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# The Groton Independent

Vol. 143 No. 10 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025 ♦ Established in 1889

## Junior Snow Queen Candidates

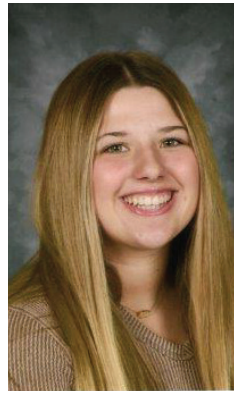
The 80th Groton Area Snow Queen Contest will be held on Sunday, November 30th in the GHS Old Gymnasium at 4:00pm. The contest will feature eight high school freshmen vying for the Junior Snow Queen Title (there are no Senior Snow Queen Contestants this year), the crowning of a kindergarten prince and princess, local talent, ice cream refreshments, and the unveiling of the mystery frosty (\$100 Chamber Bucks for the correct guess – must be present to win)! The Groton Area Snow Queen Committee welcomes all to come and enjoy the show!



Todd Gay hands a decoration up to Landon Johnson as the Christmas decorations on Main Street were put up on Monday. They took advantage of the nice day to put them up. (Photo by Tina Kosel)



**Novalea Warrington**  
Daughter of Neil and Amy Warrington



**Brooklyn Spanier**  
Daughter of Roger and Darci Spanier



**Adeline Kotzer**  
Daughter of Nikki Kotzer and Kevin and Becky Kotzer



**Tevan Hanson**  
Daughter of Justin and Chelsea Hanson



**Abby Fjeldheim**  
Daughter of Ryan and Susan Fjeldheim

Students from Groton Area Pre-K and St. John's Lutheran afternoon Pre-School are featured in this paper.

## Thanksgiving food delivered

Enrich Groton has been busy working alongside fellow volunteers, City staff, and Full Circle Ag employees to pack and sort food from Feeding SD and deliver it to residents in Groton, making sure families have what they need during this season of gratitude.

Enrich Groton is truly grateful for the dedication, compassion, and teamwork everyone brings to this effort and hope the families who received food feel supported and cared for during the holiday season. Thanks to all the volunteers who give their time, energy, and heart to support the Groton SD Community. Wishing everyone a warm, joyful, and very Happy Thanksgiving!



Pictured are Diane Warrington, Ruby Larson, Lori Giedt and Nancy Larsen.

(Courtesy Photo)



**Arianna Dinger**  
Daughter of Weston and Emily Dinger and Brian and Elizabeth Bahr



**Aspen Beto**  
Daughter of Jacob and Lindsey Beto and Lance and Cassandra Haskell



**Neely Althoff**  
Daughter of Scott and Dana Althoff



Michael Grace, Clayton Rozell, Dale Flihs and Ryan Kutter were helping to unload the Feeding South Dakota Truck. Those doing the deliveries were April Abeln, Stacy Mayou, Justin Cleveland, Todd Gay, Paul Kosel.

(Courtesy Photo)



Pictured are Rita Kampa, April Abeln, Jackie Krueger, Lori Giedt, Ruby Larson and Diane Warrington. (Courtesy Photo)



Blessings to your family!  
Happy Thanksgiving

The Groton Independent  
Groton Daily Independent  
GDILIVE.COM

**Happy Thanksgiving!**




**I am thankful for mom and dad because they make me food like spaghetti.**

**Zanel Daniels, daughter of Bernard and Louise Daniels**




**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**I am thankful for mom and dad because they put me to bed, and my cat because I like to play with her.**

**Beau Bentz, son of Thomas and Ashley Bentz**



**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**I am thankful for my family because they love me and they are nice.**

**Ava Rose, daughter of Ian and Karen Rose**



**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**I am thankful for my family because I have a lot of them and I like to eat with them.**

**Andrew Hertel, son of Carston Hertel and MacKenzie Barse**



**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**I am thankful for my mom and my dad because my mom sometimes bakes the best pumpkin pie and my dad farms the best corn.**

**Cameron Haskell, son of Lance and Cassandra Haskell**



**Happy Thanksgiving!**



**I am thankful for my family because I love them and we play together.**

**Cole Swisher, son of Travis and Taylor Swisher**




LET OUR LIVES BE FULL OF BOTH

**Thanks & Giving**

We are grateful for our residents, families, staff, and the wonderful Groton community. Your support and kindness mean so much to us.

Wishing you a holiday filled with comfort, gratitude, and moments of joy.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*





**We're thankful to the community for supporting us!**



**Downtown Groton: 605-397-2606**

**It may be frosty outside . . .**



*. . . but we hope the comfort of your home is full of warm thoughts!*

**FARMERS** UNION CO-OP ASSOCIATION

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**Happy Thanksgiving!**

I am thankful for my cats and dogs because I like how they sniff my backpack and I like to play outside with them.

Henry Townsend, son of Zachary and Stephanie Townsend

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

I am thankful for my mom and my dad because I like to draw stuff with them.

Kylo Addison, son of Lowell and Marie Harms

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

I am thankful for mom and dad because they play outside with me.

Parker Biermann, daughter of Quintin and Meghan Biermann



**Lyza Johnson**  
 Parents: Tayla and Gene Johnson Groton  
 Thankful for my Mom and Dad



**Vee Flihs**  
 Parents: Tigh and Adrienne Flihs Groton  
 Thankful for my dog



**Olivia Merkel**  
 Parents: Brett and Micaela Merkel Groton  
 Thankful for unicorns

*A Time To Give Thanks*

Here's hoping all your prayers are answered during this holiday season. We're counting our blessings and your friendship is at the top of the list!

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

*Lori's Pharmacy*

**HAPPY Thanksgiving**

**from The Meathouse in Andover!**

From our family to yours, we want to wish everyone a warm, safe, and joyful Thanksgiving. We're grateful for the customers, farmers, hunters, neighbors, and friends who continue to support our small-town shop all year long.

Thank you for trusting us with your holiday meats, special cuts, and everything that brings your table together. It's an honor to serve the Andover community and surrounding area.

May your day be filled with good food, good company, and plenty to be thankful for.

Happy Thanksgiving — and thank you for choosing The Meathouse!

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*Bountiful Blessings at Thanksgiving*

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Answer

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

1	9	5	7	4	8	6	2	3
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S	T	R	A	D	S	N	E	S	T	S		



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**Grayson Monson**  
Parents: Adam and Amanda Monson  
Conde  
Thankful for my daddy



**Waylon Anderson**  
Parents: Taylor and Laura Anderson  
Groton  
Thankful for cleaning my room

**The Groton Independent**  
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**Hank Hoff**  
Parents: Delton and Jacque Hoff  
Groton  
Thankful for my iguana stuffy




**Rayder Freeland**  
Parents: Jess and Justin Freeland  
Houghton  
Thankful for picking apples off Grandma and Grandpas Apple trees

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or scan and email to [paperpaul@grotonsd.net](mailto:paperpaul@grotonsd.net)



Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today, and creates a vision for tomorrow. ~Melody Beattie

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**A heartfelt message for you this season: we appreciate your business!**

Happy Thanksgiving



**MJ's** 105 US-12 Groton  
**Sinclair**  
**HUNT BROTHERS PIZZA**



**Wrenley Giedt**  
**Parents: Heath and Katelyn Giedt**  
**Groton**  
**Thankful for my toys**



**Willa Olson**  
**Parents: Brad and Karlie Olson**  
**Groton**  
**Thankful for hugs**



**Mark Marchuk**  
**Parents: Will and Tetiana**  
**Groton**  
**Thankful for Kittens**  
**This is all 10! Let me know if this is ok? Or if you need something more**

### Pantry October Report

In October, The Pantry - Groton, SD welcomed a total of 74 visits from individuals and families. During these visits Enrich Groton was able to distribute essential food and household items weighing a combined total of 2,630 pounds.

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**GO WITH GRATITUDE.**

**DACOTAH BANK**

MEMBER FDIC 7 E. US Hwy 12 | GROTON

*Happy Thanksgiving!  
 May the autumn glow  
 and delicious harvest  
 of the season bring you  
 happiness and  
 prosperity!*

**ML Real Estate**  
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 Dari Schlotte  
 Broker Associate  
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 Bristol

*Wishing You a super sized Thanksgiving!*

**Bierman Farm Services**  
 Downtown Groton

Sometimes, life can put us in troubled situations and sadness. However, giving thanks no matter the situation links us directly to God and the angels. So take time to appreciate the craziness that life comes with and our lives will be filled with more joy. Happy Thanksgiving from

**KR Body Shop**  
 Andover

*We are part of something wonderful. We are friends, but also family. You will be loved for the rest of your life, and we are thankful for having you.*

*Happy Thanksgiving from*  
**Karma Salon**  
 Downton Groton

LET  
 our hearts  
 BE FULL  
 thanks  
 and  
 Giving

**Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel**  
 Groton

## Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

*Wishing you the gift of faith  
and the blessing of hope this  
thanksgiving day!*



**Weismantel  
Insurance  
Agency**  
Columbia

*May your blessings be  
multiplied this year and  
throughout all your life.*



**Weber  
Landscaping**  
Groton

## Weekly SUDOKU

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9	1	7					3	

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate   ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## Frank Daly

Hello. I am Liby Althoff and I have the pleasure to tell you about Frank Daly's military experience.

Frank Daly enlisted into the United States Air Force on December 14, 1955, to avoid being drafted into the Army. Frank believed that the Air Force was the safest branch of service so he prepared for a difficult boot camp and to serve his country.

From 1955 to 1976, the Air Force took Frank to London England, California, Washington, D.C., Thailand, Hawaii, and South Dakota. During those years, Frank felt like he belonged to a special group of people who wanted to serve their country. While in the Air Force, he remembers that supplies and food were aplenty. Frank wrote letters to his mom and brothers to stay in touch with them. Frank recalled a humorous time when a young man was being expelled and he had a foul language departure!

