

# It's Time To Subscribe!

Send \$35 to Groton Independent, 110 N Washington St., Groton SD 57445  
or Call 605/397-6397 to pay by credit card

# Independent

**\$2**



Vol. 133 No. 32 ♦ Groton, Brown County, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, April 6, 2016 ♦ Established in 1889

## DI Teams end season at state tournament

Four Groton Area Destination Imagination teams placed at the state tournament held Saturday in Mitchell.

The middle school division Disfunctional Broad Squad and the senior level Out of Boxers placed second. The Wonderful Nonsense and the elementary Pheasant Dumpling Pizza Guys placed third. Only the first place team at the state tournament advances to the Global Finals in Knoxville, Tenn. Groton will not be sending anyone to Globals this year.

There was a fifth team, the elementary 6Lets, that participated at the state tournament. They ended just short of getting awards with a fourth place finish.

Lily Cutler was the recipient of the Watertown Optimist Club \$250 scholarship. This is the second straight year that a Groton senior has been awarded with that scholarship. Last year, Katie Groeblichhoff won the award.



Lily Cutler is Groton only senior in the Groton Area Destination Imagination program this year. She won the Watertown Optimist Club \$250 Scholarship at the state tournament held Saturday in Mitchell. (Photo by Kim Yaraborough)



Groton's Disfunctional Broad Squad team helped Cinda Jones (right), with the regional plaques. They put the plates on the trophies for those teams that had ordered extra trophies at the regions. Pictured going clockwise are Julianna Kosel, Alyssa Fordham, Sage Mortinson, Haley Monson and Samantha Pappas. Jones is one of the DI state directors. She is from Custer.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

## Power Outage Wednesday Night

The west side of Groton experienced several blinks and the homes along State Street were without power for a short period of time. An underground cable going up the pole at the west end of Second Avenue West and connected to a cutout was burned off and was moving in the wind, making contact with the ground at times causing the outages. Once the problem was found, it was quickly repaired.

## Dollar General given the OK from city council

On a 5-1 vote, the Groton City Council granted approval for Tyler Oliver of Colby Capital, LCC, to build a building that will house a Dollar General Store in Groton. The location is east of Main Street, south of US 12. Oliver appealed the Planning & Zoning Commission 3-2 decision to deny the special exception in an R3 zone. The testimony at the city council meeting went about an hour before the council took its vote. Many of the issues raised were answered by Oliver. Oliver said that they will work with the city to make sure such things as drainage, parking, lighting and garbage is all taken care of. Councilman David Blackmun was the lone no vote.

"I'm doing this for our community, for our people and I hope people understand," said Eddy Opp. Councilman Burt Glover said that he wants to make sure the lighting does not go beyond the property line.

After the vote, Mayor Scott Hanlon said, "Please don't let this divide our community. We're going to do whatever we can to make this positive, not negative. We can make this work. I really believe so. I respect all of your folks' feelings. This has been a very hard decision for everybody up here. Very, very hard. Let's move forward in a positive way."

Sherwin Nyberg submitted his resignation off the Planning and Zoning Commission and was accepted by the council with regret. Two councilmen had talked with Nyberg asking if he would reconsider.

The city has received a \$1,000 tree grant from the state. That along with the \$900 donated by the Groton Garden Club and \$100 by the city council will provide up to 23 new trees on the west side of Groton. If anyone would like to add to the tree fund, contact city hall. The trees will be planted in the near future.

The second reading of licensing cats in Groton was tabled after a motion to turn it down was defeated. Councilman Jay Peterson said that several other communities around Groton already have cat licensing ordinances.

Spring clean-up time in Groton has been set for May 1-9.

Groton's airport is one step closer to being recertified. The FAA has granted the city its okay and that is contingent upon an inspection by the state.

Anita Lowary was authorized to attend finance officer school June 7-10 in Spearfish.

The summer salary ordinance was approved with the pool managers getting a \$1 an hour raise to \$13.



**Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping**  
**Greg Heilman, owner**  
 405 E 1st Ave., Groton  
 Greg: 253/929-9137  
 Mike: 605/492-7041  
 midwestmasonry1@yahoo.com

**McKIVER COLLISION**  
 Lifetime Warranty on all Collision Work!  
 13556 400th Ave., Groton SD 57445  
 Allen McKiver, Owner ~ 605/397-4404

**JOHNSON AGENCY**  
 Real Estate & Insurance  
 Jay Johnson, Broker  
 www.johnsonagencygroton.com  
 102 N Main St. Office: 605/397-2424  
 Groton, SD 57445 Home: 605/397-8565

**Dakota Outdoors**  
 Erik Dean  
 402 N Main St  
 Aberdeen, SD 57401  
 605.229.0123  
 dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

**HARR Motors**  
 www.harrmotors.com  
 605-225-3078 ~ 1-800-658-3463

**SCHULTZ CONSTRUCTION LLC**  
 CARPENTRY • CONCRETE  
 • BATH, SD •  
 Check out our portfolio on Facebook at  
 Schultz-Construction-LLC  
 ~ New Construction and Remodeling-  
 renovations, additions, and carpentry  
 work  
 ~ Concrete- foundations, flatwork,  
 decorative concrete surfaces.  
 605-380-1717  
 www.shawnschultzconstruction.com

**Sperry Stump Removal** Tyler: 605/216-8431  
 Over 30 Years of Combined Experience!  
 TJ: 605/380-7915  
**TreeLine Tree Service**

Fresh flowers, silks, home decor  
**Olde Bank Floral**  
 "A More & so much more"  
 Olde Bank @ Floral  
 101 N. Main St., Groton ~ 397-8650  
 www.oldebankfloral.com

**Harry Implement**  
 "Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"  
 CERTIFIED DEALER AFS  
 (605) 395-6421  
 Ferney

**FROST CONSTRUCTION INC.**  
 GENERAL CONTRACTOR  
 605.290.1535  
 custom homes | remodels | additions



**Disfunctional Broad Squad place 2nd at state:** Team members are Haley Monson, Samantha Pappas, Sage Mortinson, Julianna Kosel and Alyssa Fordham. Their team managers are Yvonne Lorenz and Tina Fordham. (Photo by Kim Yaraborough)



(Photos by Jeslyn Kosel)



**Out of the Boxers place 2nd at state:** Team members are Nathan Wright, Nathan Fjelstad and Haylee Yaraborough in back; in front are Emma Donley, Jenifer Fjelstad, Lily Cutler and Anne Marie Smith. Their team managers are Clint and Tara Fjelstad. (Photo by Kim Yaraborough)



**The Groton Independent**  
 605/397-NEWS (6397)  
 Fax: 1-775-459-6259  
 Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher  
 paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460  
 Tina Kosel, Office Manager  
 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 (includes tax)  
 The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.  
**Postmaster: Send address changes to**  
 Groton Independent  
 110 N Washington St.  
 Groton, SD 57445

**LIVING PROOF**  
 with live  
**BETH MOORE**  
 OMAHA, NE  
 Baxter Arena  
 April 15-16, 2016  
 lifeway.com/livingproof

**Kristi Peterson Bookkeeping**  
Simple Solutions for YOU  
605/216-4474 ~ peterson4@nvc.net

Put our experienced team to work for you!

**GROTON**  
Ford  
GROTONFORD.COM 605-397-2311

**Dakota Brush**  
Brooms, Brushes, Mops, Can Liners, Paper Products.  
Brushes & Squeegees and Snow Shovels  
**397-9337**  
104 N. Main, Groton



**Pheasant Dumpling Pizza Guys placed third at state:** Pictured are Winston Clark, Nicholas Morris, Korbin Weismantel, Axel Warrington and Nicholas Groeblinghoff. Their team manager is Joni Groeblinghoff. (Photo by Kim Yaraborough)



(Photo by Paul Kosel)



**The Wonderful Nonsense placed third at state:** Team members pictured are Madeline Schuelke, Rylee Rosenau and KaSandra Pappas; not pictured are Kayla Jensen and Katlyn Kyar. Their team manager is Bill Rosenau.

(Photo by Kim Yaraborough)

So proud of these funny girls at State DI. They did a great job on their performance, and the appraisers were impressed. :) Their skit featured Kayla Jensen as a very grumpy jellyfish, Caitlyn Kyar as investigative seaweed, Kasandra Pappas as a motivational sea turtle, Maddy as a mermaid who found her seaweed bed dying, and Rylee Rosenau as a neurotic narwahl. They made all of their costumes! After their performance, they answered questions from the appraisers.

