLC \$132.65; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc \$274.97; Menards \$163.29; Midstates Group \$316.00; Montgomery's Furniture Inc \$3,671.72; Nelson Sales & Service, LLC \$85.86; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$92.00; Pauer Sound, LLC \$111.51; Performance Oil \$117.52; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$36.00; Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC \$1,046.10; Porter Distribut- ing \$385.15; RDO Equipment Co \$3,258.19; Runnings \$1,355.38; Safety Service \$442.40; Sanitation Products Inc. \$541.07; Schwan Welding \$84.72; Sherwin Williams 286.11; Shop 4-H/ National 4-H Council \$68.45; Stan Houston Equipment Company, Inc \$155.00; Thomson Reuters – West Payment Center \$842.90; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$6,665.03; Tri-State Water \$58.50; Ultimate Upholstery Solutions, LLC \$78.98; US Foods \$10,943.22; Vineskills, Inc. \$1,875.00. Travel & Conference: Becca Tullar \$280.00; Bryan Gordon \$14.00; Caden Galbraith \$14.00; Cedar Shore Resort \$224.00; CGI, LLC \$5.60; Heartland Association of Fairs, Festivals & Events \$245.00; Kyle Couchey \$14.00; Linda Marcuson \$20.00; Lynn Heupel \$295.60; Mariann Malsom \$264.00; Michael Wiese \$250.30; Neil Bittner \$28.00; Patricia VanMeter \$232.40; Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center – Pierre \$600.00; Scott Kolb \$14.00. Utilities: City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$2,509.53; City of Hecla \$164.42; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$17.99; Northern Elec-

tric \$7,798.45; Northwestern Energy \$19,533.38; NVC \$260.00; T-Mobile USA Inc \$577.86; Town of Frederick \$77.00; Verizon Wireless \$600.29; WEB Water Development Association, Inc \$122.49. Other: SD Assoc of County Officials \$756.00; SD Dept of Agriculture & Natural Resources \$7,571.17.

Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$1,945.88; Auditor/Welfare \$11,570.89; Treasurer \$18,764.33; SA \$36,312.10; Public Defender \$8,761.01; Maintenance \$12,772.55; Assessor \$16,581.76; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,741.87; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$9,855.68; HR \$5,419.28; Sheriff \$55,897.96; Jail \$74,104.60; Coroner (Voucher) \$1,500.00; Court Security \$8,200.34; JDC \$30,303.60; Museum \$12,654.64; Parks/Fairgrounds \$10,198.15; Fair Board \$6,148.67; 4-H \$1,904.79; Weed \$6,373.37; Planning & Zoning \$8,178.60; Highway \$57,382.48; Dispatch \$36,333.35; Emergency \$5,498.56; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,494.02; Landfill \$19,477.07; Meal Benefits \$168.00; FICA \$28,485.79; Medicare \$6,661.96; HSA \$22,309.40. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

- o Resignation of Alexis Kane as Brown County Jail Cook; FT – effective September 2, 2025. Request to fill.

- o Hiring of Kristine Hulshof as Brown County Jail Detention Officer; FT, starting wage \$21.93/hr – effective September 16, 2025.

- o Hiring of Annie King as Brown County State's Attorney Legal Assistant; FT, starting wage \$20.87/hr. – effective September 15, 2025.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Travel Requests: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent to attend County Convention in Pierre on September 8-9, 2025 and Midwest Pavement Preservation Alliance in Omaha, NE on September 16-18, 2025; Karly Winter, SA to attend Fall Attorney General's Conference on Rules of Evidence in Pierre on September 17-19, 2025 All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL TONNAGE REPORT FOR AUGUST: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to acknowledge the Landfill Tonnage Report for August 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage 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.

ABATEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dinger to approve the following abatement: For Tax Yr. 24PY25 – Parcel #2299 - \$117.54. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Sutton shared that Brown County was awarded at the Gold Level for the Loss Control/Safety Achievement Award on behalf of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance (SDPAA) and SDML Workers' Compensation Fund for 2025. Brown County has the most Gold Awards in South Dakota at 27.

Senator Perry referenced the Charlie Kirk incident and wanted to take a moment and Thank the Commission for their Public Service and the importance of what they do; granted we don't have the same type of pressures in our environment, but we don't want to take things for granted and that what the Commission is doing is important and to thank them.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session for Personnel per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

The Chair declared the executive session closed with No Action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Dinger to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:32 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published September 24, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$160.05 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26027



NOTICE TO RODEO STOCK CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M. on October 21, 2025, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Project – Rodeo Stock Contractor in years 2026, 2027, and 2028 at the Dacotah Bank Stampede Rodeo at the Brown County Fair located on the Brown County Fairgrounds, 400 24th Ave. NW, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the following:

Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401

And the envelope marked with:

"Brown County Fair Rodeo Stock Contractor"

Received by 8:45 A.M. on Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

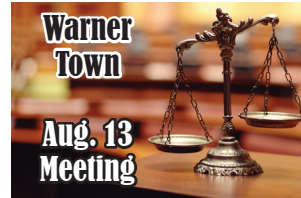
CONTRACT: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