While serving his country, Frank met and then later married Eileen Slaney and they had three children Gary, Kathy, and Susie. Frank learned to respect his fellow soldiers and to listen to his superiors during service. Frank is a member of the Columbia American Legion, Post 58.

After Frank was honorably discharged, he went to work in various businesses but ended up working for the State of South Dakota in the Motor Carrier Division for 10 years. Frank's advice to young people thinking about entering the military today is to follow your dream and to research opportunities that being in the military can provide for you down the road.

Frank Daly, we are grateful for your service, and we appreciate your service to our country. Frank is not present today but he was given his quilt of valor on November 7 at Nano Nagle.



## Gary Seiber

Good afternoon! My name is Kira Clocksene and I have the honor to tell you about Gary Seiber's military experience.

Gary Seiber was drafted into the U.S. Army on November 16, 1961. Gary left for the Army with Groton native and friend, Rusty Tullis. He was assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry and United States Army Reserve Seventh(USARSEVEN). He reported for a physical in Sioux Fall, South Dakota, and then off to Fort Carson, Colorado for 8 weeks of boot camp. Gary was then sent to Arkansas for additional 8-weeks of training in heavy weapons infantry.

Gary served in Schweinfurt, Germany, where he was in the heavy weapon infantry, and later transferred to the ammunition depot, hauling ammunition. His stipend/pay was \$63/month while serving.

While in the military, he travelled by train to London, England and saw the changing of the guard. Gary also went to Barcelona, Spain and saw many memorable monuments and bull fights. On his way back to his army station in Germany, he stopped in Geneva, Switzerland and saw many beautiful monuments and countryside. Gary said that while serving they played basketball and softball to keep themselves occupied. Gary talked with his family mostly through letters and the occasional phone call.

Gary left the Army with an honorable discharge and he was awarded the Expert Rifle M1 medal.

He left Bremerhaven, Germany in 1963 aboard the USNS Gordon and arrived at Fort Hamilton, New York, with a duffel bag and a canvas hand bag as that was all he was authorized to travel with. He received his pay and was released. He purchased a plane ticket to Jamestown, ND and stayed in a motel that evening. The next day he took a bus to Aberdeen, South Dakota, where welcomed home by his parents.

Gary was transferred to the 716th Transportation Company in Aberdeen, South Dakota for two years. After his service, Gary farmed and raced cars with his dad and brother for many years.

Gary married Karen Hart in August of 1964, and had two children, Gayleen Sieber Voss and Garrett Sieber. He also has three grandchildren: Lacy Voss, Jordan Voss-Severson, and Gavin Voss, as well as two great-grandchildren: Mavrik and Elleit Severson with another great-grandchild on the way.

Gary has a life time membership in the American Legion, Post 58, Columbia. He was commander in Columbia when they built the new Legion building.

Because of his time in the Army, Gary said he learned how to respect others and take orders. Overall, Gary said that being in the military was a good experience and he believes that everyone should serve their country in some way.

Gary, on behalf of the community and nation, with our deepest appreciation, we honor your service with this quilt of valor.



## Ken Sieber

Hello! My name is Gavin Kroll and I would like to tell you about Kenny, "Red" Sieber's military experience.

On June 13, 1964, Kenny Sieber was drafted into the U.S. Army, 661st Ordnance Company, and Ammunitions Division. He went to basic training in Fort Leonard, Missouri and then attended ammo schooling at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Maryland. This school taught Kenny all about ammo; how it's made, what's in it, and how it worked. Kenny and the 661st Ordnance Company stayed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma for seven and a half months before being transferred to their new permanent base at An Kag, (Kae) Vietnam.

Kenny had several jobs while in the service. One job was a company clerk where he wrote up the morning report of Article 15s. If a soldier had a minor infraction against the rules, the company commander was allowed to address the infraction by writing up an Article 15. Another important job Kenny did was to supply ammunitions to the Ordnance Company as well as the 1st Calvary Division. Kenny was also part of the EOD which stands for Explosive Ordnance Disposal. His team destroyed unspent ammo and if a helicopter or plane crashed, they would pick up what was left of the wreckage including the ammo.

While at war, Ken stayed in touch with his family by writing letters sent through the mail. He made close friendships while away, said has stayed in touch with them afterwards.

A favorite memory Kenny has is having the opportunity to see Bob Hope's USO show at Christmas on their base in Vietnam. This show really lifted Kenny and fellow soldiers' spirits! That show was the only R & R he received in his Vietnam deployment.

For his time in the military, he was awarded a Vietnam Medal, a Good Conduct Medal, and a Sharpshooter Badge. Kenny Sieber was honorably discharged from the U. S. Army on June 13, 1966. Through his military experience, Kenny said that he learned the value of life. After returning home, Kenny slept and smiled a lot more and began farming with his Dad and brother, Gary. When he wasn't farming or raising registered Angus cattle, he would do bodywork on vehicles.

He married Patti Kopetsky, and they have three children: Paul, Kimberly, and William. From those children, he now has eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. His son William, is presently serving in the Army Reserves in Kuwait.

Kenny is now part of veterans' organizations including: the American Legion, the DAV, and the VFW.

Kenny, on behalf of the community and nation, with our deepest appreciation, we honor your service with this quilt of valor.





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"There are many things we are thankful for this year, but at the very top of that list is our customers! Wishing you a wonderful holiday filled with the warmth and happiness of the season."

**BK**  
*Custom T's*

*Thanksgiving*  
*Blessings*  
from  
*Becky & Kevin*

**Happy Thanksgiving, Friends!**



This Thanksgiving, we're counting our many blessings, and your support is at the top of the list. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude, and may you enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving!

**Closed Thursday & Friday 27-28)**

**FULL CIRCLE AG**

*Tomorrow's Vision Today*

## Building Gratitude

Laying foundations of thankfulness  
this Thanksgiving season.



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*Give*  
**THANKS**  
WITH A  
*Grateful*  
**HEART**



*Dale, Joyce and the crew from the Groton Dairy Queen wishes everyone a bountiful Thanksgiving!*

**Happy Thanksgiving**

Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.  
His love endures forever.  
Psalm 136.1

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**BDM**  
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*Friendship is like the water that quenches the soul whenever the soul is dry.*  
The staff and management of BDM wish everyone a

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**  
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**We're thankful for our loyal customers and this great community we're proud to serve.**  
**Wishing you a safe, warm, and blessed Thanksgiving with family and friends.**




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Groton, SD 57445

**Thanksgiving...**  
**Ain't nothing But Good**

*Happy Thanksgiving!*



**YORK**  
It's time to get comfortable.

From that very first Thanksgiving feast so long ago, we learned just how much can be achieved with the help of good neighbors, and we know that we owe our success to each one of you!

**Allied Climate Professionals**  
Heating & Cooling Installations & Services  
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Kevin Nehls at **605-252-8661**

## Dennis Mitchell



Good afternoon! My name is Teagan Hanten, and I am here to tell you about a Columbia area veteran, Dennis Mitchell. Dennis Mitchell was drafted into the US Army during the Vietnam War in 1967. He attended basic training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Lewis in the state of Washington. After that, he was sent to Vietnam and assigned to Delta Company, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry, 25th Division. The headquarters were out of Dau Tieng; after two months, Dennis was moved to Tay Ninh, which is about 45 miles northeast of Saigon.

When asked about his most memorable experiences during his service, Dennis said that on April 13, 1968, his battalion was over-run in what they called the Battle of Good Friday. An entire unit was eliminated from their Battalion.

A fun fact shared by Dennis is that Oliver Stone, the creator of the movie "Platoon" was in the Bravo Unit, of the same infantry and division that Dennis was going to. Stone was injured and just sent home before Dennis arrived. Stone used his war experience in Vietnam to create and direct the movie "Platoon."

After about five months in country, Dennis was given the opportunity to be the Information Officer for the Stars and Stripes newspaper where he would report news and take photographs of the Vietnam

War. He turned down the position so that a fellow soldier who was an exceptional photographer could have the position.

When he was granted a rest and recreation leave after a year's tour of duty in Vietnam, Dennis went to Sidney, Australia and to Singapore. Dennis was given c-rations or canned meals in the morning and at noon, but he says that they always tried to fly in a hot meal at night when they resupplied the unit. Canned meals included a main entree, bread, dessert and an accessory packet containing coffee, gum, sugar, toilet paper, cigarettes and matches.

Dennis said that during his service time, he stayed in touch with his family by writing home each week. After Vietnam, he was sent to Ft. Riley, Kansas. Dennis Mitchell was awarded numerous honors for his service, including the National Defense Service Medal, an expert rifle marksmanship badge, a Vietnam Gallantry Cross, a Vietnam Service Medal, an Army Commendation Medal with V (Valor), a Bronze Star Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He left the service as a Sergeant, Grade E-5.

Right after his service ended, Dennis helped his dad on the farm. The next year, a neighbor rented Dennis his farm, and he began farming on his own. Dennis got married to Loretta Andrews and had 4 daughters: Trish, Tara, Tammy, and Lara. He has attended eight military reunions, and has kept in touch with his Company Commander Captain White, his platoon leader 1st Lieutenant Lawson, and Sergeant Herb Burdett. Dennis is a part of the American Legion, Post 58 in Columbia and the VFW in Aberdeen.

Dennis said the military instilled certain values, including the need to depend on each other to do their jobs to live, and he thinks that holds true today-- that people must depend on each other in their jobs and in their communities. To any young adults contemplating entering the military, Dennis says that you will learn leadership and service to your community.