(Written by and photo by Deb Schuelke)



Removal, Grinding, Chipping, Trimming  
**605-725-WOOD**  
Mason Dinger: 605-216-6098  
Trevor Zeck: 605-216-8910

**DAKOTA TREE COMPANY**

**Mark Malmberg, DDS**  
19 North 6th St.  
Oakes, N.D.  
701-742-3401

**Hanlon Brothers Gravel Hauling**  
New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60' reach trackhoe  
**605/395-6531**

Oven Fresh Sandwiches  
Hot Desserts  
Snack Melts  
11 E Hwy 12, Groton ~ 397-8627

BAKES!  
DQ  
Grill - Chill  
Coney Island

**BLOCKER CONSTRUCTION**  
NEW CONSTRUCTION  
REMODELING  
HOOP BARNs  
(605) 216-2677 (605) 226-4062

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

"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild... we can do it all!"  
**NOW OPEN**  
**Harris Auto Body**  
225 Brown County Hwy 19 South  
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900

**Dr. Geoffrey Rath - Optometrist**  
Eye Exams Glaucoma Tests Rx's Filled  
- All Types Contact Lenses -  
Doctor here Mondays Only - Office open Thursdays.  
701-349-3223 to make appointments & adjustments  
Hours at Ellendale, N.D. are:  
Monday 9 - 12 & 1 - 5 Thursday 1:00 - 4:00

**Webster Theatre**  
Theatre opens at 7 pm with movies starting at 7:30 pm, Friday through Monday.  
4/9 to 4/11 Zootopia PG  
4/16 to 4/18 Miracles From Heaven PG

## Brown County March 29, 2016

### General Meeting

MARCH 29, 2016 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Kippley at 8:45 A.M. in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Hansen, Sutton, Fischbach and Fjeldheim. Commissioner Chair Kippley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**MINUTES:** Moved by Hansen, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the General Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2016. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS:** Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to approve the following claims:

Insurance: SD Assoc. of Co. Commissioners \$4,814.00.

Professional Fees: Aberdeen City Treasurer \$50.00; Adam Altman \$92.00; Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck \$515.20; Christy Serr \$460.00.

Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$435.75; DakotaFire Media \$711.00.

Rentals: Timothy Gisi \$186.00. Repairs & Maintenance: A & B Business \$32.99; Dahme Construction \$2,810.00; NC Rental \$24,900.00; SD DOT \$498.23; Service Signs \$3,147.45.

Supplies: A & B Business \$202.51; Aberdeen Downtown Assoc. \$250.00; Cliff Bratland \$400.00; Brite Computers \$3,800.00; CNA Surety \$50.00; Violet Dinger Estate \$3,813.81; GovConnection \$2,259.04; Marco \$284.81; Menards \$97.95; Pheasantland Industries \$181.18; TrueNorth Steel \$8,094.29; Web Water Bottling Co. \$6.50; West Payment Center \$1,655.39.

Travel and Conference: Exec.

Mgmt. \$1,128.00; Nick Juenger \$220.50.

Utilities: CenturyLink \$248.69; Montana-Dakota \$31.18; NWPS \$948.85. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**PERSONNEL:** Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Hansen to acknowledge resignation of Jenifer Toennies (part time Corrections Officer), effective May 1, 2016; and further approve request to fill vacancy. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ABATEMENT:** Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to approve the following Abatement: Willis Becker @ \$641.04 (assessment error). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**LEASE AGREEMENT:** Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following agreement: A-Town Roller Girlz for lease of the Club House (when available) for practice sessions from Jan 1 – Dec 31, 2016 @ \$10.00 per practice plus \$20.00 per month for utilities. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**INVENTORY TRANSFER:** Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to approve transferring Decal #3379 (2008 Chevy Suburban) from the Sheriff's Department to the Dispatch Center. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**SPECIAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE HEARING:** Time and place, as advertised for public hearing on application, submitted by the Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce for a Special Malt Beverage License. Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve the following Special Malt Beverage License Application: Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce, 516 S Main Street, Aberdeen, SD – Lt 2 Spurs Corrective Plat NW 6-123N-63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (1006 130th

St. NE, Aberdeen, SD), effective April 2, 2016. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**BID - WEED CHEMICAL:** Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for furnishing and delivery of chemical for the Brown County Weed and Pest Department for 2016. Moved by Hansen, seconded by Sutton to award to Van Diest Supply and the State Bid Contract for items not available from Van Diest. Complete 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.