Copies of the specifications can be obtained at no charge and are on file at the following locations:

- Website: <https://www.brown.sd.us/brown-county-bids>
- Brown County Fair Office: 400 24th Ave. NW, Aberdeen, SD 57401 / Ph: 605-626-7116
- Brown County Auditor's Office: 25 Market Street, Ste. 1, Aberdeen, SD 57401 / Ph: 605-626-7110

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published September 24, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$21.68 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26028



TOWN OF WARNER MINUTES FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 13th, 2025

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Evans, Gaylon Townsend, Stewart Nelson, Nichol Townsend, Dave Fair.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Evans to approve the minutes from July 9th, 2025 meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: MSC: Evans/Fair. Checking: Town \$359,031.84; Water \$77,040.37; Sewer \$205,121.07. CDs: Town \$32,978.33; Water \$50,140.44; Sewer \$28,375.31.

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAYMENT: MSC: Townsend/Evans.

AGTEGRA (fuel & chemical) \$816.02, USDA (water & sewer loans) \$2083, WEB Water (city water) \$5786.50, Badger Meter (July readings) \$12.88, Bobcat (repairs) \$1316.99, Brown County Treasurer (mosquito spraying) \$450, Country Concrete (supplies & repairs) \$10,850, Dependable Sanitation (garbage) \$2715, Diamond Dry Cleaning (services) \$58, Fonder Construction (CC maintenance) \$1446.71, Frontier Precision (annual subscription) \$462.80, Groton Independent (advertising) \$26.03, Hofer Repair (rental) \$1120, Hydro Klean (sewer maintenance) \$12873.59, Lien Transportation (supplies) \$1667.70, Lynn Aman (janitorial) \$75, MAC'S (supplies) \$61.34, Midcontinent (phone & internet) \$245.40, Northwestern Energy (electricity) \$2524.86, Runnings (supplies) \$133.90, SD Dept of Rev (Sales Tax) \$188.42, SD Public Health Lab (water test) \$20, Tax990 (fees) \$319.60, Town of Warner (Water/Sewer) \$373.63, US Postal

Service (supplies) \$1442.85, SD Retirement Fund \$539.76, Payroll Taxes \$1242.08, PAYROLL: Stewart Nelson \$3587.28, Scott Boone \$103.44, Terry Evans \$410.03, Dave Fair \$64.64, Wade Rozell \$199.48, Gaylon Townsend \$55.41, Nichol Townsend \$691.55.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Street repairs were discussed. Patching has been completed. Chip sealing is scheduled to be done next week.

Passed Resolution #08132525: A RESOLUTION ADJUSTING WATER RATES WITHIN THE TOWN OF WARNER. Whereas, adjustments are needed because WEB water has increased rates; NOW, therefore, it is hereby resolved that the TOWN OF WARNER adopts the following fees effective October 1st, 2025. 9-3-13B- Rates for Water Service: The minimum flat fee will remain at \$40.00 per month. The per thousand gallons fee will remain at: \$5.95 per 1,000 gallons up to 6,000 gallons, \$7.95 per 1,000 gallons from 6,001 to 12,000 gallons, \$9.95 per 1,000 gallons over 12,000. Dated this 13th Day of August, 2025.

Signed by David Fair, Chairman. Attest: Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer. MSC: Townsend/Fair

Passed 1st Reading of ordinance #70925: An ordinance to prohibit the use of fireworks in the Town of Warner. WHEREAS, the Town of Warner has received complaints regarding safety issues, noise, debris/garbage due to fireworks and, WHEREAS fireworks use in the city limits poses safety hazards to neighboring properties, Be it ordained; by the TOWN OF WARNER, that the use of fireworks within the city limits of Warner is prohibited, unless authorized with written consent of the Town of Warner Board of Trustees. This includes the use of sparklers, firecrackers and other small fireworks. Violations of this ordinance are subject to a fee set by the Town of Warner Board of Trustees. This Ordinance shall be effective within 20 days after the publication of said Ordinance. First reading: August 13th, 2025 MSC: Townsend/Evans

NEW BUSINESS:

Passed Resolution #081325; A resolution to establish current liquor license fees in the Town of Warner. TOWN OF WARNER. Whereas, the state has made changes to the minimum and maximum fees; NOW, therefore, it is hereby resolved that the TOWN OF WARNER adopts the following fees; Annual off-sale license fee of \$400 and annual on-sale liquor license fee of \$1000. Dated this 13th Day of August, 2025. Signed by David Fair, Chairman. Attest: Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer. MSC: Townsend/Fair.

City ball field improvements were discussed. No action taken.

Delinquencies: 5 were noted and notices will be posted on doors. Two are already shut off.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: September 10th, 2025 at 7 PM at the Warner Community Center.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Dave Fair, Chairman; Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer

Published September 24, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$46.55 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26029



West Hanson Township Mowing Notice

All road right of ways in West Hanson Township must be cut by October 15th. Mowing must extend from the road edge to the field edge or fence line. The Township will cut the right of ways not cut with cost charged to the landowner. The charge of \$150 per lot. \$250 per half mile and \$500 per mile will be charged to the landowner. Per Certified Law 31-32-2 the owner or occupant of any abutting or adjoining upon township roads shall cut, remove or destroy, or cause to be cut any grass, weeds, trees and brush growing in the right of way of such roads.

