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Vol. 131 No. 28 ♦ 10 Pages ♦ Groton, Brown County, South Dakota ♦ Tuesday, March 4, 2014 ♦ Established in 1889

Street project bids differ by \$13, or is it \$1,600 or is it \$176,000

The Groton City Council had a tough decision to make Monday in determining the low bid for the 2014 West Side Street Project. Attorneys Lon Gelhaus and Chad Locken were on hand to represent Hugh and Betsy Dahme of Dahme Construction.

The bid opening was held last week with the Robert Johnson Construction company coming in at 1,274,050.62 while Dahme Construction came in at 1,275,642.14, for a difference of \$1,591.52. Then Clark Engineering went through the figures to verify the math. Robert Johnson Construction bid remained at \$1,274,050.62 while the Dahme Construction bid came in at \$1,450,020.04 for a difference of \$175,969.42.

A clerical error on the Dahme Construction was discovered. The blotting sand was bid at \$1,100 per ton when it should have been \$11 per ton. If corrected, that would have moved the Dahme Construction bid as the low bidder by \$13, setting up an uncomfortable situation for Dahme Construction and their attorneys and the Groton City Council.

City Attorney Drew Johnson said that the bidding law is to protect the municipality, not the bidder. "It's the taxpayer that you have to represent," he said.

A 2001 Watertown court case was brought into the fold where the court ruled that a municipality may make changes where there is an obvious clerical mistake. "By law, you can make the change," Gelhaus said. "We're just asking you do the right and fair thing."

Everyone had agreed that both companies, Robert Johnson Construction and Dahme Construction, were very reputable companies and that their work is outstanding. Drew Johnson said that the Watertown case resulted in a \$43,000 savings to the taxpayers. "Here we're talking about \$13," Johnson said. "It's not fair to Johnson Construction who had everything correct and then come back and take it away from them."

"What is at question here is fairness," Gelhaus said, "and anyone can make a mistake. It is so blatantly noticeable on paper that it just jumps out and cries out for fairness and equity." Locken added, "You need to look at the lowest bid. You have already decided that both parties are responsible." "You are allowed relief from the mistake by the law," Gelhaus said, "and if you allow it, we (Dahme) would be the low bidder."

A letter from the Clark Engineering firm was read and based on the numbers that were submitted, they recommended that the Robert Johnson Construction firm be awarded the contract. The city attorney agreed. "We need Dahme's and this is a terribly hard decision," said Councilman David McGannon, "but I have to go with the recommendation of our engineer and our attorney."

Mayor Scott Hanlon said that he heard of the news on Friday. "It's been a struggle all weekend of what to do," he said. "This is a tough decision for all of us. Councilman Clare Brotherton said, "It's a regrettable mistake, but we have to go with what the attorney and engineer recommended."

Drew Johnson said that if the mistake would have resulted in saving the taxpayers a considerable amount of money, then the council could give more consideration to making the change.

After all was said and done, the council decided to award the bid to the Robert Johnson Construction. The bid came in \$50,000 over what the city had budgeted, so they will be able to do the complete project in one year instead of spreading it out over two or more years. Areas being done are Second Avenue West and Third Avenue West from Broadway to State Street and all intersecting streets. The city has a share of the curb and gutter, so it will special assess itself the \$50,000 so that the city will not have to take out a loan.

In other action:

* Set Equalization time for March 17 following the city council meeting, and to reconvene at 6 p.m. on March 18 with any appointments scheduled for that Tuesday.

* Set the city-wide election for April 8, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. David McGannon and Ron Belden are running in Ward 2, Gary Heitmann and Bert Glover are running Ward 3 and Scott Hanlon and Eddy Nehls are running for mayor. David Blackmun, Jr., is running unopposed in Ward 1.

* The south substation transformer was sold to Northwestern Energy for \$56,000.

Continues on Back Page



The Groton Fire Department was called to a garage fire early Tuesday morning at the Jared Poppen residence at 11 N 5th St. The inside of the garage was gutted and a pickup was burned as well.

Election slated for Groton, no school board election

An election will be held in Groton for mayor and for councilmen in two of the three wards.

In Ward 1, David Blackmun, Jr., turned in his petition. Clare Brotherton is the incumbent and did not take out a petition.

In Ward 2, David McGannon and Ron Belden will be running for the two-year term. McGannon is the appointed incumbent, who replaced Hanlon on the council after Hanlon was appointed mayor.

In Ward 3, Gary Heitmann and Burt Glover will be running for the two-year term. Heitmann is the incumbent.

And for mayor, Scott Hanlon and Eddy Nehls will be running for a two-year term. Hanlon is the appointed mayor after the death of Mayor Roy Olson, who was serving a three-year term. There are two years left in that term.

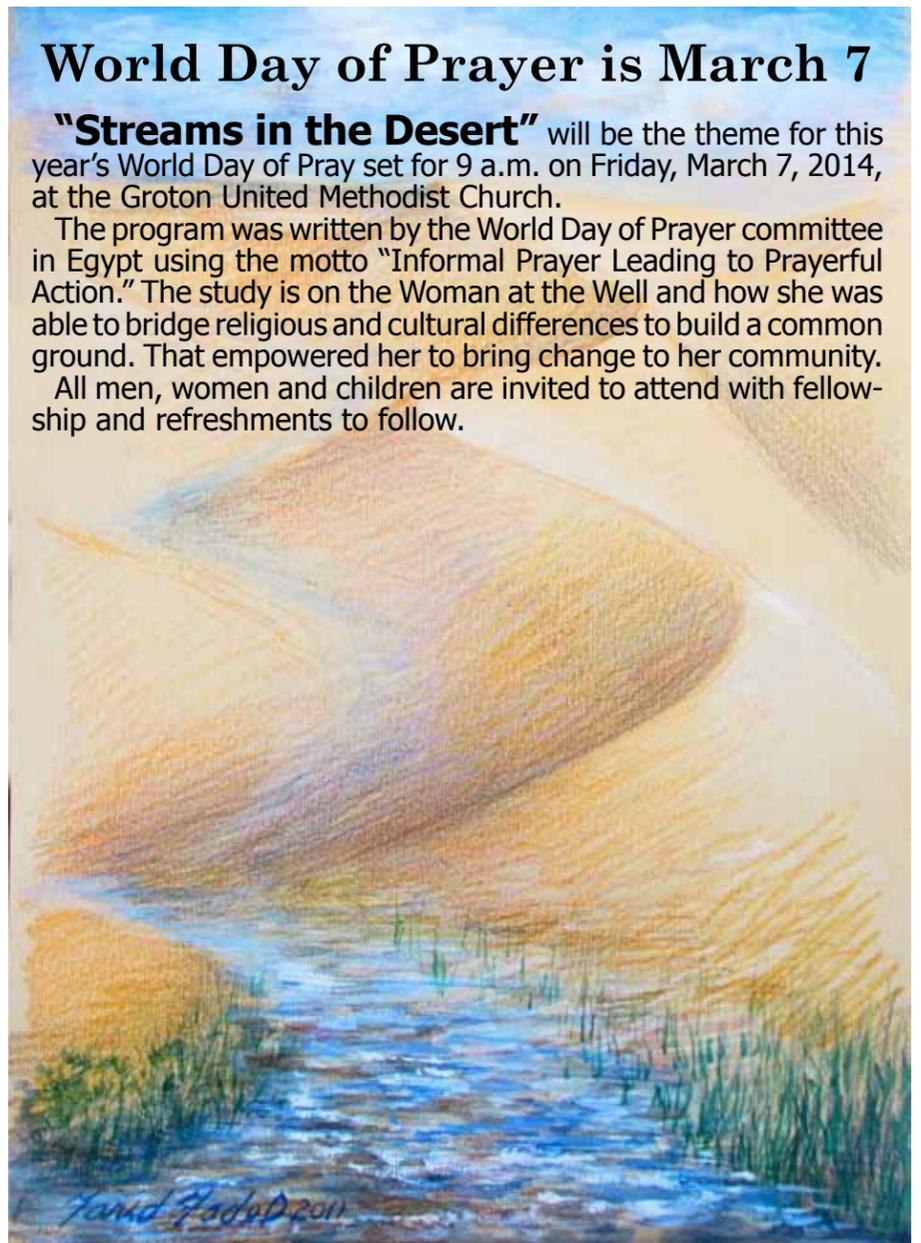
There is no school board election this year. Steve Smith and Grant Rix have submitted the only two petitions. Joy Voss had decided not to seek re-election to the board.

World Day of Prayer is March 7

"Streams in the Desert" will be the theme for this year's World Day of Prayer set for 9 a.m. on Friday, March 7, 2014, at the Groton United Methodist Church.

The program was written by the World Day of Prayer committee in Egypt using the motto "Informal Prayer Leading to Prayerful Action." The study is on the Woman at the Well and how she was able to bridge religious and cultural differences to build a common ground. That empowered her to bring change to her community.

All men, women and children are invited to attend with fellowship and refreshments to follow.