**LIEN DISCUSSION:** Two individuals met to discuss the possibility of releasing certain property from a lien. The Commission suggested they obtain additional information, but currently are in favor of the release.

**SPEED LIMIT:** Tim Wilson met to discuss changing the speed limit on 130th Street (Prairiewood Road) between Brown County #10 and Brown County #14 from 55 MPH to 45 MPH. No action was taken.

**FAIR BOOTH:** Lee Scobinger met to discuss the possibility of obtaining a booth for the 2016 Brown County Fair apologizing for his actions at the 2015 Fair. The Commission thanked Mr. Scobinger, but referred his request to the Fair Board.

**CLUB HOUSE DISCUSSION:** Brent Brandt, Aberdeen Downtown Association met to discuss the possibility of reserving dates for use of the Club House as a backup location for outdoor events in case of rain. Pricing was discussed, but no decisions were made at this time.

**DRONE ORDINANCE:** Scott Meints, EM Director and Tom Schmitt, Chief Deputy Sheriff met to discuss the merits of a Drone Ordinance. The Commission directed a proposed Ordinance be drafted for review.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to go into executive session for personnel discussion, per SDCL 1-25-2(1) and contract discussion, per SDCL 1-25-2(4) with Larry Lovrien, Gary Vetter and Carol Sherman in attendance. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed, with no action taken as a result of the discussion.

**BID – GRAVEL MATERIAL:**

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to award all bids on Gravel Material based on location and availability, 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.

**BID – ASPHALT CONCRETE PLANT MIX:** Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Fjeldheim to award both 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 \$57.00 per ton, Cold Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) in amount of \$85.00 per ton, Cold Mix Class D Type I (3/4 inch) in amount of \$57.00 per ton, Cold Mix Class D Type II (1/2 inch) @ \$56.00 per ton and Hot Mix Class D Type II (3/4 inch) @ \$56.00 per ton. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**BID – RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT:** Moved by Hansen, seconded by Sutton to award all bids for Rental of Equipment based on availability, with written or verbal waiver required from low bidder if not available. Complete 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.

**EQUIPMENT PURCHASE:** Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize Kurt Smith, Fairgrounds Manager purchase a 1994 JD 5400 Tractor from SD Federal Surplus in amount of \$14,500.00 for use at the Fairgrounds. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**2016 FAIR TICKET CONTRACT SHOWCLIX:** Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to approve and authorize the Commission Chair sign Partner Ticketing Services Agreement with ShowClix to serve as Ticketing Agent for the 2016 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to adjourn the Brown County Commission. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor  
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$63.88. 12271

welcome! Come join our growing team in the beautiful southern Black Hills, Custer is a great place to live and enjoy the outdoors. We are 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 pay and excellent benefits. Contact Human Resources at (605) 673-9418 for more information or log onto [www.regionalhealth.com](http://www.regionalhealth.com) to apply. EEOC/AA.

**CHIEF OF POLICE,** full-time position for City of Faith. Must be certified, have at least three years of experience as a Police Officer. 605-967-2261 / [faith@faithsd.com](mailto:faith@faithsd.com).

**CITY OF PHILIP, SD – Police Officer.** Certified or able to certify. Wage DOEQ with excellent benefits. Job description and application available at 605-859-2175 [orphilipdf@gwtc.net](mailto:orphilipdf@gwtc.net).

**NOW HIRING CLASS-A TANKER DRIVERS.** Gibson Energy has oilfield work and needs drivers with a CDL-A, 2 yrs. experience & tanker endorsement. Must have clean MVR and be at least 23 yrs old. Top of industry pay! Benefits include medical, dental, vision, life + 401K. Call Beth, Kim or Sharon today! (888) 985-3001 [www.driveforgibsons.com](http://www.driveforgibsons.com) EOE.

## FOR SALE

**MULTIPLE LISTINGS:** 1,488 Acres grass and farm ground, rural water, Jackson County. 160 Acres grass, northeast of Kadoka. 160 Acres farm ground, east of Martin. 46 unit motel, 11 apartments, managers home and shop, profitable business, located in Martin. Bowling alley in Martin, food service, video lottery, good performer, great family business. For details on these and any of our listings contact Brad Otte Land and Livestock, Martin, SD 605-685-5716.