Dennis Mitchell, on behalf of the community and nation, with our deepest appreciation, we honor your service with this quilt of valor.

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Vote for your favorite Christmas Tree displayed at the Wage Memorial Library AND participate in the Christmas Coloring Contest!

The tree with the most votes wins \$50 in Groton Chamber Bucks!

FREE FAMILY FUN EVENT! | **5** DEC | 3:30PM TO 5:30pm

Snacks and Beverages will be provided!

**"Blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving!"**



**Greg Johnson**  
**Construction**  
Bristol

# Don Peckham

Good afternoon. My name is Ashlynn Warrington and I am here to tell you about a Columbia area veteran named Don Peckham. Don was inducted into the Army on January 4, 1955. He was part of Company B, 702nd Ordinance Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Don picked the Army because his uncles who were World War II veterans influenced him to do so. At first, he was very apprehensive because he was worried that some "big city guy" would beat him up, but he learned to hold his own.

When Don went to boot camp, it was the farthest he had ever been away from home. Being a Day County country boy, the farthest he had previously traveled was 4-H Camp. His first four months of training were spent in automotive school in Aberdeen, Massachusetts. In automotive school, Don learned electrical and fuel system repair. After basic training, he was attached to 2nd Infantry, Fort Lewis Washington. For the rest of his deployment, Don repaired anything from Jeeps to the largest tanks there were. Don felt extremely proud to be in the U.S. military.

Everything to Don was a memorable experience. He learned a new way of life and lived in a different world. His first half of service was spent hanging out with the "guys," pulling pranks, and engaging in friendly banter. During his second half of service, he got married to Bette Graves. Throughout his service, he traveled to Fort Bliss, Texas; Fort Carson, Colorado; Aberdeen, Massachusetts; Fort Lewis, Washington; and Eilson Air Force Base, Alaska. There was always plenty of food and everything wherever he went.

When asked how he stayed connected with his family, Don replied that it was mostly done through letters and a once in awhile phone call, but he needed to make sure he brought plenty of quarters to feed the pay phone!

Don Peckham was discharged on November 1, 1957. Don received the marksmanship award. First thing he did when he got home was go pheasant hunting. Then he found a job and a place to live which aligned with the start of college. He formed a few close friendships. One was another couple from Washington State who stayed in Alaska after being discharged. They stayed close with each visit and watched each other's families grow. Don and Bette had four children: Vicki, Vance, Cheryl, and Kristi. He attended Northern State for a year and after that, he took a competitive exam to fill the vacant rural mail route in Bath, South Dakota. Don said he would not have scored high enough on the exam if it had not been for the military.

Today, Don has been part of the Columbia American Legion for 50 years. When asked what values he learned from his military experience, he answered with, "I valued the ability to be around and live with all colors and creed." He also said that serving in the military affects everything in his life. Don wants to tell the young adults who are contemplating entering the military, "It provides many wonderful choices for all walks of life, you will be well taken care of, and you will have a lifetime of benefits." Don wanted to add that he is pushing ninety years of age and is still benefitting from having served in the military.

Don Peckham, we are very grateful for your service, and we appreciate your service to our country very much.

Don was presented with his quilt of valor on November 7th at Nano Nagal.



# Classifieds

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

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# King Crossword

## ACROSS

- 1 Novelist Carr
- 6 Posture
- 12 Criminal's "why"
- 13 Tribulation
- 14 Small beard
- 15 Japanese automaker
- 16 Queue after Q
- 17 500 sheets
- 19 Pot brew
- 20 Elite alternative
- 22 Standard
- 24 Non-Rx
- 27 Yoga class pads
- 29 Modern "carpe diem"
- 32 No. 1 hit by Men at Work
- 35 Wife of Jacob
- 36 Rebuff
- 37 Sean, to Yoko
- 38 Ultra-modernist
- 40 Recipe meas.
- 42 Paper Mate rival
- 44 Amorphous mass
- 46 "House" actor Omar
- 50 Surround with light
- 52 Woodwind player
- 54 Radio components

	1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10	11	
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50				51					52	53			
54									55				
56									57				

- 55 Tourist's vehicle
- 10 Birthday cut-up?
- 31 Have
- 56 Fancy fiddles
- 11 Director Kazan
- 33 "Evita" narrator
- 57 Birds' homes
- 12 Store boss (Abbr.)
- 34 Small ammo
- 39 Gawked at
- 41 Drudges
- 42 Hotel furniture
- 43 Monogram pt.
- 45 Privation
- 47 Brad of Hollywood
- 48 Unpaid TV ads
- 49 Cardinal cap letters
- 51 Nabokov novel
- 53 Spelldown
- 30 Privy

## DOWN

- 1 Dove calls
- 2 Rat- —
- 3 Illuminated
- 4 Prior night
- 5 Six-pack units
- 6 Slugger
- 7 Surpass
- 8 Wood-shaping tool
- 9 Uncharged particles
- 18 Corrode
- 21 "— Believer"
- 23 Sailor's assent
- 24 Barn bird
- 25 Commonest English word
- 26 One of a pair
- 28 Unwilling to budge

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# Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #3 Results

**Team Standings:** Cheetahs 8, Shihtzus 7, Jackelopes 6, Coyotes 6, Foxes 5, Chipmunks 4

**Men's High Games:** Brad Waage 183, 175, 172, Brad Larson 182, Clay Wattier 173

**Women's High Games:** Suzie Easthouse 187, Vicki Jorgensen 171 & 162, Sam Bahr 160

**Men's High Series:** Brad Waage 530, Brad Larson 461, Clay Wattier 443

**Women's High Series:** Vicki Jorgensen 479, Sam Bahr 464, Vicki Walter 428

**Fun Game Winners:** Most Strikes - Shihtzus with 25!

## Happy Thanksgiving!

**Why Did the Pilgrims Come to America?**

Did you know that Pilgrims wore bright, solid colors? Kids studied at home and worked hard doing chores.

**Pilgrims Journey to Freedom!**

9 P L A N D 4 F E A S T

3 H O L L A N D 7 M E R

8 I R W 10 T R A V E L E D C E

11 N A T I V E A M E R I C A N

6 M A Y F L O W E R

**What Did They Bring?**

V M I E R T F G Y H U G E L B A T P L

H O U R G L A S S E S J D F V C R E

I O U S K I U Y H C E H T O L J A L

R K J H K Q I U A P K J H N G O

E I G H T E K H O U T R O B F T

D J B C Y T K I U H L H F H

S D E F K I U Y S I U G E H B C Z A

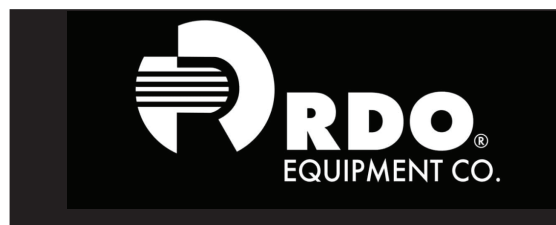
A S O I Y G C S V G I H U Y G T

F O K H F T O O L S G F C H A I R S V

B C R A D L E S O U H B S L A M I N A

**Thanksgiving Family Fun**

- 1. watching
- 2. playing
- 3. meeting
- 4. telling
- 5. praying
- 6. traveling
- 7. singing
- 8. decorating
- 9. baking
- 10. giving
- 11. sharing
- 12. walking
- A. at religious services
- B. stories by the fire
- C. a large turkey dinner
- D. thanks for all we have
- E. new family members
- F. a game of touch football
- G. to a relative's house
- H. pumpkin pies
- I. songs together
- J. with pumpkins and Indian corn
- K. the parade on T.V.
- L. together to get a little exercise



## December 2025 Groton Community Calendar

### Mon., Dec. 1

Senior Menu: Hot beef combination, mashed potatoes, carrots, fruit  
 School Breakfast: Eggs.  
 School Lunch: Hot dogs, chips.  
 4th Grade GBB, 4 p.m.  
 JV/MS Boys BB at Faulkton Invite, 5:30 p.m.  
 5th Grade BNBB, 6 p.m.  
 MS GBB hosts Clark/Willow Lake, 6:15 p.m.  
 Wrestling Kick-off Fundraiser, 6:30 p.m.

### Tues., Dec. 2

Senior Menu: Roast pork, baked potato, Normandy blend, fruit, whole wheat bread.  
 School Breakfast: Scones  
 School Lunch: Chicken nuggets, fries.  
 St. John's Lutheran: Ladies Aid LWML Christmas Party, noon.  
 United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.  
 5th Grade GBB, 4:15 p.m.  
 7th Grade BBB, 6 p.m.  
 MS GBB at Redfield, 7th at 6:30 p.m., 8th at 7:30 p.m.  
 Youth wrestling sign up, 6:30 p.m.  
 Council meeting, 7 p.m.

### Wed., Dec. 3

Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage soup, chicken salad sandwich, fruit, oatmeal raisin cookie.  
 School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.  
 School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, green beans.  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.; Sarah Circle, 5 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.  
 St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.; DFC Supper, 6 p.m.; Advent Service, 7 p.m.  
 United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.  
 Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.  
 Groton Chamber Meeting, noon, at city hall.  
 6th Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.  
 5th Grade BBB Practice, 6 p.m.  
 6th Grade BBB Practice, 7:30 p.m.

### Thurs. Dec. 4

Senior Menu: Goulash, green peas, fruit, whole wheat bread.  
 School Breakfast: Cereal.  
 School Lunch: Chicken patty, mashed potatoes.  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.  
 3rd Grade GBB Practice, 5 p.m.  
 3-5 GBB hosts Langford, 6 p.m.  
 4th Grade BBB Practice, 6 p.m.