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Groton Area girls finish season at 16-5

Try as they might, it was not meant to be as the Lady Tigers shot 10 percent in three-point country in the Region 1A championship semifinal game. Despite controlling the boards, Aberdeen Roncalli would knock off the number one region seeded Groton Area Tigers, 48-42.

"I'm proud of what the girls have done this year," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "I don't want this game to take away from their accomplishments this season. They finished with an impressive 16-5 record and we won many games that were as close as this."

It took three jump ball attempts to even start the game. The first two times there was a scramble for control of the jump ball which resulted in a jump ball call. Finally on the third attempt, Groton controlled the jump ball, but it would be Roncalli scoring first as Hailey Kline made two free throws. Halle Dohman answered for the Tigers to tie the game at two, but then Roncalli's Mikayla Malsam and Kate Heintzman each hit a three-pointer and Emily Bohle and Hailey Kline each hit a two-pointer as the Cavaliers took a 12-2 lead.

Groton battled back as Lauren Wheeting hit one inside, Courtney Kurtz stole the ball, made the shot, was fouled and made the free throw and a Roncalli turnover turned into a scoring opportunity for Kylie Hawkins. Now it was a three-point game, 12-9, with 2:20 left in the first quarter. Neither team scored for the rest of the quarter.

Hawkins and Dohman would each score in the second quarter to tie the game at 13. The Cavaliers had a turnover and it turned into a scoring opportunity for Wheeting as the Tigers took the lead, 15-13, with 5:55 left in the quarter. Wheeting would score again as Groton increased its lead to three, 17-14. Heintzman squashed the lead with a three-pointer to tie the game at 17. Roncalli reclaimed the lead at 19-17, but Kurtz would make a three-pointer with 1:27 left to give Groton a 20-19 lead at half time.

Bohle would score to start the third quarter as the Cavaliers took the lead, 21-20. Kurtz converted a three-point play and Camille Sippel would hit a basket as Groton took a 25-21 lead. Turnovers started to plague the Tigers. Groton turned the ball over three times in a two-minute stretch and that allowed the Cavaliers to take a 28-25 lead. Free throws helped keep Groton in the game as Kurtz made three of four to tie the game at 28 with 3:12 left in the third quarter. Heintzman hit another three-pointer to take a 31-28 lead. Paige Sommers would hit a three-pointer with 14 seconds left in the third quarter as Roncalli took a 36-30 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Tigers could not score and the Cavaliers did to take a 38-30 lead. Groton cooled off from the line, making two of four free throws, to make it a six-point game, 38-32. Roncalli upped its lead to 10, 42-32. Despite Roncalli making its last field goal with 7:10 left in the game, free throws pushed the Cavaliers ahead. In the fourth quarter, Roncalli made eight of 13 free throws to keep the lead and



Kylie Hawkins attempts a shot from the wing. (Photo #1293 by Paul Kosel)



The Groton cheerleading squad keeps the Groton crowd fired up. They are Cheyenne Schaller, Breanna Marzahn, Kiernan McCranie, Whitney Voss and Allison Weber. (Photo #1285 by Paul Kosel)



Carly Wheeting pushes her way inside to make this shot to break Groton's four minute cold streak in the first quarter. (Photo #1305 by Paul Kosel)



Courtney Kurtz drives to the basket, only to be fouled by Emily Bohle. (Photo #1332 by Paul Kosel)

a 48-42 win over the Tigers.

"One thing I will say," Wanner said, "the girls played to win, unlike the other night when we played not to lose. It's been a fun year and time flies by, especially when you're winning. I've been coaching these girls for three years and they know I'm a hard coach. But one thing we have is respect for each other. We will miss the seniors who are leaving us (Hawkins, Sippel and Dohman). We've made a lot of good memories this year."

Courtney Kurtz led the Tigers with 16 points followed by Halle Dohman with eight, Carly Wheeting had six, Kylie Hawkins four, Camille Sippel and Ashley Gibbs each had three and Audrey Wanner added two points.

Paige Sommers, Kate Heintzman and Hailey Kline all led Roncalli with 11 points each

followed by Taylor Morgan with six, Mikayla Malsam had five and Emily Bohle four.

Groton made 13 of 21 two-pointers for 62 percent. Roncalli was 10 of 26 for 39 percent. In three-pointers, Groton was two of 20 for 10 percent while Roncalli was five of eight for 63 percent. Roncalli had 17 fouls that allowed the Tigers to make 10 of 17 free throws for 59 percent. Groton had 18 team fouls that allowed the Cavaliers to make 13 of 20 free throws for 65 percent. Groton had 13 turnovers, 11 of which were steals by Roncalli with Sommers having four. Roncalli had 17 turnovers, six of which were steals with Wheeting having four. Groton had more rebounds, 25-18, with Sippel having eight and Kurtz six for the Tigers and Bohle four for the Cavaliers. Sommers had four of the Roncalli's nine assists and Kurtz had three and Sippel two of Groton's six assists.

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All Conference Third Team
Camille Sippel drives to the basket and attempts this short shot. (Photo #1310 by Paul Kosel)



Halle Dohman eyes the basket and she launches this shot. (Photo #1296 by Paul Kosel)



Tori Bjerke battles for the rebound. (Photo #1362 by Paul Kosel)



Ashley Gibbs dribbles around the Roncalli defense. (Photo #1359 by Paul Kosel)



Audrey Wanner eyes the basket and hopes to make a basket late in the game. (Photo #1386 by Paul Kosel)

Northeast Conference All-Conference Team

Three Groton girls were named to the Northeast Conference All-Conference team. Junior Courtney Kurtz was named to the first team, senior Camille Sippel was named to the third team and sophomore Carly Wheeting was named to the third team.

Other members of the first team are seniors Paige Sommers, Aberdeen Roncalli; and Macy Toelle, Sisseton; and juniors Mackenzie Huber and Mikayla Prouty, both of Clark/Willow Lake.

Members of the second team are senior Abbie Snaza, Milbank; juniors Lindsey Vogel, Webster; Kennedy Noem, Hamlin; and McKenzie Mertens, Milbank; and sophomore Molly Koisti, Hamlin.

Other members of the third team are seniors Breanna Bullert, Webster; Alicyn Jungwirth, Redfield-Doland; and Kate Heintzman, Aberdeen Roncalli.

Basketball Scores

Dec. 10 Ipswich	W	54-39	1-0
Dec. 14 Leola-Frederick	W	56-23	2-0
Dec. 16 at Tiospa Zina	W	52-38	3-0
Dec. 20 at Redfield	W	44-33	4-0
Dec. 21 at Oakes	W	54-36	5-0
Dec. 28 Ethan at Parkston	L	60-68OT	5-1
Jan. 4 at Deuel	W	53-26	6-1
Jan. 10 at Roncalli	L	39-47	6-2
Jan. 11 Mobridge-Pollock	W	49-37	7-2
Jan. 14 at Milbank	W	41-31	8-2
Jan. 21 at Webster	W	45-40	9-2
Jan. 24 Clark-Willow Lake	W	44-42	10-2
Jan. 27 at Britton	W	50-30	11-2
Jan. 30 Webster Area	W	43-33	12-2
Feb. 3 Langford Area	W	77-35	13-2
Feb. 6 at Sisseton	W	61-55	14-2
Feb. 8 at Warner	L	28-41	14-3
Feb. 10 Roncalli	W	52-38	15-3
Feb. 14 Hamlin	W	48-44	16-3
Feb. 20 Britton-Hecla	L	36-39	16-4
Feb. 27 Region vs. Roncalli	L	42-48	16-5

Girls NEC Standings

Clark-Willow Lake	8-1	17-3
Groton Area	7-2	16-4
Hamlin	7-2	14-6
Webster Area	5-4	11-7
Milbank Area	5-4	12-8
Aberdeen Roncalli	4-5	12-8
Sisseton	3-6	5-15
Redfield-Doland	2-7	8-12
Britton-Hecla	2-7	8-12
Deuel	1-8	1-19

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Hot Tiger boys rip Bulldogs in region opener

The Groton boys shot 59 percent from the field and 78 percent from the line to eliminate Milbank Area in the first round of the Region 1A Tournament being played in Milbank.

Reilly Ell was three of six in three-pointers and eight of 12 in two-pointers as he led all scorers with 20 points. Wyatt Lone and Kyler Ell each had nine, Mason Madsen and Kasey Kurtz each had eight, Chance Strom added five, Wyatt Larson four and Lucas Sternhagen had two points.

Groton made 26 of 47 field goals while Milbank was 10 of 36 for 28 percent. Groton had 12 team fouls which allowed Milbank to make 10 of 15 free throws for 67 percent. Milbank had eight team fouls which allowed Groton to make seven of nine free throws.

Groton controlled the boards, 25-19, with Madsen and Reilly Ell each having six for Groton and Dylan Fox had nine for Milbank. Groton had seven turnovers with three being steals. Milbank had 14 turnovers with five of them being steals—three by Lone and two by Madsen.