**SPRUCE TREES:** 4-5 ft. Colorado Blue and Black Hills spruce trees. \$35 each. (605)256-2410. Pick up in Madison, SD.

## GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALE

Announcing Another Zinnias Estate Tag Sale! The Ultimate Guy Tag Sale. Leonard Garness has downsized and these are the things he no longer has a need for. Many of the items came out of the shop and garage and are top quality and very good condition. Everything from garden tools to workbench tools. Household items, lamps, furniture, dishes, glassware, unique artwork. Air Compressor, Power Washer, Gun Cabinet, Redwing Crocks, Patio Furniture, Grill, Carpet Samples, large variety - Watch our photos at [www.facebook.com/ZinniasBrittonSD](http://www.facebook.com/ZinniasBrittonSD) as we uncover more of what will be for sale! Not a sale to be missed!

Sale will be held at the Norstar FCU Community Room on Saturday, April 09 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and on Sunday, April 10 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. Zinnias 605-448-2122 Paulette 605-467-1108 Melinda 1-612-810-9389

## MISCELLANEOUS

**MEET SINGLES RIGHT NOW!** No paid operators, just real people like you. Browse greetings, exchange messages and connect live. Try it free. Call now: 1-800-958-7963.

**WANTED: MULE DEER AND ANTELOPE** hunting land for archery and rifle hunting for 2016, 2017, and 2018. Call Jim at 605-448-8064.

## NOTICES

**ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS** statewide for only \$150.00. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classified Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Call this newspaper or 800-658-3697 for details.

## Groton School

### Notice of Election

NOTICE OF SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION  
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

A School District Election will be held on April 12, 2016, in all the voting precincts in Groton Area School District No. 06-6. If the polls cannot be opened because of bad weather, the election may be postponed one week.

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

At the election, the following offices will be voted upon:

Three, 3-year terms for school board member between:

Merle Harder  
Corey Mitchell  
Clint Fjelstad

Deborah Gengerke

The polling place in each precinct of this district is as follows:

Andover Area Precinct #1, (which includes Andover Town, Andover Township and Farmington Township) – Andover Senior Center.

Bristol Area Precinct #2, (which includes Bristol Town, Butler Town, Lily Town, Bristol Township, Butler Township, Kidder Township, Lynn Township, Oak Gulch Township, Scotland Township, Troy Township, Union Township, Valley Township and York Township as well as Clark County residents in Warren Township) – Bristol Community Center.

Columbia Area Precinct #3, (which includes the City of Columbia, Brainard Township #7, Shelby Township #8, Cambria Township #15, and Garland Township #46,) – Columbia Community Center

Groton Area Precinct #4, (which includes the City of Groton, Wards 1, 2, & 3, and Claremont Township #10, Riverside Township #16, Groton Township #17, Henry Township #18, Bath Township #19, Gem Township #24, East Hanson Township #25, Garden Prairie Township #26 East Rondell Township #27, Bates Township #44, Putney Township #48, and West Hanson Township #49 as well as Spink County residents in Beotia Township, Conde Township and Olean Township) – Groton Community Center.

Voters with disabilities may contact the business official for information and special assistance in absentee voting or polling place accessibility.

Michael J. Weber, Business Official

Groton Area School District

(0330.0406)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$29.58. 12256

## SAMPLE BALLOT

GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIST. #06-6

Groton, South Dakota

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

### INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

#### I. TO MARK THE BALLOT

To vote use a cross (X) or check mark (✓) in the square in front of the name.

DO NOT make any marks other than a cross (X) or check mark (✓).

DO NOT erase anything on your ballot.

DO NOT rip your ballot or make holes in it.

DO NOT write in a name.

#### II. IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE

If you make a mistake on your ballot or change your mind, give it back and get a new one.

#### III. TO RETURN THE BALLOT(S) AFTER VOTING

Fold each ballot so the ballot stamp shows and take it to the ballot box.

**School Board Member, 3-year term,  
you may vote for up to 3 or leave it blank.**

Merle Harder

Corey Mitchell

Clint Fjelstad

Deborah Gengerke

## BULL SALE

**HERBER'S SELLING** at Philip Livestock Auction, April 12, 2016: GENTLE, HOME-RAISED Heifer pairs, 60 F1, 10 Black & 5 Hereford heifers. Calves all Black Angus sired. 605-488-0360.