### Fri., Dec. 5

Senior Menu: Parmesan chicken, creamy noodles, California blend, fruit.  
 School Breakfast: Egg wraps.  
 School Lunch: French bread pizza, cooked carrots.  
 Girls Wrestling at Watertown, 4 p.m.  
 Tour of Tress at City Hall, 3:30 p.m.

### Sat., Dec. 6

Boys Wrestling at Clark/Willow Lake, 9 a.m.  
 Girls Top of the Rock Wrestling at Dell Rapids, 9 a.m.  
 HOSA Remembrance Dinner, 2 p.m.  
 Olive Grove Holiday Party, 6 p.m.

### Sun., Dec. 7

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 6 p.m.  
 St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m.; at Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.  
 United Methodist: Worship with communion

at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

FFA State LDE @ Rapid City

7th Grade Soccer, 1 p.m.

4th grade boys basketball Triangular, 1 p.m.

6th Grade GBB Practice, 2 p.m.

4th Grade BB Practice, 2 p.m.

4th Grade boys basketball Triangular, 3:30 p.m.

5th Grade Girls Basketball, 4 p.m.

Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

6th Grade Boys Basketball, 6 p.m.

7th Grade Boys BB. 6 p.m.

### Mon., Dec. 8

Senior Menu: Chicken alfredo with broccoli, fruit, breadstick.

School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.

School Lunch: Pork chop, rice.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Groton Senior Citizens meet at Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.

GBB at Florence: 7th grade @ 4pm, 8th grade @ 5pm

4th Grade Practice, 4 p.m.

JH WR @ Sisseton, 5 p.m.

5th Grade BBB, 6 p.m.

### Tues. Dec. 9

Senior Menu: Turkey and Swiss sandwich, baked beans, potato chips, tomato spoon salad, fruit.

School Breakfast: Breakfast sliders.

School Lunch: Chicken breast sandwich, tiny whole potatoes.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Church Council, 6 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Pierre Middle School Wrestling Invite (boys and girls), 4 p.m.

5th Grade Girls Basketball, 4:15 p.m.

GBB at Northwestern: MS at 5 p.m.; JV at 6 p.m.; Varsity to follow

### Wed., Dec. 10

Senior Menu: Ham with pineapple, sweet potatoes, cheesy green beans, fruit, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Omelets.

School Lunch: Cheese Quesadilla, refried beans.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.; DFC Supper, 6 p.m.; Advent Service, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.

Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

6th Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.

5th Grade BBB, 6 p.m.

6th Grade Boys Basketball, 7:30 p.m.

### Thurs. Dec. 11

Senior Men: Baked lemon chicken, creamy noodles, tossed salad, fruit, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Biscuits.

School Lunch: Lasagna bake, corn.

Groton Lions Club Meeting at 104 N main, 6 p.m.

4th Grade Girls' Basketball, 4 p.m.

3rd GBB Practice, 5 p.m.

4th Grade BB, 6 p.m.

MS/HS Christmas Concert, 7 p.m.

### Friday, Dec. 12

Senior Menu: Beef stew, Waldorf salad, buttermilk biscuits.

School Breakfast: Doughnuts.

School Lunch: Chicken Fajitas, black beans.

Girls Wrestling @ Webster

Boys and Girls Wrestling at Rapid City Invitational, 11 a.m.

Basketball hosts Hamlin: (GJV at 4 p.m.; BJV at 5 p.m.; Girls Varsity at 6:15 p.m.; Boys Varsity at 7:30 p.m.)

### Saturday, Dec. 13

Boys and Girls Wrestling at Rapid City Invitational, 8 a.m.

Northwestern Middle School Girls Basketball

### Sunday, Dec. 14

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with Sunday School Program, 10:30 a.m.; Choir, 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m.; at Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.; Christmas program at 5 p.m. with supper to follow.

7th Grade Soccer, 1 p.m.

4th Grade BB Practice, 2 p.m.

5th Grade Girls Basketball, 4 p.m.

Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.

6th Grade Boys Basketball, 6 p.m.

7th Grade Boys BB, 6 p.m.

### Monday, Dec. 15

Senior Menu: Cowboy/Calico casserole, fruit, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Egg bake.

School Lunch: Chef salad.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Christian Literature Circle, 7:30 p.m.

Groton Senior Citizens meet at Community Center with potluck at noon.

Webster JH wrestling, 4:30 p.m.

1st Grade Boys Basketball Practice, 4:30 p.m.

Madison JV/MS Boys and Girls Wrestling Jamboree, 5 p.m.

5th Grade BBB, 6 p.m.

### Tuesday, Dec. 16

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes with gravy, peas and carrots, fruit, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Muffins.

School Lunch: Pasta with meat sauce, corn.

St. John's Lutheran: Quilting, 9 a.m.

Basketball at Sisseton (GBB: 7th grade @ 4pm, 8th grade @ 5pm (in aux gym); GJV, BJV, G Varsity, B Varsity).

5th Grade Girls Basketball, 4:15 p.m.

City Council Meeting, 7 p.m.

### Wednesday, Dec. 17

Senior Menu: Baked hot ham and cheese, broccolo potato soup, fruit, poke cake.

School Breakfast: Oatmeal.

School Lunch: Soup, sandwich.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 4 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.; DFC Supper, 6 p.m.; Advent Service, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton Ad Council, 7 p.m.

Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

6th Grade GBB Practice, 6 p.m.

5th Grade BBB, 6 p.m.

6th Grade Boys Basketball, 7:30 p.m.

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**Thursday, Dec. 18**  
 Senior Menu: Beef and potatoes, antigua blend, fruit, breadstick.

School Breakfast: Maple baked French toast.  
 School Lunch: Turkey gravy over mashed potatoes, stuffing, carnberries.

Northeast Conference Wrestling Tournament at Clark, 4 p.m.

1st Grade Boys Basketball Practice, 4:30 p.m.  
 Middle School Girls Basketball hosts Waubay-Summit: (7th grade @ 6pm, 8th grade @ 7pm)  
 4th Grade BB, 6 p.m.

**Friday, Dec. 19**  
 Senior Menu: Chicken pot pie casserole, roasted potatoes, fruit, biscuits.

School Breakfast: Breakfast boats.  
 School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, green beans.

End of Second Quarter  
 Elementary Christmas Concert, 1 p.m.

Basketball DH at West Central (Girls C at 4 p.m. at Becker Center; Boys C at 4 p.m. at Colosseum; Girls JV at Becker Center, 5 p.m.; Boys JV at Colosseum, 5 p.m.; Girls Varsity at Colosseum, 6:30 p.m., Boys Varsity at Colosseum, 8 p.m.)

Cossack Avalanche Girls Wrestling Tournament, 4:30 p.m.

**Saturday, Dec. 20**  
 G Wrestling @ Border Brawl (Ashley, ND), 9 a.m.

MVP Titan Invite Boys Wrestling at Plankington, 9 a.m.

Boys Wrestling @ Sioux Valley Cossack, 10 a.m.

Santa Day at 111 N Main, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.

**Sunday, Dec. 21**  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's, 9 a.m.; at Zion, 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship with communion at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton Sunday School Christmas Program, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.; worship, 10:30 a.m.

7th Grade Soccer, 1 p.m.  
 4th Grade BB Practice, 2 p.m.  
 Dance Team Practice, 5 p.m.  
 6th Grade Boys Basketball, 6 p.m.  
 7th Grade Boys BB, 6 p.m.

**Mon., Dec. 22**  
 Senior Menu: Scalloped potatoes with ham, green beans, fruit, whole wheat bread.

No School  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.  
 Basketball Double Header at Redfield: (GJV-1, BJV-2:15, GV-3:30, BV-5:00)

MS/JV WR @ Salem (MCM). Boys Wrestling, 3 p.m.

5th/6th Volleyball Practice, 6 p.m.

**Tuesday, Dec. 23**  
 Senior Menu: Spaghetti with meat sauce, catalina blend, fruit, garlic toast.

No School

**Wednesday, Dec. 24**  
 Senior Menu: Hot pork sandwich, coleslaw, baked beans, fruit.

No School  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Christmas Eve Service,

7 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Christmas Eve Program, 4 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Britton service at 10 a.m.; Groton service at 5 p.m.; Conde service at 7 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Service, 5 p.m.

**Thursday, Dec. 25**  
 No School  
 St. John's Lutheran: Christmas Day Service at Zion, 9 a.m.

**Fri., Dec. 26**  
 Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage roll hot dish, mixed vegetables, fruit, cornmeal muffin.  
 No School

**Sat., Dec. 27**

**Sun., Dec. 28**  
 Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; No Sunday School.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's, 9 a.m.; at Zion, 11 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship at Conde, 8:15 a.m.; at Groton, 9:30 a.m.; at Britton, 11:15 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 10:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School, 9:15 a.m.;

worship, 10:30 a.m.

4th Grade BB Practice, 2 p.m.

6th Grade Boys Basketball, 6 p.m.

**Mon, Dec. 29**  
 Senior Menu: Sweet and sour pork, steamed rice, carrot and broccoli medley, corn, fruit.  
 No School

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.  
 Floyd Farrand Tournament Girls Wrestling at SF Lincoln, 9 a.m.

5th/6th Volleyball Practice, 6 p.m.

**Tues., Dec. 30**  
 Senior Menu: Meat loaf, baked potato, mixed vegetables, fruit, whole wheat bread.

No School  
 GBB NSU Showcase, Groton vs. Lemmon, 3 p.m.

Boys BB hosts Webster (JV at 6 p.m., Varsity to follow)

7th Grade Girls Soccer Practice, 6 p.m.

**Wed., Dec. 31**  
 Senior Menu: Oven fried chicken, sweet potatoes, green beans, fruit, whole wheat bread.

No School  
 United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.