Groton had blocked the ball five times while Milbank had one block. Lone and Madsen each had two and Reilly Ell had one. Groton had 12 assists with Kurtz having six and Milbank had four assists.

Scoring for Milbank had Dylan Fox with 12, Brandon Cummins nine, Jacob Berg five, Ryan Schreurs four and Jacob Jackson added two points.

In the other first round games, Sisseton defeated Britton-Hecla, 71-44, and Tiospa Zina defeated Webster, 57-48.

Thursday's games feature Aberdeen Roncalli taking on Tiospa Zina at 6 p.m. followed by the Groton Area vs. Sisseton match-up.



Reilly Ell
Senior
First Team



Mason Madsen
Senior
Second Team



Kasey Kurtz
Senior
Third Team

Three selected for All-Conference Team

The Northeast Conference All-Conference team members have been selected.

On the first team are seniors Jordan Cornelius, Sisseton; Reilly Ell, Groton; and Mitch Prouty, Clark-Willow Lake; and juniors Tyson Jenkins, Clark-Willow Lake; and Brayden McNeary, Aberdeen Roncalli.

Second team members are seniors Wyatt Youngblom, Sisseton; Mason Madsen, Groton; and Reid Valsvig, Webster; and juniors EJ Drake, Hamlin; and Ephram Albrecht, Redfield.

Third team members are seniors Lucas Lorezn, Zach Andera, and Zach Schaeftbauer, all of Aberdeen Roncalli; and Kasey Kurtz, Groton; and sophomore Braxton Hartley, Clark-Willow Lake.



Show Choir Public Performance March 7th

The Groton Area Junior High Show Choir and the High School Show Choir will perform Friday, March 7th at 6:00pm in the High School Gym. Come see the Junior High Show Choir perform the song "Blame it on the Boogie", choreographed by Kaitlin O'Neill. The "Prismatic Sensations" will perform their 2014 Competition Show, including the songs "Renegade" by Styx, "On Top of the World" by Imagine Dragons, "Uptown Girl" by Billy Joel, "We Found Love" by Rihanna, "I Won't Give Up" by Jason Mraz, and "Move" by MercyMe. The music for the show was arranged by Reid Johnson. The group is directed by Malerie Yeaton and Lea Kooiman.

"Prismatic Sensations" 2013-2014

Back row L to R: Devon Poppen, Allison Weber, Danielle Schinkel, Heather Lone, Garrett Stene

3rd row L to R: Brittany Kjelden, Truitt Rogers, Kaitlyn Ringgenberg, Jamie Krueger, Aaron Severson, Maggie Simon

2nd row L to R: Sydney Thorson, Emily Raap, Luke Smith, Chance Strom, Matt Knecht, Michaela Cutler, Taylor Gustafson

1st row L to R: Macy Knecht, Kari Hanson, Rachel Blackmun, Kaitlin O'Neill, Cheyenne Schaller, Kiana Kokales

The "Prismatic Sensations" will be competing at the Center Stage Competition at Aberdeen Central on Saturday, March 8. They perform at 12:30pm and 6:25pm. They will also travel to Sioux Falls on Saturday, March 15, to compete in the Best of Show Competition at Washington High School.

Boys NEC Standings

Clark-Willow Lake	9-0	18-2
Aberdeen Roncalli	7-2	17-3
Sisseton	7-2	15-5
Hamlin	6-3	12-8
Groton Area	6-3	15-5
Webster Area	3-6	11-7
Britton-Hecla	3-6	5-15
Redfield-Doland	2-7	7-13
Milbank Area	1-8	3-17
Deuel	0-9	0-20

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Frederick Area Schools Pre-School Screening

The following areas will be screened:
fine motor, gross motor, language, speech,
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Tuesday, March 11, 2014
From 8:30am to 2:30 pm
In the Frederick School Gym

Target Students:

- Children entering Kindergarten in the fall of 2014
- Children who are 3 years old by March 11, 2014
- Children with concerns in the screened areas

Please Call: 329-2333 by
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The Brown County Board of Commissioners will receive sealed bids for their Landfill Cell #2 Construction project until Tuesday, March 18, 2014 until 8:45 AM in the Commissioner's Chambers at the Brown County Court House located at 25 Market Street in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Sealed bids may be sent to the Brown County Auditor at 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401 prior to the letting, or hand delivered at the address stated above immediately preceding the bid opening. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Brown County Commissioner's Chamber at the above-mentioned time.

Bids are invited upon the items and approximate quantities of work as follows:

Mobilization, 450,000 CuYd Unclassified Excavation, 10,000 CuYd Unsuitable Material Undercut, 1,000 MGAL Water for Compaction, 37,000 CuYd 24" Compacted Clay Liner, 5,600 CuYd 12" Side Slope Cover Material, 2,350 CuYd Topsoil from Stockpiles, 18,400 Tons 12" Granular Drainage Material, 800 Tons Coarse Aggregate, 2,600 SqYd Geotextile Drainage Fabric, 900 Ft 6" HDPE Perforated Leachate Piping, 200 Ft 6" HDPE Leachate Piping, 4 Each 6" HDPE Bends, Side Slope Cleanout, Connect to Existing Leachate Pipe; 750 Tons Gravel Surfacing, 200 Ft Reinstall Containment Fence, 200 Ft Remove and Salvage Existing Fence, Remove and Salvage Drain Pipe and Pump, Remove and Salvage Culvert, 7.9 Acres Seeding and Mulching, 80 Ft Silt Fence, 2700 Ft Straw Wattles; 800 SqYd of

Erosion Control Mat and other miscellaneous work.

The approximate quantities mentioned above are subject to increase or decrease. It will be agreed by bidders that all quantities of work will be performed in accordance with the provisions of the plans and specifications and at the unit price bid. Bidders agree to furnish all labor, material, and equipment necessary to complete all the work as shown in the plans and specifications.

The complete set of Contract Documents, including 11" x 17" paper drawings and specifications, is on file with the Brown County Auditor and/or at the office of Helms and Associates, 221 Brown County Highway 19, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from the office of Helms and Associates, PO Box 111, Aberdeen, SD 57402. Plans and specifications may be obtained upon payment to Helms and Associates in the amount of \$100.00 for shipping and handling. Please state quantity documents requested. Plans and specifications may also be downloaded from the Helms and Associates web site upon a one-time payment of \$20.00. The web site is located at <http://www.helmsengineering.com/biddocs.html>. All payments are non refundable. Additionally, upon request, in accordance with South Dakota Codified Law 5-18B-1, one copy of Plans and Specifications shall be furnished, without charge, to each Contractor resident in South Dakota who intends, in good faith, to bid upon the project.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with the Presidents Executive Order Nos. 11246 as amended, 11518, and 11625 as amended. The requirements for bidders and contractors under these orders are explained in the specifications.

Bidders are also reminded that not less than the minimum wages as determined by the Davis Bacon Act and set forth in the Contract Documents must be

paid on this project and that the contractor and/or subcontractor must ensure that employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Bidders on this work will be required to comply with Title 40 CFR 33 and Executive Order 12138. The requirements for bidders and contractors under this regulation which concerns utilization of Disadvantaged/Minority Business Enterprises (DBE/MBE) and Women's Business Enterprises (WBE) are explained in the specifications. The goals for DBE/MBE participation are 1% and WBE participation are 4%.

The low responsive bidder will be required to certify to compliance with the Buy American Iron and Steel provision of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014. This certification form may be found on page BA-2 of the State Revolving Fund (SRF) General Conditions and must be included in the bid proposal.

Please be advised that waivers or exemptions from the Buy American provision that cite International Trade Agreements DO NOT comply with the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 as it applies to the SRF programs. Claims from suppliers that the Buy American Iron and Steel provision does not apply to certain products based on the International Trade Agreement exemptions of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2014 will not be accepted.

In addition to all of the above listed Federal requirements for work on this project, compliance with the contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, Executive Order 11375, Copeland Act, the Clean Air Act, and Water Pollution Control Act, and subsequent amendments to all of the above will be required of contractors and/or subcontractors performing work on this project.

Each bid must be accompanied by a certified check or bank draft payable to the order

of Brown County, South Dakota in an amount equal to five percent (5%) of the total bid. A bid bond in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the total bid will be accepted in lieu of a certified check or bank draft. Surety for bid bond must be authorized to do business in the State of South Dakota.

Bids may be held by Brown County Commissioners, for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids, investigating the qualifications of the bidders and completing financial arrangements prior to awarding the Work. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in the bidding.

ATTEST:
Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor
(0304.0311)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$104.94.

Groton School Feb, 24 Meeting Minutes



UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6 REGULAR MEETING February 24, 2014

President Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the High School Conference Room. Members present: Harder, Kjelden, Nelson, Smith and Voss. Absent: Hanson and Weismantel. Others present: Superintendent J. Schwan, Principals Dalchow and A. Schwan and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Smith, second Voss to approve the agenda with the following amendments: eliminate a motion to approve New Business Item #4 pertaining to a student janitor hiring and under New Business Item #3 – change

24 hours to 30 hours and add "for an increase of \$2,090.00" on the motion to amend the work agreement for Dorothy Reder. Motion carried.