## EMPLOYMENT

**CUSTER REGIONAL Senior Care** and Custer Clinic are accepting applications for RNs, LPNs, and Medical Assistants. New Graduates

# Superintendent Letter to School Constituents & Patrons

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Groton Area School Constituents & Patrons.

As many of you are now aware, Groton Area Schools has begun a long-range planning process to ensure our buildings throughout the district provide maximum educational opportunities and safe learning environments. Long-range planning is needed in school districts for a few reasons:

- Facility infrastructure grows old and inefficient. For a while, a district can maintain older equipment and facilities, but funding for this maintenance comes from the same pot of money as the funds we put in the classroom. Much like your home or any business, eventually investments need to be made in modernizing schools.

- Facilities need to evolve. Teachers teach differently now, and providing the right kind of educational spaces is important for educational achievement. For example, even ten years ago, it would have been impossible to predict the importance of new technology in the classroom.

- New challenges emerge. When today's twelfth-graders started kindergarten, building security and energy efficiency was a second thought – today, they are both critical issues in the operations of our schools.

On January 25th, the school board selected Foster, Jacobs & Johnson (FJJ) as our partners to help lead us through a three-phase process to develop a long-range plan. Phase 1 of the process includes conducting a district demographic study, listening session to define the "Values" of different community & stakeholder groups, educational adequacy workshops with teachers and staff, and a comprehensive facility condition assessment.

On February 22 & 23 FJJ hosted Values Definition ("Listening") sessions that were held with the school board, administration, teachers, staff, students, and public; and Educational Adequacy work session with HS/MS and elementary teachers and staff. These listening sessions and workshops evaluate how our facilities and infrastructure could better support our district and stakeholders, both today and in the future.

On March 29th, Groton Area Schools reviewed results of the district's demographic study, Values Definition sessions, On-Line Survey, and Education Adequacy sessions. The summary presentations were led by representatives from FJJ. The information outlined as a result of these work sessions clearly demonstrates that stakeholder groups in our school district share many of the same ideas about the future of our district. The Groton Daily Independent did a live webcast of the results presentation that can be found at [gdilive.com](http://gdilive.com). I encourage everyone to watch the archived webcast.

## Groton Area Schools Demographics

The district demographic study indicated that over the next ten years the enrollment in Groton Area Schools will remain essentially flat (a 1% increase is projected). The study indicates our enrollment to be maintained due to an increase in open enrollment from Aberdeen and decrease in open enrollment to Webster over the next 10 years. The full demographic report can be viewed on the district's website. As we evaluate this data through the long term planning process, it begins to give us a much better picture of what actions we need to take for Groton Area Schools to continue to provide excellence in education.

Top Outline District Needs (All stakeholder listening sessions & on-line survey)

- 1) Attract and Retain High Quality Staff
- 2) Improve Facility Infrastructure
- 3) Address Space Needs
- 4) Increase Accountability & Respect
- 5) Maintain High Academic Achievement
- 6) Form a Facility Vision (for the district)

## Educational Adequacy

What is Educational Adequacy? Educational Adequacy is a complete analysis of a school building focusing on several different categories including but not limited to: Technology, Classroom Size and Suitability, Cafeteria/Kitchen/Serving, Security and Supervision, Music Classrooms/Practice Areas/Etc. Auditoriums/Performing Arts Spaces, Parking and Bus Drop-off for Staff/Students/Parents.

These categories are evaluated based upon current district use, accepted South Dakota Department of Education guidelines, anticipated future needs, and input from the Groton educational staff. While much of our Jr./Sr. high school is in great shape and meet guidelines, the assessment did outline several key points for us to consider addressing; especially at the elementary. The entire Educational Adequacy Report can be reviewed on the district's website.

## Recommendations provided

- 1) Continue to communicate with our district stakeholders about the process as we move forward to improve our facilities; and communities.
- 2) Use the information gathered from the On-Line Survey, Values Definition and Educational Adequacy work sessions to help guide this facility improvement process.
- 3) Translate the information gained regarding stakeholder objectives and facility-related needs into specific evaluation criteria using state standards, guidelines, codes, regulations and best practices as references.

Please take time to review the assessment results and/or the summary assessment information and documents on the district webpage at [www.grotonarea.com](http://www.grotonarea.com).