Groton C&MA: Kid's Club, Youth Group, Adult Bible Study, 7 p.m.

3rd/4th Volleyball Practice, 6 p.m.  
 6th Grade Boys Basketball, 7:30 p.m.



The Minnesota Vikings traveled to Green Bay to face the Packers. The season was effectively on the line, and the Vikings needed to put together a solid game to have any hope of making the playoffs. Instead, they played perhaps the worst game of the season, losing 23-6. At 4-7, and considering how poorly the entire team has played, the best possible outcome would be losing the rest of the games to secure a high draft pick.

The Vikings got the ball to begin the game, and things were looking good. Two runs by Aaron Jones picked up a first down, then J.J. McCarthy threw a 15-yard fastball to Justin Jefferson.

However, three straight incompletions forced the Vikings to kick a field goal to take a 3-0 lead. Green Bay responded with a 7-play, 70-yard touchdown drive. The two teams traded punts to close out the first quarter, and Green Bay held on to its 7-3 lead.

The Vikings' next drive got all the way to the red zone, but a failed fourth-down gave the ball to the Packers, who put together a 14-play, 68-yard drive that ended in a field goal, extending their lead to 10-3. With just over two minutes left in the half, the Vikings drove down the field and got into position to kick a 59-yard field goal, and the Vikings went into halftime down four points.

Green Bay got the ball to begin the second half, but the Vikings' defense held strong and forced a punt. Unfortunately for Minnesota, sloppy special teams play gave the ball to Green Bay at the five-yard line. Two plays later, a Packers touchdown extended their lead to 17-6. The Vikings had two drives in the third quarter, both of which were three-and-outs for a grand total of negative 10 yards...

The Packers added a field goal early in the fourth quarter to make the score 20-6. The Vikings responded with a three-and-out that lost 17 yards. Green Bay got another field goal on its next drive, and on the first play of the ensuing drive, McCarthy threw an interception. The Vikings' defense forced a Packers punt, and five plays later McCarthy threw another interception, locking in the 23-6 loss.

J.J. McCarthy completed 12 of 19 passes for 87 yards, no touchdowns, two interceptions, and one fumble. If you were reading my article during the 2024 offseason, you know I was not a fan of J.J. McCarthy coming into the draft. However, I trusted Kevin O'Connell and was willing to give JJM a shot. Unfortunately, at this point, it's clear that McCarthy is not an NFL-caliber quarterback.

The Vikings ran the ball 20 times for 93 yards, which is a solid 4.7 yards per carry. But with the team losing as badly as they were, the ground game was useless. Justin Jefferson led the team with four catches for 48 yards, and although he's been supportive of McCarthy so far, you must wonder how long he'll be content to be on a team with such horrendous QB play.

Blake Cashman had 16 tackles. Dallas Turner had the defense's only sack, and also added a tackle for a loss and two QB hits. The defense once again failed to make the routine plays, giving the Packers tons of space in the pass game and constantly missing tackles in the ground game.

Since it's Thanksgiving, here's what I'm thankful for: I'm thankful that there are only seven games left this season. I'm thankful that McCarthy is playing so horribly because there is no doubt he's not our QB of the future, and the Vikings can address that this offseason. I'm thankful that, despite my best efforts, my son doesn't enjoy watching football – it'll save him a lifetime of disappointment.

Looking ahead, the Vikings travel to Seattle to battle the Seahawks. Sam Darnold has led the Seahawks to an 8-3 record and is likely salivating at the thought of showing Minnesota they made the wrong choice in choosing J.J. McCarthy.

# The Life of O. Clayton Johnson



The funeral service for O. Clayton Johnson, 83, of Groton, SD, was held Wednesday, Nov. 26, 2025, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Aberdeen with Pastor Ryan Drevlow officiating. Burial was at Sunset Memorial Gardens. Clayton died Thursday, November 20, 2025, at Avera St. Luke's Hospital in Aberdeen, SD.

O. Clayton Johnson was born on June 13, 1942, to Trygve and Mary Edith (Campbell) Johnson in Miller, SD. He was the third of eight children and the first to be born in a hospital. Clayton grew up and attended school at Sunshine Bible Academy in Miller.

In 1964, Clayton enlisted in the United States Army. He was stationed in Germany and honorably discharged in 1970. Clayton met Karen Redlinger in Seattle, WA, and the two were married on June 8, 1972. Throughout their life together, they lived in Wyoming, Minnesota, California, and Washington before ultimately settling in South Dakota. Clayton spent most of his career as a truck driver. He traveled countless miles, reaching all 50 states except Hawaii since he couldn't drive there, and Canada. He knew the roads well and could tell you exactly which truck stops were worth visiting. He retired on December 18, 2008, and devoted his time to watching and caring for his grandchildren.

Clayton was a quiet man with a sharp intellect and a warm sense of humor. He loved to read, especially westerns, Louis L'Amour novels, encyclopedias, and war history. Horses held a special place in his heart—he raised them as a child and enjoyed watching television shows featuring horses as he grew older. Above all, Clayton cherished his family and treasured every moment spent with his children and grandchildren.

Grateful for having shared Clayton's life are his children: Kari Johnson, Tara (Clint) Fjelsstad, Tami Johnson, Mari (Aaron) Sundberg; grandchildren: Kyle Kohrs, Kaitlin Kohrs, Kelli Kohrs, Kimberly (Jesse) Chandler, Nathan (Jesse) Fjelstad, Jenifer Fjelstad, Trystian (Nikki) Johnson-Sanders, Veronica Johnson, Gabriella Johnson, and Elizabeth Johnson, Rebekah Sundberg, Cayden Sundberg, Scarlett Sundberg; great-grandchildren: Ronnie Fjelstad, Clayton Kohrs, Eliana Fjelstad, siblings, Bill (Gloria) Johnson and Tryva (Al) Woodley; sisters-in-law, Rachel Johnson and Bev Johnson; and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding Clayton in death are his parents, Trygve and Mary Edith Johnson; wife, Karen Johnson; and siblings: Clair (Norma) Johnson, Cecil Johnson, Bud Johnson, Robert & Stan (Dianne) Johnson.



## ORDINANCE NO. 792 2026 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the city of Groton that the following sums are appropriated to meet the obligations of the municipality.

	General Fund	Gross Rec Tax (BBB)	Airport Fund	Fam Crisis	Debt Service	Total
<b>Governmental Funds</b>						
410	General Government .....					
411	Legislative .....					25,900.00
411.5	Contingency.....					50,000.00
412	Executive.....					9,000.00
413	Elections.....					1,200.00
414	Financial Administration.....					426,400.00
419	Other .....					138,200.00
Total	General Government.....	\$650,700.00	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$650,700.00
420	Public Safety.....					
421	Police .....					481,800.00
423	Building Inspection.....					10,000.00
429	Other Inspection .....					20,000.00
Total	Public Safety .....	\$511,800.00	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$511,800.00
430	Public Works.....					
431	Highways and Streets.....	406,700.00				406,700.00
432	Weed Control.....	2,000.00				2,000.00
435	Airport.....			24,000.00		24,000.00
437	Cemeteries .....	14,050.00				14,050.00
439	Transit.....	2,500.00				2,500.00
Total	Public Works .....	\$425,250.00	\$-	\$24,000.00	\$-	\$449,250.00
440	Health and Welfare.....					
441	Health .....	6,575.00		1,150.00		7,725.00
Total	Health and Welfare.....	\$6,575.00	\$-	\$1,150.00	\$-	\$7,725.00
450	Culture and Recreation .....					
451	Recreation: .....					408,940.00
	Skating.....	7,300.00				
	Soccer.....	-				
	Swimming Pool .....	151,250.00				
	Golf - .....					
	Basketball.....	200.00				
	Tennis .....	200.00				
	Baseball .....	249,990.00				
452	Parks .....	25,250.00				25,250.00
455	Libraries .....	11,400.00				11,400.00
456	Community Center .....	5,000.00				5,000.00
Total	Culture and Recreation .....	\$450,590.00	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$450,590.00
465	Economic Development and Assistance .....	23,620.00				23,620.00
Total	Conservation and Development .....	\$23,620.00	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$23,620.00
470	Debt Service Refinance.....					
471	Principal .....				150,000.00	150,000.00
472	Interest .....				87,500.00	87,500.00
Total	Debt Service .....	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$237,500.00	\$237,500.00
480	Intergovernmental Expenditures.....					
490	Miscellaneous .....					
499	Liquor licenses .....					
Total	Miscellaneous.....	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-
510	Other Financing Uses .....					
511	Operating Transfer--Out.....					
Total	2026 Appropriations .....	\$2,068,535.00	\$-	\$24,000.00	\$1,150.00	\$237,500.00
Total	Appropriations and Accumulations.....	\$2,068,535.00	\$-	\$24,000.00	\$1,150.00	\$237,500.00

Note 1: The amounts shown here should not reflect accumulations to-date nor should it reflect the total to be accumulated. It should only report the amount to be accumulated in the budget year that you are working on.

Part II (9-22-1)  
(9-21-19)  
(9-21-20)

The following designates the fund or funds that money derived from the following sources is applied to.