Members of the public were allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members present to speak, the board proceeded with their remaining agenda items.

The board heard program overviews from 3rd and 4th grade teachers, Deb Winburn, Susan Fjeldheim and Joel Guthmiller and K-12 music instructors, Deb Jensen, Reid Johnson, Malerie Yeaton and Lea Kooiman.

There were no board committee reports given.

The board acknowledged first reading of amended Policy GCBCC – Tax Sheltered Annuity. The following items were discussed in Administrative Reports: legislative update, city council meeting to discuss police presence in school, teacher effectiveness pilot program, Army Band performance, Smarter Balance practice test, Senator John Thune visit, 3M Engineering Expo, NSU production of Romeo and Juliet, parent/teacher conferences, Ag Safety Day, Elementary Book Fair and Kindergarten Screening.

Moved by Harder, second Kjelden to approve 2014 Summer Driver's Education employment agreement with Shaun Wanner at \$19/hour for student driving plus stipend, not to exceed \$600, for classroom instruction based upon enrollment figures. Motion carried.

Butler Town Board of Review



NOTICE OF MEETING OF LOCAL REVIEW BOARD SDCL 10-11-13

Notice is here by given that the governing body, sitting as Review Board of Butler Town, Day County, South Dakota, will meet at the James Marko residence at 7:00pm, on Monday the 17th day of March 2014.

All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment are required to submit written notice to the Finance Officer no later than March 13th 2014.

Georgia Sichmeller
202 S. Hart Ave. Butler SD
Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$6.48.

Butler Town Election is Cancelled



ELECTION CANCELED Butler Town Board

Notice is hereby given that no Town Board election will be held. The election for which public notice was given has been cancelled because there were no nominating petitions filed for the position of Trustee.

Georgia Sichmeller,
Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$4.51.

Moved by Smith, second Voss to approve resignation of Dennis Davies as custodian effective January 31st. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Kjelden to amend the custodial work agreement for Dorothy Reder from 30 hours per week to 40 hours per week effective February 18th through June 30th, at an additional cost of \$2,090.00. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Kjelden to hire Brooke Lingbeck as Business Education/Technology Teacher for 2014-15, with salary to be published in July. Motion carried.

Moved by Voss, second Smith to increase pay for Madeleine Gonsoir from \$10.00 to \$12.00 per hour effective February 21st through the end of the school term for an additional \$868.00 as a result of obtaining a valid South Dakota Teacher Certificate pursuant to the Negotiated Agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Kjelden to go into executive session at 8:55 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) and SDCL 1-25-2(4) to discuss personnel issues and auxiliary staff negotiations. Motion carried.

Nelson declared the board out of executive session at 9:50 pm.

Moved by Harder, second Kjelden to adjourn. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager Dorene Nelson, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$21.91.

Annual Meeting Mud Creek Watershed District



NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF BROWN COUNTY MUD CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That the Annual Meeting of the Brown County Mud Creek Watershed District, will be held in the Groton Community Center, located at 109 N. 3rd Street, Groton, South Dakota on March 18, 2014 at 2:00 p.m., during which annual meeting the eligible voters in the district shall elect, by ballot, under the direction of the secretary of the district, managers to replace those whose terms have expired. All managers and candidates shall be eligible voters of the district or designees of eligible voters of the district as provided in SDCL 46A-14-15.1. Upon the election of the managers of the district, officers of the district shall be elected by the managers, except the secretary/treasurer shall be appointed by the managers; and any other personnel of the district may be appointed or hired by the managers. Additionally, at such annual meeting any interested person may appear either in person or by a representative and will be given an opportunity for a full and complete discussion of all purposes, objectives, items, schedules, appropriations, estimates, amounts and any other matters relevant to the Brown County Mud Creek Watershed District.

Grant Rix, Secretary, Brown County Mud Creek Watershed District.
(0304.0311)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$25.35.

Extreme Winter of 2013-2014

The ongoing winter of 2013-2014 will go down as one of the coldest December through February periods on record across central and northeast South Dakota as well as west central Minnesota. Countless clipper systems moving across the region brought periods of snowfall, Arctic air, strong winds along with bitter cold wind chills and blowing snow. Despite the lack of snowfall, the strong winds and Arctic cold resulted in several blizzard and high wind warnings along with many wind chill advisories and warnings. The meteorological winter is the period from December 1st through February 28th even though winter conditions in our region can begin much earlier and last much longer.

Aberdeen, SD: (1893-2014)

Rank	Value	Year
1	2.1	1936
2	4.1	1979
3	5.1	1978
4	5.8	1917
5	6.6	1965, 1910
7	7.2	1956
8	7.4	2014
9	7.5	1950
10	7.7	2001
11	7.8	1997

The snow cover or lack thereof for this winter had much to do with how the final average temperature rankings. At this time in the winter season, the snowfall is actually below normal for most locations. The snowfall up through February 28th across the region actually shows Pierre and Mobridge receiving more snowfall than the locations across the east. In the east, the snowfall amounts ranged from 17.4 inches at Watertown to 24.4 inches at Aberdeen. In central South Dakota, the snowfall amounts ranged from 24.9 inches at Pierre to 31.4 inches at Mobridge. Despite having more snow than locations in the east, Pierre and Mobridge were able to melt most of it off while the east remained snow covered. Snow cover allows for better cooling at night and less warming during the daytime. Therefore, this winter could have been several degrees colder with a deeper and more widespread snowpack across the region. It is a good thing we did not have to find out how cold it may have been. With March historically being one of our snowiest months, seasonal snowfall totals could change quite a bit.

The final winter average temperatures in the charts below show that all locations in the east had one of their top ten coldest December through February periods on record. The years shown in the charts are for the winters ending in that year. For Aberdeen and Watertown, the records date back to 1893. Wheaton had an average winter temperature of 6.4 degrees which was 3rd in their all-time rankings dating back to 1914. Sisseton was 6th in their rankings with 9.4 degrees dating back to 1900. Watertown had their 7th coldest winter on record with an average temperature of 7.8 degrees. The December through February average temperature at Aberdeen finished out in 8th place at 7.4 degrees. Across the western part of the region with the lack of snow cover, Pierre and Mobridge had one of their top twenty coldest winters on record finishing at 18th and 20th, respectively. The charts also highlight some of recent cold winters of the last 20 years. Most, if not all, of these winters had much more snowfall as compared to this year. The winter of 2013-14 pales in comparison to the frigid winter of 1935-36. The average winter temperatures of 1935-36 were from 5 to 7 degrees colder than the winter of 2013-14.

Service Notice: Gay Kolb

Services for Gay Kolb, 83, of Groton will be 2 p.m., Sunday, March 9 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney. The Rev. Lloyd Redhage will officiate. Burial will follow at a later date in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen.

Visitation will be held at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel on Saturday from 1-4 p.m. with a prayer service at 3:30 p.m.

Gay died March 3, 2014 at her residence.

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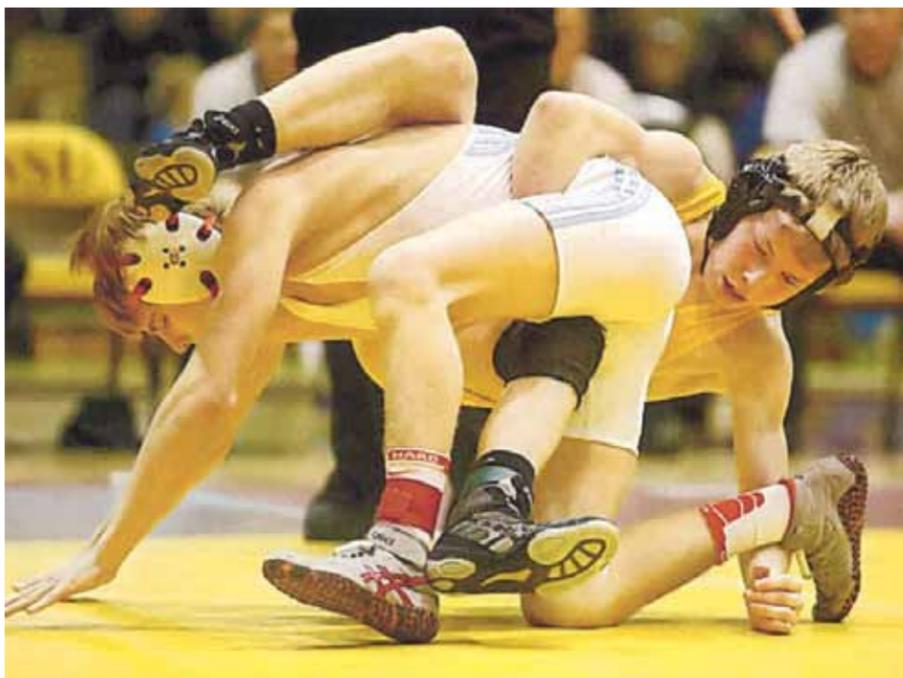
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Kelby Hawkins

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Above and Below: Kelby Hawkins vs. Alex Caba, 120 pound State B Wrestling Championship.