At this time the school board has made no decisions regarding a potential project scope or cost. In May/June, we will begin to gain more information in regards to solutions that may help address the issues outlined in the studies, work sessions, and surveys. We will then begin to further develop a long range improvement plan for Groton Area Schools. I am always interested in your feedback, so please call or e-mail me your questions or concerns.

Joe Schwan, Superintendent  
Groton Area Schools



The 6Lets team participated in the state tournament and placed fourth. Team members Ian Kyar, Ryan Groeblichhoff, Carter Barse, Jackson Dinger, Danny Feist and Bryson Wamback. Their team manager is Joni Goreblichhoff. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Erin Smith, Breanna Marzahn and Luke Smith were some of the Groton volunteers helping out at the State Destination Imagination tournament held Saturday in Mitchell. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Joni, Nicholas and Katie Groeblichhoff were busy filling out slips of papers for the jar raffles. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Wet Basement? • Concrete Slab Settling?  
Basement Wall Bowed? • FREE Estimates  
Foundation Settling? • Financing Available

**Blackburn Basement Systems**  
Waterproofing & Repair  
Basement & Foundation Specialists

**Toll Free 1-800-392-3389**  
[www.blackburnbasementrepair.com](http://www.blackburnbasementrepair.com)  
Cannot be combined with any other offers

5% Off Your Project

## MEYERS

### TRACTOR SALVAGE

ABERDEEN, SD

1000+ Salvaged Tractors & Combines  
400+ Reground Crankshafts  
500+ Tractor Tires  
300+ Rebuilt Radiators

Large Line of Swather, Baler & Cutter Parts.

**GREAT BUYS & SERVICE!**

**WANT TO BUY TRACTORS, COMBINES & SWATHERS FOR SALVAGE**

**Phone (605) 225-0185**  
5 Miles North & 1 Mile West of CASE-IH



# Newspaper Fun!

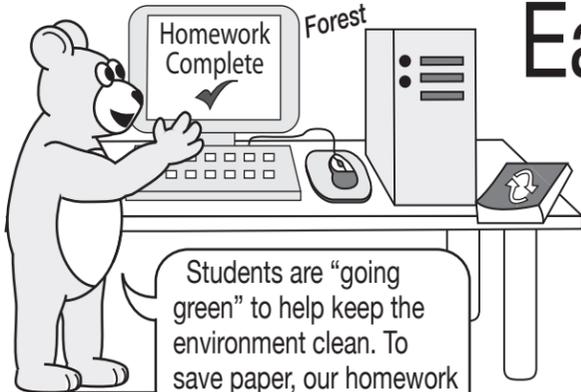
www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2016 V13-15

Kids: color stuff in!



## Earth Day Keeping it Green!



Homework Complete

Forest

Students are "going green" to help keep the environment clean. To save paper, our homework assignments now come in daily emails. Everyone has learned what items can be recycled, and they put these into bins. **Read my clues to fill in my puzzle with things kids can do to help:**

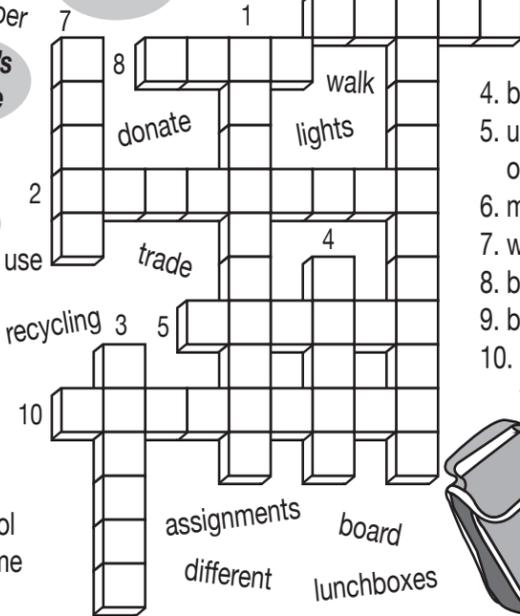
- use \_\_\_\_\_, sandwich boxes, thermoses and reusable water/sports bottles
- sort bottles and cans into bins for \_\_\_\_\_
- turn off all \_\_\_\_\_ and electronics when not using
- use both sides of \_\_\_\_\_ (may make into notepads)
- \_\_\_\_\_ school uniforms, gym clothes for others to use
- read and do \_\_\_\_\_ on computers
- create a \_\_\_\_\_ where students can pin up and share their ideas for recycling
- \_\_\_\_\_, bike, take a bus or carpool with others
- have a swap at school to \_\_\_\_\_ things that you are done with for "new" stuff
- use items for a new or \_\_\_\_\_ purpose – old school clothes cut for art projects, a box made into a game you invent (some call this "repurposing")