	General Fund	Gross Rec Tax (BBB)	Airport Fund	Fam Crisis	Debt Service	Total
<b>Governmental Funds</b>						
Unassigned Fund Balance .....						191,500.00
310 Taxes .....	1,513,500.00	30,000.00				1,543,500.00
320 Licenses and Permits .....	18,400.00					18,400.00
330 Intergovernmental Revenue.....	102,789.00					102,789.00
340 Charges for Goods and Services...	130,230.00					130,230.00
350 Fines and Forfeits.....	150.00					150.00
360 Miscellaneous Revenue.....	216,150.00					216,150.00
390 Other Sources.....			24,000.00	1,150.00		25,150.00
Total	Means of Finance .....	\$2,068,535.00	\$30,000.00	\$24,000.00	\$1,150.00	\$197,500.00
	Electric Fund		Water Fund	Sewer Fund		Solid Waste Fund
Proprietary and Fiduciary Funds.....						
Beginning Unrestricted Cash .....						166,350.00
Estimated Revenue.....	1,898,400.00	558,000.00	301,200.00			2,757,600.00
Transfer In .....						
Other Financing Sources.....						
TOTAL AVAILABLE .....	1,898,400.00	558,000.00	301,200.00			2,757,600.00
Less Appropriations (Expenses) .....	2,018,200.00	349,200.00	274,610.00			2,642,010.00
Less Debt Service .....		95,000.00				95,000.00
ESTIMATED NET POSITION RETAINED .....	\$(119,800.00)	\$113,800.00	\$26,590.00			\$20,590.00

The finance officer is directed to certify the following dollar amount of tax levies made in this ordinance to the County Auditor. The amount of tax levy request is \$587,512, and the amount of opt out request is \$230,000. The total request being \$817,512.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Douglas J. Heinrich, Finance Officer

First Reading: 11/4/2025

Second Reading: 11/18/2025

Publish Date: 11/26/2025

Effective Date: 1/1/2026

Published one time at the approximate cost of \$202.62 26208



Stratford Town Board Meeting November 11th, 2025  
6:30pm Prickett called meeting to order with Schley, Engelhardt and Kwak in attendance.  
A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve the Oct. 11th meeting minutes as read.  
A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Scley, carried; to approve the financials as presented.  
A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley, carried;

to approve the following claims for payment: -General FundNWE Bills: (st lts) \$381.32, (ball pk) \$13.65, (tennis) \$14.04, (st lts2) \$202.05, (hall) \$246.23, (sign) \$16.22; James Valley (auto): \$44.69; Quickbooks (auto): \$40.36; PDFFiller (auto): \$20.90; Microsoft Office: \$130; USPS: \$488.50 (postage envelopes); SDML: \$495 (workers comp); Groton Ind: \$44.21; BC Weed/Pest: \$969.60.-Water Sewer Fund-NWE Bills: (2nd st) \$69.10, (p hse) \$12.37; Web Water (auto): \$1,497.69; USDA RD Loan Payment (auto): \$478.00; NESD Loan Payment (auto): \$383.71; Public Health Labs: \$230.00; Kamstrup: \$778.12 (meter software); OLD BUSINESS: none.  
NEW BUSINESS  
Water service disconnect for

past due accounts scheduled for 11/12/25: 235 4th Street.

Town of Stratford to post bid next spring for mowing by request to enforce nuisance property ordinance requirements.

Sewer pump 2 failed and needed to be replaced; additional maintenance was also required at the lift station; all work has been completed.

Concrete repair estimate received for west side of theatre; a motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, motion carried; to schedule the work and discuss fee with theatre.

Survey completed to identify boundary of reservoir land.

CLOSING:

Next meeting is scheduled for December 9th, 2025 at 6:30pm. A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to adjourn the meeting.

-Anna Kwak; Finance Officer  
Published November 19, 2025 at the total approximate cost of \$19.79 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 26207

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NOVEMBER 18, 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, Wiese, Gage and Sutton. Commissioner Dinger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Lynn Brennan Executive Director of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance gave a plaque, recognition, and thanks to Commissioner Wiese for his 25 years or service on the Board of Directors for South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance.

Senator, Carl Perry informed the Commission of the Youth Awards given out by the Exchange Club of Aberdeen for November: Young Citizen Awards went to Harrison Bode & Elizabeth Bain from Aberdeen Roncalli; Willa Vogel & Mahn Awar from Holgate; Stella Drangstveit & Wyatt Nicolai from Simmons and Nora Fliels from Aberdeen Christian. Youth of the Month Awards went to Hannah Anderson from Aberdeen Central; Claire Crawford from Aberdeen Roncalli and Iszy Helm from Aberdeen Christian.

**ORDINANCE #302 – SECOND READING/POSSIBLE ADOPTION:** Michael, the developer working for Wind Energy reviewed the ordinance and in section 2A, there were some changes that were noted to have setbacks measured from property lines from property line of a tower parcel to the property line of a non-participating residence parcel. The way it is currently written makes it difficult for a developer on their end to site the turbines and where they're going to be going. Right now, ordinance 2A specifically modified the existing language to be from the tower itself to a building that's not participating, and it modified it to be from property lines. On the graphic Michael shared, each of the squares represents a 40-acre parcel and it illustrates how a single 40-acre parcel that's non-participating has the ability with only a 1600 ft setback to eliminate or essentially be unusable for development of a wind project. The way the ordinance is written is it's four times tip height from the property lines. If they estimate their turbines are 589 feet to tip height, that means that this setback would increase from 1,600 feet to 2,350 feet so it would be even larger than this. Motion by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to postpone action on the second reading possible adoption of this ordinance, send it back to Scott for further amending the language and then bring it back to the commission for approval. Roll call vote: Dinger-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye; Wiese-aye. Dennert-aye. Motion passes.

**ORDINANCE #312 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #312. Applicant Tim & Judy Siedschlag/Gerald & Kathy Goldade 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 & Lot 2, "Siedschlag First Addition" and Lot 2, "Gehrke 1st Subdivision" in the SW1/4 of Section 13-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37910, 37926 & approx. 37930 127th Street; Ravinia Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #313 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #313. Applicant Sub Thirty Ventures, LLC – Brett Deibert/Brock Ball to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: Description of property: Lot 2, "Greeff Hoffman Addition" in the E 1/2 of Section 14-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (126757 W Shore Dr, Ravinia Twp.) All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #314 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #314. Applicant Michael Carrels to rezone from Agriculture Preservation

District (AG-P) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: Description of property: Lot 1, "Jerke's First Addition" in the SE 1/4 of Section 24-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (379710 N Shore Dr, Ravinia Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #315 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #315. Applicant Vision Quest Real Estate LLC / Brad Meehan 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: Lot 5C, "Gederos' Replat of Lots 5 & 7 of Evelo's Outlots" in the SE 1/4 of Section 35-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (602 Buick Dr. SW, Aberdeen Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #316 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #316. Applicant Sea Atwood 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: Lot 1, "Lowary Family First Addition" in the NE1/4 of Section 27-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (2208 S Highway 281; Aberdeen Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCE #317 – FIRST READING:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #317. Applicant Paul Larson to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Highway Commercial District (HC) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Paul Larson Second Addition" in the E 1/2 of the SE 1/4 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.

**SCOTT MEINTS, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR - DISCUSS MCPHERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:** Scott was approached by McPherson County to write a possible contract to take on their emergency management duties. This was brought to the commission to see what the thoughts are and is looking for advice about if we proceed or not. Scott met with them, and they are looking but don't have anybody to fulfill their position which is required by law. When asked if this is something he could handle, Meints state it would be a stretch. It was mentioned to McPherson County that there would possibly need to be a deputy up there or someone who could respond to the immediate needs and we would take care of more of the administrative side. Chairman Sutton stated we have been in favor of a certain amount of consolidating where we can for services. Motion by Dinger, second by Wiese to authorize our emergency management director to continue to pursue the possibility of a joint venture with McPherson County. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY:** Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the application submitted by Northern Electric Cooperative for occupancy to install primary electrical infrastructure to Brown County 11 in Section 35-T125-R64, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the application submitted by Midcontinent Communications for occupancy to install cable services to Brown County 15, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the application submitted by Northern Valley Communications for occupancy to install telecommunications to Brown County 14 in Section 16 15-T123-R63, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UPDATE:** Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent, gave an update they are still mowing and are shouldering Highway 27. On Brown County 10 they have been testing a couple of different road chemicals and have determined what they have been using is the best. They are still patching with cold mix and can't get hot mix anymore. On November 6th the wall where the Jim River and Lower Crow Creek meet was

at 92 down from the top, both sides. Almost to 7 1/2 feet down. Road 16 bridge will be taken out as soon as they can in the spring.