Hawkins places second at state

Kelby Hawkins, 120 pounds, placed second at the state wrestling tournament as he was decided by Alex Caba, Bon Homme/Scotland, 4-1, in the championship match. Earlier on Saturday, he had pinned Jacob Fitzgerald of Garretson, 3:08, in the championship semifinals. Matches on Friday had Hawkins pinning Kyler Holzbauer, Parkston, 5:09; and pinning Dylan Eldeen, Tri-Valley, 2:34.

At 138 pounds, Jeric Albrecht defeated Garrett Rausch, Potter

County, by tech fall in 4:46; he lost by a technical fall to Sean Bice, Winner, 4:42; and he was decided by Ben Boyko, Britton-Hecla, 11-7.

At 152 pounds, Parker Kroll was pinned by Derek Eldeen, Tri-Valley, 5:46 and he lost to Jace Anderson, Sully Buttes



Jeric Albrecht

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Parker Kroll

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Brown County Gravel Dump Body



NOTICE TO STEEL GRAVEL DUMP BODY DEALERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401, until 9:10 A.M. on March 18, 2014. At this time and place, all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for furnishing and delivery of One (1) NEW STEEL GRAVEL DUMP BODY AND HOIST. Delivery shall be made F.O.B. to Brown County Highway Department, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed and delivered to the Brown County Auditor, Brown County Court House Annex, 25 Market Street, Ste 1 Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401. They are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "BID ON ONE (1) NEW STEEL GRAVEL DUMP BODY AND HOIST" to be opened on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 9:10 A.M. Proposal Guaranty: The proposal guaranty required and which must accompany each bid is a certified check, a cashier's

check, or bank draft certified or issued by a national or state bank and payable at sight to Brown County, South Dakota in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, or in lieu thereof, bidder may furnish a bid bond for ten percent (10%) of the bid, such bond to be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in South Dakota and payable to Brown County, South Dakota. Price and quality are the determining factors in awarding contracts. In determining the successful bidder, the lowest or most advantageous price upon grade, quality, or quantity, and general conditions specified, shall be the determining factors.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids which they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax. Specifications are on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office and the Brown County Highway Department Office and may be obtained at no charge.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor (0304.0311)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$39.04.

Brown County Truck Dealers Bid Notice



NOTICE TO TRUCK DEALERS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401 until 9:00 A.M., on March 18, 2014. At that time and place, all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners, for furnishing and delivery of a New Current 2014 Model, In Production, Twin Screw Tandem Axle Dump Truck Cab and Chassis. Delivery shall be made F.O.B. to Brown County.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, Brown County Court House Annex, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401. Bids are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "Bid on a New Twin Screw Tandem Axle Dump Truck Cab and Chassis" to be opened on Tuesday, March 18, 2014 at 9:00 A.M.

Option #1: Purchase One (1) New Twin Screw Tandem Axle Dump Truck Cab and Chassis, 2014 Model 58,000 lb. GVW Tandem Truck, complete in every detail as specified.

Proposal Guaranty: The proposal guaranty required and which must accompany each bid is a certified check, a cashier's check or bank draft certified by a national or state bank, and payable at sight to Brown County, South Dakota in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, or in lieu thereof, bidder may furnish a bid bond for ten percent (10%) of the bid, such bond to be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in South Dakota, and payable to Brown County, South Dakota. Price and quality are the determining factors in awarding contracts. In determining the successful bidder, the lowest or most advantageous price upon grade, quality, or quantity, and general conditions specified, shall be the determining factors.

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Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor (0304.0311)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$42.08.

Brown County Nominating Petitions



NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR FILING NOMINATING PETITIONS

The deadline for filing nominating petitions is March 25, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. If a petition is mailed by registered mail by March 25, 2014 at 5:00 p.m., it shall be considered filed.

Nominating petitions for the offices of County Commissioners, County Auditor, County Sheriff, Register of Deeds, Precinct Committeeman Republican Party, Precinct Committeewoman Republican Party, Delegates to the Republican Party State Convention, and Delegates to the Democratic Party State Convention shall be filed in the office of the county auditor located in the county courthouse during regular business hours. Nominating petitions for the offices of U.S. Senate, U.S. Representative, Governor, State Senator District 1, State Representatives District 1, State Senator District 2, State Representatives District 2, State Senator District 3, State Representatives District 3, and 5th Circuit Court Judge Positions A-D shall be filed in the office of the Secretary of State, State Capitol Building, Pierre, SD 57501, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor (0304.0311)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.81.

Groton Independent

605/397-NEWS (6397)

Fax: 1-775-459-6259

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office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285

Notices: legals@grotonsd.net

News Items: news@grotonsd.net

Deadline to submit items: Monday at noon

Yearly Subscription Rates: 12 Month Rate: \$35

Groton Daily Independent internet paper: \$31.80.

Tax included in rates.

The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440)

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Postmaster: Send address changes to

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Local Classified and Card of Thanks Rates

The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent, and posted online at www.grotonsd.net. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
 4th consecutive week is free

605/397-NEWS (6397)

110 N Washington St., Groton SD 57445

Tuff Tigers Thank You

A big THANK YOU to all of the parents, community members, past Groton wrestlers, current Groton High School wrestlers, & Webster High School wrestlers who helped out and participated in the Groton Tuff Tigers Youth Wrestling Tournament this past weekend! We had a huge turnout of youth wrestlers from around the state/region and it wouldn't have run so smoothly without all of you! It says a lot about our local community and how much they support wrestling and youth athletics - we do appreciate it!

- The Groton Tuff Tigers Board

AUCTION

PURPLE WAVE IS conducting two no-reserve construction equipment auctions on Thursday, March 13. Bid now on heavy trucks, dump trucks, skid steers, backhoes, scrapers, loaders, graders, crane, rollers, oil distributor truck, excavator, tractors, trailers, forklifts. Bid now at www.purplewave.com.

EMPLOYMENT

Part-time, flexible hours. Prefer experience with Quickbooks, MS Word & Excel. Wage depending on qualifications and experience. Send resume to: dakotabrush@nvc.net

PRESIDENT/CEO – Visit: www.advancebkg.info for job description. Submit cover letter, resume and current salary information to: Maureen Simet, ADVANCE, PO Box 810, Brookings, SD 57006-0810. msimet@advancebkg.com.

PATROL OFFICER – Hourly pay range: \$20.69-\$25.17/hr. Visit: www.cityofbrookings.org Return application w/resume to PO Box 270, Brookings, SD 57006-0270. dlangland@cityofbrookings.org.

WATER/WASTEWATER TRAINING SPECIALIST – provide technical advice, assistance, and training to rural and small town utilities. Analyze situations, evaluate possible courses of action, make decisions, and give advice and recommendations regarding water/wastewater system operations. Qualified individuals should submit resume, references, and statement of qualifications to: South Dakota Rural Water, PO Box 287, Madison, SD 57042. Additional information can be located at www.sdarws.com under Member Services or email dndavis@sdarws.com.

FAULK COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT accepting applications for FT Highway Maintenance individuals. Benefit package. Motivated, positive attitude, work with others. Valid CDL. EOE. For application call 605-598-6233.

HEALTHCARE JOBS. Now hiring: RNs, LPNs/LVNs, CNAs, Med Aides. \$2,000 Bonus – Free Gas. Call AACO @ 1-800-656-4414 Ext.22.

CUSTER REGIONAL HOSPITAL has full-time RN opportunities available working in the beautiful southern Black Hills of SD. We are located just a short distance from Mount Rushmore, Wind Cave National Park, Custer State Park, Jewel Cave National Park and many other outdoor attractions. We offer competitive salary and excellent benefits. Please call 605-673-9418 for more information or log on to www.regionalhealth.com to apply. EOE

FARM HELP WANTED: Full-time person for general farm work on cattle farm, tractor driver. Experience necessary. Call 605-547-2257 or 712-551-7828 for details.

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS: LPNs & CNAs, top weekly pay, direct deposit, & flexible schedules. Take control of your schedule with Tri-State Nursing. Apply online today. www.tristatenursing.com 800-727-1912.

HYDE COUNTY DIRECTOR OF EQUALIZATION seeking two temporary employees for countywide reappraisal in Hyde County. Up to 40 hours per week at \$10.00 per hour. Application deadline: March 17. Obtain application at Hyde County Courthouse, 412 Commercial Avenue, Highmore, SD or call 605-852-2070.

BRITTON-HECLA SCHOOL Dist. currently has the following positions open for the 2014-15 school year: Elem. Teacher and K-12 Vocal Music Instructor w/wo coaching. Closes 03/14/14. Send LOA and resume to: Kevin Coles, Supt., PO Box 190, Britton, SD 57430 or kevin.coles@k12.sd.us. The Britton-Hecla School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, age, national origin or handicap in its programs and activities or employment practices and policies.