Jennifer Dirks, Clerk West Hanson Township

Published twice on Sept. 25 and Oct. 2, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$14.13. 26030

EARTHTALK

Dear Earth-Talk: How do 3D-printed houses stack up against conventional ones with regard to sustainability, both during construction and then in use?
-- J. Homes, via email



3D-printed homes, like these at Wolf Ranch in Texas, use less material and create less waste and are fast gaining traction as a sustainable alternative to traditional building. Credit: Wolf Ranch.

3D printed homes are fast gaining traction as a sustainable alternative to traditional building. Proponents say they use less material, create less waste, and hold promise for efficient long term performance. The question is whether all this adds up in real life when compared to conventionally built houses.

3D printing offers several clear advantages. The additive process builds walls layer-by-layer using only what’s needed, drastically reducing waste. According to Bay Management Group, 3D methods can cut process waste and over engineering significantly, creating a shorter supply chain and a more eco friendly outcome. Unlike conventional framing which discards off cuts and excess materials, printed homes use nearly all the feedstock. Realistically that can reduce overall material consumption by up to 90 percent.

And there’s speed. A community of 100 3D printed homes built in Wolf Ranch, Texas was completed in just four to six weeks per home: a fraction of the six to eight months typical for wood frame builds. That means fewer machine hours, fewer diesel trucks hauling materi-

als, and less energy burned on site. In Melbourne, Australia, company Luyten recently built a 3D printed house in just three weeks total. Sustainability claims also hinge on materials used. Some 3D homes use advanced concrete mixes like Lavacrete, which provide strength and reduce carbon emissions. Others experiment with bio based feeds like wood waste with corn resin. Habib Dagher of the Advanced Structures and Composites Center described one model called BioHome3D as “100 percent renewable, because it is really bio based.” The pellets used in printing can be recycled and reused multiple times while retaining material properties. Also, many 3D printed homes deliver superior thermal mass thanks to concrete walls, which improve insulation and reduce heating and cooling needs. Companies like Mighty Buildings now integrate ultra low GWP (global warming potential) insulation to further reduce carbon footprint during operation. There are challenges. Printing still relies heavily on concrete, which has high embodied carbon unless offset or replaced with greener materials. Many finished homes still need traditional tradespeople to install plumbing, wiring, windows and interior finishes. Zoning codes and building rules also limit adoption in many markets. But once integrated with renewable energy and better materials, these homes could match or exceed conventional sustainability standards in both construction and ongoing use.

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.

Exercise and Arthritis: What Really Works

If your joints ache after sitting too long or make crackling sounds when you get up, you’re not alone. More than half of older adults in the U.S. report having at least one arthritic joint, and while our understanding has improved over the past two decades, old myths still create confusion about how best to manage it.

Is Exercise Safe? Many people fear that too much movement or vigorous exercise will wear out their joints and make arthritis worse. The surprising truth is that exercise is one of the most powerful ways to protect and even improve the health of cartilage.

How it Works Cartilage, the smooth tissue that cushions our joints, doesn’t have a blood supply of its own. Instead, it depends on the surrounding fluid in the joint space. Movement acts like a pump: when cartilage is compressed and released, it pushes out waste and pulls in fresh fluid and nutrients. This happens each time you take a step, bend or jump. Think of it as CPR for your joints, compression and decompression pump fluid in and out, keeping cartilage alive and well.

When Exercise Hurts For many, pain with certain movements is common, and pushing through pain can make things worse. “No pain, no gain” is not the answer. The key is to find activities that don’t hurt. Even small pain-free movements make a difference. Anything is better than nothing, and over time, those movements can pay off by allowing greater mobility with less pain.

The Power of Water For many people with significant arthritis, water-based exercise is a game-changer. Water supports body weight, reducing pressure on joints, easing swelling and providing natural resistance for strength training. Great options include water aerobics or simply walking, running and jumping while in chest-deep water.

Strength is Key Another key to managing joint health and improving function with arthritis is strength training. When muscles around the joint are strengthened, they act like shock absorbers and reduce joint stress. Resistance training can start with simple tools like exercise bands or body weight. Small resistance movements can gradually progress to larger, more challenging exercises as strength improves and pain decreases.

Yes, arthritis is a pain - but avoiding movement only makes it worse. Find pain-free ways to move and build strength. Start small, stay consistent and your joints will thank you.

Becca Jordre, Ph.D., DPT, is a professor of physical therapy at the University of South Dakota, board certified in geriatric physical therapy, and a certified exercise expert for aging adults. Her research centers on healthy aging, with a particular focus on athletes age 50 and older. She collaborates regularly with the National Senior Games Association and developed the Sustained Athlete Fitness Exam (SAFE), a tool designed to assess physical fitness in older athletes. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org, Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and Tik Tok. Prairie Doc Programming includes On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB, YouTube and streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB, Sundays at 6am and 1pm).



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