**LEASE OPTION RENEWAL FOR FAIRGROUNDS HAY LAND:** Moved by Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the lease option renewal for Fairgrounds Hay Land. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**GROUND LEASE FOR WIRELESS TOWER AT FAIRGROUNDS:** Moved by Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the ground lease for wireless tower at the Fairgrounds. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**HUB CITY RADIO CONTRACT FOR 2026 BCF:** Moved by Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Hub City Radio Contract for 2026 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ALL SEASON MOTORSPORT CONTRACT FOR 2026 & 2027 BCF:** Moved by Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the All-Season Motorsport Contract for 2026 & 2027 at the Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**FINAL DOCUMENTS FOR CDBG YMCA GRANT:** Moved by Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the final documents for CDBG YMCA Grant. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**MINUTES:** Motion by Commissioner Dinger, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS/PAYROLL:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Claims/Payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Advanced Care Ambulance \$506.65; Alcohol Monitoring Systems, Inc. \$2,089.60; Blackburn & Stevens, Prof. LLC \$192.00; Boyce Law Firm \$165.00; Carrels & Bain Family Dental Care, LLC \$784.73; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,155.00; CGI, LLC \$2,250.00; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$8,424.00; Day County \$2,945.00; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$3,612.00; Faulk County Sheriff's Office \$5,220.00; Helms & Associates \$7,582.62; IMEG Corp \$5,600.00; John Noyes – Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$6,168.00; Kuck Law Office \$4,915.00; Kylee Boomsma \$564.00; Language Line Services, Inc \$524.87; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$540.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$200.00; Mission Possible \$1,185.00; Network Center, Inc \$3,057.77; North Star Solutions, LLC \$378.00; Northeastern Mental Health Center \$3,762.50; Northern Plains Animal Health \$311.57; Northern Plains Psychological Associates, LLC \$150.00; PharChem, Inc \$1,743.30; Property Records Industry Association (PRIA) \$170.00; Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb, LLP \$75.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$2,018.00; Sanford Health \$4,659.00; SD Dept of Health \$2,130.00; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$14,808.00; Taylor Bell \$601.70; Thomson Reuters – West Payment Center \$595.49. Publishing: Dakota Broadcasting, LLC \$1,520.00; Groton Daily Independent \$518.27; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$2,598.24. Rentals: Advantage Self Storage \$276.00; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$62.55; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$259.20; Vestis \$274.48. Repairs & Maintenance: A-1 Locksmithing \$620.50; Aberdeen Clean-All, LLC \$881.00; Convergint Technologies LLC \$15,937.04; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$434.00; Dakota Doors Inc \$1.73; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$25.00; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$12,000.00; EcoLab Pest Elimination Division \$165.33; Graham Tire Inc \$393.00; House of Glass \$11,102.54; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$549.15; Jake's Heating & Cooling \$488.52; Kirk's Auto \$666.66; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$1,419.68; Olson's Pest Technicians \$260.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$281.20; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$1,655.31; RDO Equipment Co \$48,355.72; Spellman Painters \$1,123.02; Steven Lust Automotive \$308.08; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$2,177.53. Supplies: A-1 Locksmithing \$52.00; Advance Auto Parts \$29.36; Ategra Cooperative \$39,979.54; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$2,102.57; Auto Value Aberdeen \$784.29; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$30.00; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc \$633.35; Bob Barker Company Inc \$102.15; Butler Machinery Company \$209.57; Central Network Retail Group LLC \$137.27; Century Business Products \$1,484.72; Christina M. Flack \$1,025.00; Cole Paper Inc \$1,001.06; Cook's Correc-

tion \$79.90; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$1,605.32; Dakota Doors Inc \$85.00; Dakota Electronics LLC \$1,013.10; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$986.17; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$11.85; Double D Body Shop \$4,500.00; East Side Jersey Dairy Inc \$1,268.46; Fire Safety USA, Inc \$805.00; Frederick Fire Department \$805.00; Geffdog Designs \$216.00; Great Western States Supply, LLC \$994.00; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$84.00; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota \$47.97; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$20,567.70; John Noyes – Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$158.15; Ken's SuperFair Foods \$33.21; Kessler's \$171.44; Kirk's Auto \$41.16; Kramp Enterprise and Investment \$1,167.39; Kuck Law Office \$129.81; LabSource, Inc \$416.12; Lien Transportation Company \$15,126.30; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$171.50; M & T Fire and Safety \$898.15; Matthew Bender & Co., Inc \$234.10; Menards \$207.09; Midwest Card and ID Solutions LLC \$1,750.00; Midwest Pump & Tank \$32.00; NVC \$29.11; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$92.00; Performance Oil \$336.24; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$1,310.01; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$620.76; RDO Equipment \$4,377.91; Runnings \$1,001.93; Safety Service \$408.95; Schwan Welding \$52.00; Sound Decisions \$128.74; St. Mark's Episcopal Church \$2,000.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$34.95; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$8,481.92; Tri-State Water \$35.00; US Foods \$12,428.13. Travel & Conference: Austin Ball \$14.00; Brandon Mills \$54.00; CGI, LLC \$31.50; Kent Karlen \$14.00; Lenling Law Office, Prof. LLC \$40.00; Neil Bittner \$28.00; Ramkota Hotel & Conference Center – Pierre \$224.00; Sarah J Jesz \$37.80; Scott Kolb \$14.00; SDSU Extension \$145.20; Wicklander-Zulawski & Associates, Inc. \$470.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$141.05; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$2,530.57; Northern Electric \$93.50; Northwestern Energy \$2,171.09; NVC \$3,003.11; State of South Dakota PMB 0112 \$82.00; T-Mobile USA Inc \$77.98; Town of Frederick \$57.00; Verizon Wireless \$600.29; WEB Water Development Association, Inc \$150.51. Other: SD Assoc of County Officials \$932.00; SD Dept of Agriculture & Natural Resources \$7,133.19. Other: Julius Albrecht \$58.77 Payroll: Commission \$4,896.51; Elections \$2,027.61; Auditor/Welfare \$11,393.92; Treasurer \$16,816.14; SA \$37,189.25; Public Defender \$10,488.06; Maintenance \$12,842.47; Assessor \$16,594.59; Register of Deeds \$10,905.91; VSO \$4,721.83; GIS \$2,946.49; IT \$10,005.68; HR \$5,419.29; Sheriff \$53,966.86; Jail \$70,146.81; Coroner (Voucher) \$1,500.00; Court Security \$8,692.10; JDC \$29,400.35; Museum \$13,110.49; Parks/Fairgrounds \$7,506.36; Fair Board \$4,601.45; 4-H \$834.80; Weed \$5,705.37; Planning & Zoning \$8,062.16; Highway \$48,156.35; Dispatch \$37,586.44; Emergency \$5,498.56; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,858.77; Landfill \$19,745.72; Meal Benefits \$34.00; FICA \$27,405.16; Medicare \$6,409.29. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**HR REPORT:** Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dinger to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Allison Tunheim, Human Resources Director:  
o Resignation of Alexis Gearey as Brown County Jail Detention Officer; FT – effective November 10, 2025.

o Last day for temporary PT worker Kristine Scherbenske, Brown County Auditor's Office – effective November 7, 2025.

o Last day for Seasonal Workers, Brown County Highway – effective October 30, 2025

□ Kendell Titze  
All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**LANDFILL TONNAGE REPORT:** Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to acknowledge the Landfill Tonnage Report for October 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**TRAVEL REQUESTS:** Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: McKenzie Bierman, Donald Burgard, Dan Stevens, Dwight Guthmiller, Jeff Kippley, Katie Moulsoff, Misty Dosch, Nancy Radke, Rachel Kippley, Rhonda Tetzlaff, and Trevor Meints Fairboard Members to attend Heartland Convention on November 20-22, 2025 in Huron; Pat Wolberg, IT Director to attend Nvision Cybersecurity Tech Conference on November 13, 2025 in Fargo; Derek Hoefert, Deputy Sheriff to attend The Whole Truth Training on November 19, 2025 in Moberg; Lynn Heupel & Stephanie Jacobson, Brown County Auditor's to attend Municipalities & School meeting & Auditor Workshop on November 18-20, 2025 in Pierre

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**AUDITOR'S REPORT OF ACCOUNTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2025:** Moved by Dinger, seconded by Dennert to approve the Auditor's Report of Accounts for September 2025: Total Cash and Check on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances \$17,435,141.53; Total Savings Account Balances \$1,310,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit \$11,279,270.64; Grand Total Cash & Balances: \$30,032,559.59. General Fund Cash & Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$13,398,964.37; Road & Bridge Fund \$3,888,542.39; Road & Bridge Fund Restricted \$231,883.27; 911 Service \$895,992.67; Emergency & Disaster \$78,516.02; Domestic Abuse \$1,449.79; Federal/State Grant \$32.11; SA Grants \$122,289.76; Truancy Court \$110.99; 24/7 Sobriety \$96,051.45; ROD M&P \$95,446.19; Rural Access Infrastructure \$559,577.54; Tif Debt Service \$76,292.73; Landfill + Cash Change \$6,681,099.63; Landfill-Restricted \$1,894,495.06; Trust and Agency Funds \$4,138,193.95; Grand Total General Fund Cash & Investments \$30,032,559.59. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** Work is proceeding to get the fire and smoke alarms updated at the Odde and Expo building. Three bids have been received.

Rachel Kippley with the Fair said American Legion would come back and do their Monday burger night during the Brown County Fair. The Legion liked the partnership and the Commission agreed they received good feedback, and we would like to have the Burger Night in 2026 at the Brown County Fair.

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

Chairman Sutton declared the Executive Session closed with No Action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 11:26 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Erin Kumpf, Chief Deputy Auditor

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Stratford Town Board Meeting October 14th, 2025

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

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve the Sept 8th meeting minutes as read.

A motion was made by Prickett,

seconded by Schley, carried; to approve the financials as presented.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to approve the following claims for payment:

**OLD BUSINESS:**  
Cistern repair is complete and barricade placed to deter parking.

**NEW BUSINESS:**  
K Brunen in attendance to request restructuring the hall rental prices and options. Will revisit the policy for beginning of the year.

Community Theatre offered to reimburse town for electric heat for theatre basement plus the equivalent to 400gal tank of propane.

Discussion about cleaning up storage spaces around town hall.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Engelhardt, carried; to submit a special assessment to Brown County for the 586 4th street past due balance resulting from unpaid water and sewer charges.

Snow removal bid to be published twice in the next month.

WEB water contract rate increase to \$6.56/1000gal starting October, 2025. Water billing will reflect this charge beginning with October usage.

Meter needs to be reinstalled at DW property, Engelhardt will notify in person and city to send certified mail.

Schley to reach out to Arrowsmith about intentions with old shop demo and determine plumbing clean-up requirements.

Maintenance work up to date; facia in the back of hall needs work; punch list will be assessed from last winter community center remodel; city will get an estimate for slab jacking the west side of community hall; ball park concessions to be winterized; Heartland H&C will be contacted for winter maintenance on hall furnace.

First reading of Annual Appropriation Ordinance #131: Annual Appropriation Ordinance #131 for The Town of Stratford, SD, for the Year of 2026. A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley; to approve the Appropriation Ordinance #131. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Prickett, seconded by Schley, carried; to approve the 2026 liquor license for The Stratford Bar.