EQUIPMENT

HIGHMORE-HARROLD SCHOOL DISTRICT seeking quality used skid loader. Send picture and specifications of unit if priced under \$25,000. If over \$25,000, submit sealed bid labeled "Over \$25,000 Skid Loader" to Supt. Chip Sundberg, Box 416, Highmore, SD 57345, call 605-852-2275 for details.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE: Campbell 3.5 HP, 20 gal., air compressor on wheels with hose. Good condition. \$125 OBO. 605/290-5546.

BRAND NEW Toro Electric Snowthrower with Brush. Great for cleaning sidewalks. \$50. Call Eddy at 397-2783 or 290-5546.

PROM DRESSES 50% off. Central South Dakota's largest selection. Hollywood Shop, 333 S. Pierre Street in Pierre. Call 605-224-6222 or 605-280-5745 (cell).

FOR SALE: Spider, Salamanca, and Bridger pea seed. Looking for experienced seed growers. Inquiries call Great Northern Ag 701/497-3082 or visit our website www.great-northernag.com.

LOG HOMES

DAKOTA LOG HOME Builders representing Golden Eagle Log Homes, building in eastern, central, northwestern South & North Dakota. Scott Connell, 605-530-2672, Craig Connell, 605-264-5650, www.goldeneagleloghomes.com.

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The SD Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services, is looking for an individual to be responsible for developing employer relationships on a statewide level in order to connect employers to people with disabilities. The Business Specialist will be instrumental in providing employers with information and assistance in hiring people with disabilities. Bachelor's degree and knowledge of disability service programs and business hiring procedures is preferred. Salary \$1748.24 semi-monthly DOE. Closes 3/14/14. For more information and to apply, please go to <http://bhr.sd.gov/workforum>, and reference Job ID #2816. An Equal Opportunity Employer

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OPEN ENROLLMENT DEADLINE IS MARCH 31, 2014

Community Health Centers have impartial assisters available free of charge to aide you in finding health coverage that fits your budget. Contact your local Community Health Center to discuss your health coverage options or set up an appointment with a Certified Application Counselor to help with the application process. You may also enroll online at HealthCare.gov, by phone at 1-800-318-2596/TTY 1-855-889-4325, or mail. In addition, you can find in-person help in your community at LocalHelp.HealthCare.gov. Contact any of the Health Centers for a location near you.

allPOINTS Health Services 605-356-3317	Falls Community Health 605-978-6890
Horizon Health Care 605-847-4484	Rural Health Care, Inc. 605-223-2200

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Brown County Feb. 25 General Meeting



FEBRUARY 25, 2014 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 8:45 a.m. in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Kippley, Fischbach and Wiese. Commissioner Hansen was absent. Chairman Sutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by Wiese seconded by Fischbach to approve the General Meeting minutes of February 18, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims:

Payroll: Commission \$3,527.51; Commission Assistant/Human Resources \$3,992.74; Auditor \$7,145.27; Treasurer \$11,602.87; Data Processing \$3,211.33; State's Attorney \$15,075.39; Blood Draws \$1,000.00; SVAWA Grant \$1,269.24; Maintenance \$4,968.21; Assessor \$12,626.91; Register of Deeds \$8,166.81; Veterans Service Office \$3,642.74; GIS \$2,147.60; Sheriff Admin \$30,886.82; Jail \$33,581.32; Coroner \$0; JDC \$14,531.72; HD \$4,681.13; Welfare Office \$3,086.87; Museum \$7,086.56; Parks & Fairgrounds \$4,207.92; Fair Board \$2,797.39; 4-H \$1,143.20; Weed \$521.12; Planning and Zoning \$1,453.85; Highway \$44,177.30; Communications \$19,658.79; Emergency Management \$3,209.73; Teen Court \$155.08; 24/7 \$2,632.80; Landfill \$11,375.38

Matching Benefits: FICA \$15,776.41; Medicare \$3,689.68; Life \$671.52; Dental \$6,295.32; Health Insurance \$102,818.83; Retirement \$32,129.95.

Professional Fees: Bratland Law \$8,796.74; Certified Languages International \$252.45; Dependable Sanitation \$21,077.22; Chris Dohrer \$3,839.28; Chris Jansen \$3,214.28; Kuck Law Office \$3,214.28; Language Line Services \$85.41; Lewis & Clark BHS \$320.00; Neal Long \$95.65; H. Adrian Mohr \$193.90; NE Mental Health Center \$1,144.00; Police Legal Sciences \$1,920.00; Richardson, Wylly, Wise, Sauck \$3,214.28; Gina Rogers \$3,214.28; Ronayne Law Office \$3,214.28; SD Dept of Transportation \$537.02; Christy Serr \$3,842.28; Sivertsen Technology \$5,075.00; Spitzer Miller Funeral Home \$1,000.00; US Bank \$50.00; Yankton Co Treasurer \$220.00.

Transcripts: Lori Grode \$634.60.

Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$131.71; Groton Independent \$438.54.

Rentals: Chris & Elissa Allen \$800.00; Thomas Hinz \$260.00; Annette Schwan \$260.00.

Repairs & Maintenance: A & B Business \$465.14; Custom Glass & Repair \$275.00; Hoven Auto Repair \$294.36; Leidholt Electric \$160.88; Nelson Sales & Service \$11.40; Overhead Door \$804.90; Pierson-Ford \$64.40; SD Dept of Transportation \$7,482.68; US Bank \$497.11.

Supplies: Aberdeen Area Human Resource \$50.00; Advance Auto Parts \$31.95; Crescent Electric Supply Co \$249.42; Galls \$1,255.00; GovConnection \$263.04; Heartland Paper \$651.86; House of Glass \$125.68; Marco Inc \$262.11; McFarland Supply \$290.55; Menards \$672.53; Midstates Printing \$14.00; Mobile Electronic Service \$3,400.00; NCFE - Warner Elevator \$2,599.65; Pitney Bowes Inc \$10,040.00; Schwan Welding \$104.50; SD Emergency Mgmt \$10.00; SDN, LLC \$885.00; TDO, Inc \$29,738.10; The Embroiders' Guild \$500.00; Thompson Information Services \$993.98; US Bank \$6,072.14; Weller Truck Parts \$2,910.52.

Travel & Conference: IAFE \$990.00; Inside the Tape LLC \$550.00; US Bank \$260.18; Aaron Walberg \$256.15.

Utilities: Century Link \$2,987.86; Midcontinent Communications \$239.63; Montana Dakota Utilities \$29.64; Northwestern Energy & Communications \$935.17; Northwestern Public Service \$320.03; US Bank \$622.30; Verizon Wireless \$78.62; Verizon Wireless Services LLC \$1,669.24.

Other: Pizza Ranch \$101.94; Safe Harbor \$240.00; Northern Electric \$1,200.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to approve the following employee step increases, effective March 2, 2014: Cindy Mitchell @ \$17.82 per hour, JoAnn Sheffield @

\$15.08 per hour, Randy Kutter @ \$15.48 per hour, Cory Erhardt @ \$14.89 per hour. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge Experience Works Employee Judy Moter to be employed (21 hours per week) in the Register of Deeds Office, effective March 10, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge resignation of Cameron Jarvis (Landfill) effective February 28, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to approve Landfill request to fill part-time vacancy. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge resignation of Derek Belden (Sheriff Office) effective February 18, 2014; Rebecca Martell (Sheriff Office) effective February 25, 2014 and Chase Dykema (Sheriff Office) effective March 3, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Fischbach to approve Sheriff Office request to fill 3 part-time vacancies. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – LANDFILL UNIT 2 CELL 2: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider bids for Unit 2 Cell #2 Construction Project at the Brown County Landfill, to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD on March 18, 2014 at 8:45 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EM STATE & LOCAL AGREEMENT: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Kippley to approve and authorize chairman to sign State-Local Assistance Agreement for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program or Pre-Disaster Mitigation for all funding applications with the State of South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

COUNTY RANGELAND FIRE PROTECTION: Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #08-14. RANGELAND FIRE PROTECTION. WHEREAS, SDCL 41-20-8.1 authorizes the South Dakota Wildlife Coordinator to assist in fighting range fires throughout the State, but only if a county submits a formal request; and WHEREAS, Brown County appoints individuals periodically and submits a County Designee Report annually to the SD Department of Agriculture for the purpose of rangeland fire suppression assistance. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brown County Commission name the following designees, as authorized by SDCL 41-20-8.1 for purpose of requesting assistance from the SD Wildlife Coordinator in fighting rangeland fires in Brown County: Tom Fischbach, Scott Meints and Patti Woods. Seconded by Commissioner Kippley. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

FAIR CONTRACT: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize Amy Scott, Fair Manager to sign the following Brown County Fair entertainment contracts for August 14, 2014: Cassadee Pope @ \$25,000.00 and Kip Moore @ \$100,000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PLATS: Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: Resolution #9-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Jeff-Ra Kippley Consolidation Subdivision in NW 1/4 Sec 18-T124N-R63W of 5th P.M. Brown County, South Dakota", having been examined, is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Fischbach. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Kippley-abstain, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: Resolution #10-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Nilsson Creekside Subdivision in SE 1/4 Sec 6-T124N-R62W of 5th P.M. Brown County, South Dakota", having been examined, is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Fischbach. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: Resolution #11-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat

showing "Clocksene Lot 2 in S 1/2 SEC 6-T122N-R60W of 5th P.M. Brown County, South Dakota", having been examined, is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Fischbach. Roll call vote: Commissioners Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-absent, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

Commissioner Wiese offered the following Resolution: Resolution #12-14. BE IT RESOLVED by the County Commission of Brown County, SD, that the plat showing "Leonhardt Tract 1 in the S 1/2 SE 1/4 of Sec 9-T123N-R61 West of the 5th P.M. Brown County, South Dakota", having been examined, is hereby approved in accordance with the provisions of SDCL of 1967, Chapter 11-6, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Fischbach. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Resolution adopted.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize Chairman sign the following agreements: Northern Plains Baptist Church for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp on June 23-29, 2014; Native American Church of God for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp on July 14-18, 2014; Prairie Fiber Arts Guild for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge on May 3-4, 2014; Hubcity Radio for lease of Expo Building on April 5-6, 2014. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – ASPHALT CONCRETE PLANT MIX: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to award all of the bids, purchasing various quantities based on availability and location: Aberdeen Asphalt – Hot Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) in amount of \$67.40 per ton, Hot Mix Class D Type I (3/4 inch) in amount of \$67.40 per ton, Cold Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) in amount of \$99.80 per ton, Cold Mix Class D Type I (3/4 inch) in amount of \$99.80 per ton; Lien Transportation – Hot Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) @ \$67.00 per ton and Hot Mix Class D Type II (3/4 inch) @ \$67.00 per ton; Serocki Excavating – Hot Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) @ \$67.00 per ton and Hot Mix Class D Type II (3/4 inch) @ \$67.70 per ton. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – GRAVEL MATERIAL: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Fischbach to award bids on Gravel Material, as per tabulation sheet on file in the Auditor's Office (available for public inspection Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MUSEUM: Sue Gates, Museum Director, presented the Dacotah Prairie Museum 2013 Annual Report.

TAX DEED DISCUSSION: Sheila Enderon, County Treasurer met to discuss a tax deed property. No action was taken at this time.

HIGHWAY DIESEL TANK PURCHASE: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to purchase a 3,000 gallon Skid Tank from Midwest Pump and Tank in the amount of \$14,896.11 to be used by the highway department for diesel #1 fuel. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – TWIN SCREW TANDEM AXLE DUMP TRUCK CAB AND CHASSIS: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider bids for a new Twin Screw Tandem Axle Dump Truck Cab and Chassis, to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD on March 18, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – STEEL GRAVEL DUMP BODY AND HOIST: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider bids for One (1) new Steel Gravel Dump Body and Hoist, to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD on March 18, 2014 at 9:10 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to go into executive session to discuss contract, per SDCL 1-25-2 (4) with Tom Schmidt and Gary Vetter in attendance. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session closed, with no action taken as a result of the discussion.

ORDINANCE #084: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to adopt Ordinance #084, An Ordinance to amend Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4- Zoning, specifically

amending Chapters 4.01, 4.02, 4.06, 4.07, 4.19, 4.20, 4.28, and 4.36 to correct typographical errors, to clarify what the Ordinance covers by adding definitions and/or revising wording, to create consistency between sections, to adjust time limits and to make other similar revisions and corrections. Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Kippley-aye, Fischbach-aye, Wiese-aye, Sutton-aye. Ordinance adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss personnel, per SDCL 1-25-2 (1) with Gary Vetter in attendance. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session closed, with no action taken as a result of the discussion.

RECESS: The Chairman declared the Commission recessed until March 4, 2014. Cathy Sauer, Brown County Deputy Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$118.13.

Brown County General Contractor Bid Notice

NOTICE TO GENERAL CONTRACTOR SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD, until the hour of 9:00 A.M. on March 11, 2014. At said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for qualified General Contractor Services with expertise in all phases of construction as required to complete contracting services for a building to be moved to the Fairgrounds located at 400 24th Avenue NW, Aberdeen, SD (SW1/4 of Section 1, T123N and R64W and Highway B and Lot A and abandoned railroad right of way except Fairground lot 1 of the 5th P.M., Brown County South Dakota).

Envelopes containing bid shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD, and shall be marked on the envelope "General Contractor Services for Fair Office Building located at 400 24th Avenue NW, Aberdeen, SD". Bids will be opened on March 11, 2014. The Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to accept the bid they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

PROPOSAL GUARANTY: No proposal will be considered unless accompanied by a certified check, a cashier's check, or a bank draft in the amount of 5% of the total amount of bid, that has been issued by a National or State Bank authorized to do business in South Dakota; or a bid bond in the amount of 10% of the total amount of bid, payable without condition to Brown County as a guarantee of good faith in entering into a contract if so awarded.

PERFORMANCE BOND: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that is proposal has been accepted. Said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County and furnish a performance bond or payment bond in accordance with the bid as accepted.

Specifications are on file and may be obtained at no charge at the Brown County Auditor's Office, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD. 605-626-7110.

ATTEST: Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor (0225.0304) Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$41.58.

Brown County Crow Creek Floodgate

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING for the Brown County Crow Creek Control Structure Replacement Project

Brown County is seeking \$150,000 of funding from the Board of Water and Natural Resources to replace the existing floodgate control structure at the confluence of Crow Creek and the James River. These improvements include replacing the existing control structure in the

same place with the same size of control system. The funds could be either a grant from the state Consolidated Water Facilities Construction Program or a loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program. The Clean Water SRF loan terms are 3.25% for 30 years, and the Board of Water and Natural Resources may forgive all or a portion of loan principal. The amount, source of funds, and terms will be determined by the Board of Water and Natural Resources when the application is presented at a scheduled board meeting. The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss the proposed project, the proposed financing, and the source of repayment for the loan. The public is invited to attend and comment on the project.

The public hearing will be held at Brown County Courthouse on March 11 at 8:45am.

ATTEST: Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor (0225.0304) Published once at the total approximate cost of \$25.35.

School Land Lease Auction Notice

SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION

A school land lease auction will be held at the Brown County Courthouse in Aberdeen, SD on March 13, 2014 at 10:00 AM (CT) on the following tract:

16 124N 65W S2NE

A list of tracts available for lease may also be obtained at the Brown County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands at (605) 773-4172. For more information contact Mike Cornelison, Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or phone (605)773-4172. Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.

(0211.0304) Published four times at the total approximate cost of \$28.73.

Brown County Title 4 Ordinance Amended

ORDINANCE NO. 084 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND TITLE 4 OF THE SECOND REVISION

BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES – ZONING

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, to Amend Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 - Zoning, specifically amending Chapters 4.01, 4.02, 4.06, 4.07, 4.19, 4.20, 4.24, 4.28 and 4.36 to correct typographical errors, to clarify what the Ordinance covers by adding definitions and/or revising wording, to create consistency between sections, to adjust time limits and to make other similar revisions and corrections in subsections, as follows:

- Chapter 4.01 – Subsection 4.0102
- Chapter 4.02 – Subsection 4.0201
- Chapter 4.06 – Subsection 4.0604, 4.0605 and 4.0608
- Chapter 4.07 – Subsection 4.0704 and 4.0708
- Chapter 4.19 – Subsection 4.1918 and 4.1926
- Chapter 4.20 – Subsection 4.2002, 4.2008 and new 4.2013
- Chapter 4.24 – Subsection 4.2402
- Chapter 4.28 – Subsection 4.2801 and new 4.2803
- Chapter 4.36 – Subsection 4.3604 (A23f) and (C2 and C4)

Notice of Hearing: February 5 & 12, 2014
Passed First Reading: February 18, 2014
Passed Second Reading: February 25, 2014
Adopted: February 25, 2014
Published: March 5, 2014
Effective Date: March 25, 2014

Duane Sutton, Chairman Brown County Commission
ATTEST: Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$15.72.

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Groton School Election is Cancelled

NOTICE OF CANCELLATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION Notice is hereby given that no School Board Election for Groton Area School District No. 06-6 will be held on April 8, 2014.

The election for which public notice was given has been canceled because the following individuals have filed certificates of nomination in the office of the business official for the positions to be filled:

Groton Area School Board, 3-year term – Steven R. Smith
Groton Area School Board, 3-year term – Grant P. Rix

Because each of the candidates is unopposed, certificates of election will be issued in the same manner as to successful candidates after election at the annual meeting held on July 14, 2014.

Michael J Weber, Business Official

Groton Area School District Published once at the total approximate cost of \$6.57. (Mar 10, 2014)

Groton School Election is Cancelled

NOTICE OF DEADLINE OF VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration for the Municipal Election to be held on the 8th day of April, 2014 will close on the 24th day of March, 2014. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, call the Brown County Auditor at 626-7110.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, food stamps, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.state.sd.us/sos/sos.htm.