L. Jark requests to have the city burn the reservoir asap. Maintenance will schedule the burn.

L. Jark requests to self fund resurfacing road down main street and possibly 3rd street down to church.

Prickett to attend October Emergency Response & Planning meeting.

**CLOSING:**  
Next meeting is scheduled for November 11th, 2025 at 6:30pm.

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

-Anna Kwak; Finance Officer  
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## Notice of Regular Annual Meeting Of Full Circle Ag

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of Full Circle Ag, Britton, SD, will be held at the Britton Area Event Center at 1203 3rd St, Britton, SD on Tuesday, December 2nd. The meeting will be held at 10:30 am with lunch to follow. The meeting will include the following purposes:

- Review Annual Audit
- Election of Directors
- Any other business to come before the board

This is a very important business meeting of your cooperative; everyone is urged to attend.

Jason Asche, Secretary



rule of law, a principle that requires executive subordination to the Constitution and the laws of the nation. If the constitutional design is perceived to be inadequate, then the Amendatory Clause—Article V—supplies a remedy: Change the fundamental law and render it appropriate to the needs of the nation.

If constitutional change is not the remedy to restore a constitutional presidency, then, we ask, what is? Thus, we begin in this column in the weeks ahead our journey to return to Ithaca.



By David Adler

## An American Odyssey: Restoring a Constitutional Presidency

An American Odysseus, undertaking the arduous journey to restore a constitutional presidency, will almost certainly face a series of daunting challenges worthy of Homer's exploration in his epic poem, The Odyssey, about the king's

desperate effort to return to Ithaca, after the ten-year Trojan War. Whether our hero, like the Greek hero himself, can return to Ithaca, will determine the very fate of our republic, 250 years after the founders created it in writing the Declaration of Independence. Presidential Government, drenched in authoritarianism, is triumphant and its blatant disregard of the Constitution haunts American Constitutionalism. There is no way home for America, no return to Ithaca, until the presidency is saddled, bridled and bitted.

Under the Trump Presidency, the entrenchment of executive power is swollen beyond anything that the framers of the Constitution imagined as they worked to confine presidential authority at every turn. In Donald Trump's hands, the exercise of presidential powers—including those found within Article II and those illegally wielded in its name--has laid waste to the doctrines of separation of powers, checks and balances and enumeration of powers.

Trump's presidency represents a striking repudiation of the explicit structure of the Constitution itself. Article VI provides, emphatically, that the Constitution is the law of the land, and thus superior law to anything that the president might assert. The president takes an oath to defend the Constitution, and swears, in accordance with Article II, to take care to "faithfully" execute the laws. Trump's flagrant infidelity to the Constitution, the duties and responsibilities imposed by Article II, the laws of the United States, the rulings of federal courts and the ideals of the Declaration of Independence, has plunged our nation into an abyss.

In a brazen violation of the presidential oath of office, Trump has

usurped the fundamental constitutional powers vested in Congress, including lawmaking, appropriations and warmaking, powers which the framers of the Constitution insisted, were legislative, not executive, in nature and required legislative determination "if" the republic were to be maintained. Trump's ongoing assault on freedom of speech, press and assembly, moreover, betrays his presidential duty to defend these pillars of republicanism, each of which is central to government of, by and for, the people.

An oath of office, whether sworn by the president, member of Congress, or any officer of government, imposes a moral duty to obey the Constitution, unless and until it is amended. "There is an absolute duty to obey," the eminent constitutional scholar, Alexander Bickel, wrote 50 years ago, for "to disobey is to deny the idea of constitutionalism. To deny this idea is in the most fundamental sense to deny the idea of law itself." Thus, no president may decide to stay in office for six years, rather than four, or by virtue of the 22nd Amendment, to run for a third term.

Presidential transgression of the Constitution recalls James Madison's warning in Federalist No. 48, that "all power is of an encroaching nature, and that it ought to be effectually restrained from passing the limits assigned to it." Yes, of course, but how, and by what means is it possible to restrain the assertion of executive power that defies the oath of office and the Constitution?

Is the remedy for presidential usurpation of power—the restoration of a constitutional presidency—to be found in the Constitution itself? There seems little wrong with the constitutional blueprint, as it pertains to the scope of executive authority, for the grant of presidential powers is lean and meager, particularly when compared to the capacious powers vested in Congress. The principal problem lies, rather, in the unwillingness of the men and women in positions of power, those at the helm, duly to perform their duties and responsibilities. And, it should be emphasized, if the constitutional arrangement were deficient, its violation by the president could hardly be justified in a nation which exalts the



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## Revolutionizing Wind Power With Bladeless & Other New Tech

by Rachel Berliner

Dear EarthTalk: What's new on the horizon for wind energy -- R.H.K., Newport, RI

Wind power, a renewable energy source generated from wind turbines, is expected to become significantly more efficient in the coming future. Experts have long been researching, improving and rethinking the structure of wind turbines and wind farms for maximum efficiency.

Recently, a team at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) improved on the Momentum Theory, devised in the 19th century to model how rotors move in an environment. Many factors go into operating a wind farm, like continuously monitoring and changing the direction, angle and rotational speed of the turbines. By advancing this mathematical model, the MIT team devised a tool that allows wind farm operators to make more precise adjustments to maximize energy production. "This is what we're so excited about, is that it has immediate and direct potential for impact across the value chain of wind power," says Michael Howland, an Assistant Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering at MIT.

Improvements to conventional turbines also show promise. For example, producing turbines with longer blades allows each turbine to capture more energy. Creating taller towers enables generating electricity from the stronger winds that exist at higher heights. Another feasible development is "wake steering," which purposefully misaligns turbines with the direction of the airflow in order to generate more energy.

Some companies are innovating beyond the familiar wind turbine, such as Vortex Bladeless, a start-up that has engineered a conical, bladeless wind turbine that utilizes vorticity, an effect that creates a vortex. Vorticity is often avoided because it can cause oscillation, movements back and forth. But David Suriol, a Vortex Bladeless's founder argues, "why don't we try to use this energy, not avoid it."

Another way to generate more energy is to create turbines so they can harness energy in less windy places that don't have the space for wind farms, like large cities. Some scientists want to harnessing wind power on the ocean with off-shore turbines that float on platforms tethered to the ocean floor.

Although there have been great advancements by researchers, scientists and engineers, there is still strong resistance from people across the country. Policy makers have the important role of developing public knowledge and experience with wind energy, especially in places that are not typically wind-harvesting areas. If you are interested in wind energy's progression, take the time to educate yourself, friends, family and community about wind energy and the potential it has. In addition, you can contact elected officials to support wind energy legislation in the country.



**Wind power is poised to become significantly more efficient — and safer for wildlife — in the coming years thanks to technological advances.**

### "Strengthening Paths to Safety: Supporting Domestic Violence Survivors"

When someone escapes domestic violence, their journey to healing has only just begun. As physicians, you are often the first professionals to recognize signs of abuse and can play a pivotal role in connecting survivors to lifesaving resources.



By Bridget Diamond-Welch, Ph.D

This is especially crucial in rural communities where you may be the only health care provider for miles and where stigma around domestic violence can be particularly strong. Recent research conducted across South Dakota and Iowa shelters with 47 survivors—focusing primarily on rural and Native American survivors—reveals crucial insights about the supports needed to rebuild lives after abuse.

Research in health care settings suggests that many abuse victims may disclose their situation to a health care provider before seeking specialized services, making physicians crucial gatekeepers to support resources. Below we discuss several of the key needs identified by survivors that would help them on their pathway to healing.

Housing emerged as the most fundamental need. "I have a place to live. I'm not afraid that I don't have a place to sleep at night," explained one Native survivor. Rural survivors faced even greater housing challenges, with one Native participant sharing: "I got assistance for the deposit, but I'm kind of struggling with the utilities." Without stable housing, survivors often face impossible choices between houselessness or returning to abusive relationships.

Transportation barriers create profound isolation, particularly for rural Native survivors. "If they had a bus or something to bring us here, then more people would be willing to come," noted one rural Native survivor. Another rural Native participant explained: "I think we mostly just need help with gas cards" to get to services that may be located far away.

Mental health support is essential, with many survivors defining healing in terms of emotional well-being. "I guess being able to talk without breaking down emotionally," explained one Native urban survivor.

Physical health needs intertwine with trauma recovery. "I was really in bad shape. I had to stay in bed for a while and then go back to the hospital," shared a rural Native survivor.

As medical providers, being aware of how abuse manifests in medical complaints, chronic pain, unexplained injuries, anxiety, depression and missed appointments can help identify patients in need of intervention. Pediatric screening is equally important, as children's health often reflects the safety of their home environment. Documenting findings thoroughly and creating a safe, private space for disclosure increases the likelihood that survivors will seek help when ready.

The consistent support of trauma-informed advocates proves transformative. "It's been a lifesaver. You're around people who know what you're going through," expressed a Native urban survivor. The role of physicians can be to support these survivors in connecting with local advocacy services. Reaching out to your local agency and requesting information on their services, brochures to share with patients, and a greater understanding of local support opportunities provides an essential way to support your patients' health.

Prevention remains far more effective than intervention after trauma occurs. As trusted figures in rural communities, your advocacy can be particularly powerful in breaking cycles of violence where resources are scarce, but community connections run deep.

What can you do today to make a difference? Connect with your local domestic violence organization and invite them to come tell you about their services and leave fliers in your office. Have this as a resource to share with clients who you identify may be in need. If you do not know who your local provider is, you can find them at: <https://www.thehotline.org/get-help/directory-of-local-providers/>

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