Voters with disabilities and elderly voters may contact the municipal finance officer or county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration, absentee voting, or polling place accessibility. (0304.0311)

Published twice times at the total approximate cost of \$14.98. Anita Lowary, Finance Officer Groton City

Frederick School Feb. 26 Meeting Minutes

OFFICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2 February 26, 2014

The special meeting of the Board of Education of the Frederick Area School District #6-2 was called to order on February 26, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Lance Podoll with Richard Schlosser, Eric Sumption and Dennis Walworth present. Others present were Bev Myer and Deb Klapperich.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Action 13-65 Motion by Schlosser, second by Walworth to approve the agenda. All aye, carried.

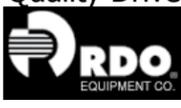
Action 13-66 Motion by Schlosser, second by Sumption to enter into executive session at 6:03 pm to discuss personnel matters. All aye, carried. Exit Bev Myer and Deb Klapperich.

Enter Jeff Forsting. Chairman Podoll declared executive session over at 6:25 pm. Action 13-67 Motion by Walworth second by Sumption to adjourn. All aye, carried.

Chairman Business Manager Published once at the total approximate cost of \$10.65.

Groton Calendar of Events

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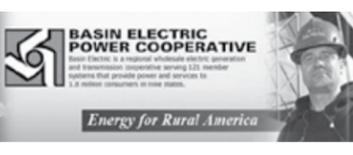
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Wednesday, March 5
ASH WEDNESDAY
School Breakfast: Mini pancake, fruit, juice, milk.
School Lunch: Macaroni and cheese, green beans, fresh and canned fruit, tea buns.
Birthday: Chance Strom, Linda Locken
7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study
12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center
5:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Sarah Circle
6:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran LentenMeal (Executive Board Serves)
6:45pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation
7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

Thursday, March 6
School Breakfast: Cereal, fruit, yogurt, juice.
School Lunch: BBQ, corn chips, vegetable tray, fresh and canned fruit.
9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran India Circle
2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle
6:00pm: Boys Region Games at Milbank

Friday, March 7
State Debate in Huron
School Breakfast: French toast, links, fruit, juice.
School Lunch: Cheese pizza, lettuce salad, peas, fresh and canned fruit, ice cream.
Anniv: Richard & JoAnn Krueger
Birthdays: Allan Merkel, Blanca Sperry, Brian Bahr, Dale Strom, Jamie Herron, Jeraka Rossow, Patty Harms, Pierce Kettering, Rev. Terry Kenny, Shannon Hjermstad, Sheldon Sheridan, Tom Cutler.
9:00am: World Day of Prayer at United Methodist Church
6:00pm: Public Show Choir and JH Band Performance

Saturday, March 8
Aberdeen Show Choir Competition
Regional DI at Johnson Fine Arts Center, NSU, Aberdeen
State Debate in Huron
Birthday: Jonathan Doeden

Sunday, March 9
Birthdays: Betty Strom, Collette Van Cleave, Jamie Jorgensen, Jessica Grenz, Megan Flieds
2:00am: Daylight Savings Time Begins (Turn Clocks Ahead)
9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School
10:00am: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Pierpont (LCMC) worship
10:15am: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with School Singing
11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

Monday, March 10
School Lunch: Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice.
School Lunch: Super nachos, tossed salad, garlic toast, tater tots, fresh and canned fruit.
Birthdays: Jennifer Little, Kerry Tullis, Malorie Harder, Todd Lerew
6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study
7:00pm: School Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 11
School Breakfast: Toast, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.
School Lunch: Chicken patty, mashed potato, corn, tean bun, fresh and canned fruit.
Birthday: Nora Rix
10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study
7:00pm: Region1A Boys Title Game at Milbank
7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Church Council

Wednesday, March 12
End of Third Quarter
School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice.
School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, carrots and dip, green beans, fresh and canned fruit.
7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study
12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center
6:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Lenten Meal (Sarah Circle Serves)
6:45pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Confirmation
7:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Worship

Groton Coffee Cup
Team Standings: Golden Girls 30, Farm Girls 24, Jungle Lanes 21.5, JVT 20.5, Ten Pins 19, Ken's 17.
High Games: Myrna Stange 186, Nicole Kassube 179, Sandy Fenske 167.
High Series: Nicole Kassube 452, Vicki Walter 439, Penny Stolle 421.

Conde National
Team Standings: Cubs 14.5, Braves 14, Pirates 13.5, Mets 12, Colts 10, Giants 8.
Men's High Games: Butch Farmen 258 and 223, Todd Fenske 214, Larry Frohling 202.
Men's High Series: Butch Farmen 669, Todd Fenske 534, Lance Frohling 499.
Women's High Games: Sandy Fenske 163, Mary Larson 158, Michelle Johnson 158, Nicole Kassube 154.
Women's High Series: Sandy Fenske 438, Nicole Kassube 436, Mary Larson 425.

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Yes, even the Cat in the Hat had to wear a name badge as Elementary Secretary Heidi Krueger places one on the fellow.



Read Across America

Groton Area Elementary celebrated Read Across America Day Monday with a visit from the Cat in Hat (Gabe Dohman). The Cat in the Hat stopped in to classrooms where he visited with the students and read a Dr. Seuss book to them.

The Life of Gladys "Patsy" Erna (Schmidt) Ritter-Miller

Gladys "Patsy" Erna (Schmidt) Ritter-Miller, age 87, passed away peacefully in Hospice House of Holland, Michigan on February 22, 2014.

Gladys was born on January 25, 1927 in Groton, SD to Walter and Lorna (Gengerke) Schmidt. She was baptized and confirmed at the



First English Lutheran Church of Groton. She graduated from Groton High School.

Gladys studied in Sioux City, Iowa at the Western Union Telegraph School. She worked as a Teletype Operator in San Francisco, California and Chicago, Illinois for Western Union.

Celebrating her life are her children Michael Ritter (Karon) of Florida with businesses in Hillsdale, Michigan and Carmen Hannah of Holland, Michigan. Her brother, Gordon Schmidt of Bath, also survives, Patsy.

Preceding her in death were her parents, two brothers, three sisters and husbands Rodney Ritter and Arnold Miller.

Cremation has taken place and a memorial service will be planned at a later date in Hillsdale, Michigan.

City Council Continued from front

* The old bucket truck was sold to the City of Hecla for \$12,100.

* The baseball committee has met once so far with a second meeting set for March 10. One of the things discussed was not charging for admission at the games. City Finance Officer Anita Lowary said the city netted about \$3,500 at the gate. Mayor Scott Hanlon said, "We should be open to try it for a year and see what happens." Councilman Eddy Opp then said, "We have to pay to watch our grandchildren swim at the pool."

* The council recognized and thanked the Friends of the Library for their donation to the city library. Suzy Oliver and Dodie Martin have raised \$396 and since Oliver is leaving Groton, they have decided to close out the account and donate the money to the city. The funds are to be used for buying new books.

* A community center work day is in the works where Kiwanis members and Senior Citizens need to go through the cupboards and closets at the community center to throw things out and to clean the them out.

* Councilman Michelle Muilenberg reported on the annual meeting of the Carnival of Silver Skates. She reported that Janae Hughes is the chairman, Tasha Dunker is the vice-chairman, Tina Kosel as secretary and Susan Fjeldheim is the liaison between the committee and the city. The 2015 event will be held January 25th with two performances. If there is a blizzard warning, the event will be automatically postponed to February 1 with just one afternoon performance. The skating clinic is set for January 2 with practice beginning January 3. Muilenberg said, "They (the Silver Skates committee) are as pleased as pleased can be," about the help they have received from the city.

* A used hoist will be purchased from Darrel's Service. During the discussion of the hoist, Councilman Mary Fliehs left the meeting. The city employees work on their own mowers and do their own maintenance on the vehicles. "It would make the work a lot easier," Mayor Hanlon said. "It would also be safer," Councilman Gary Heitmann said. "It's something they would use," McGannon said. "It's a good investment for us," Opp said. They decided to buy it for \$1,000.

* The council is considering a housing study. It has been mentioned that Groton lacks homes in the price range of \$100,000 to \$150,000.

* Muilenberg questioned what happened with the tree accident on Washington St. A tree had twisted the wrong way and part of it fell on Marzahn's home. Damage was limited to a small hole between two rafters. The council emphasized that safety protocols need to be followed. Brotherton said that she wants an accountability of safety measures taken and to make sure the safety manual is being followed.

* It was reported that inspections of load management will be happening during the upcoming weeks. It has been 12 years since the new controllers were put into service.

* The 2013 Annual report was presented to the council and it was approved. The city has a debt of \$3.271 million, which Finance Officer Anita Lowary said is average for a community the size of Groton. In addition, the city still has \$1 million available in borrowing power in the event of an emergency.