My puzzle is about how schools are helping to conserve. Some are built from recycled materials, and have features to save energy, such as motion-activated lights and faucets. **Fill in my puzzle!**

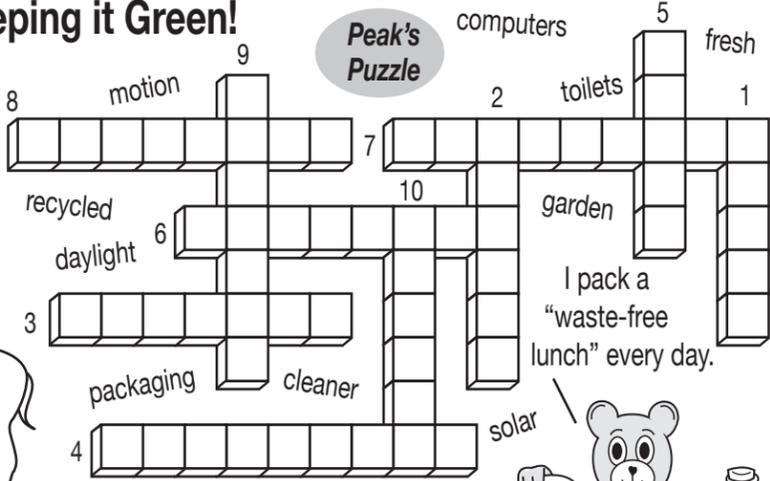


Peak

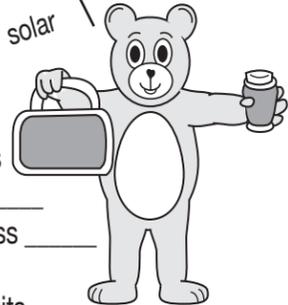
Forest's Puzzle



Peak's Puzzle



- \_\_\_\_\_ panel rooftops
- \_\_\_\_\_ -activated faucets
- waterless or low-flow \_\_\_\_\_
- buy from companies that use less \_\_\_\_\_
- use food service company that offers \_\_\_\_\_ vegetables and fruits
- more \_\_\_\_\_ in classrooms gives an "energy" boost
- wireless tablet \_\_\_\_\_ and energy saving monitors
- buying \_\_\_\_\_ paper
- better airflow and filters to keep air \_\_\_\_\_
- rooftop \_\_\_\_\_ to keep heat in (or out), and for people to study life cycle of plants



I pack a "waste-free lunch" every day.

automatic faucet



Uh-oh...I finished my report on the newest cars and power sources – but not the answer key to my fun Pop Quiz! Read my report, then Help me by **circling "T" for true and "F" for false.**

## Cool Hybrid & Electric Cars!

London has started using electric double-decker buses.



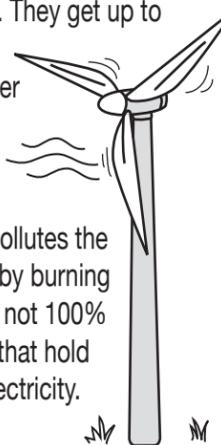
Pop Quiz

What do you know about hybrid cars? These very cool cars are powered by both gas *and* electricity. When you are driving one fast on a highway its gasoline engine is working. This makes you move and also charges the car's battery. Then, when you drive around town at lower speeds, the car is able to run on electricity. Hybrid cars do not need to be plugged in. They get up to 90 miles per gallon of gas – more than twice the mileage of most gas-only cars.

Companies are also coming out with cars that use electric motors to power *everything*. They store electricity in batteries, which are then recharged by the owner plugging the car in at home. We are starting to build stations in areas that will allow drivers to recharge their cars while traveling too.

Electric cars are great because nothing comes out of their tailpipes that pollutes the air! Some people argue that the electricity these cars use may be generated by burning coal or natural gas instead of by water power or wind turbines, making them not 100% environmentally friendly. But, people are working on ways to make batteries that hold more electricity for longer driving and on technology to produce "cleaner" electricity.

Maybe **you** will work on some of these designs someday!



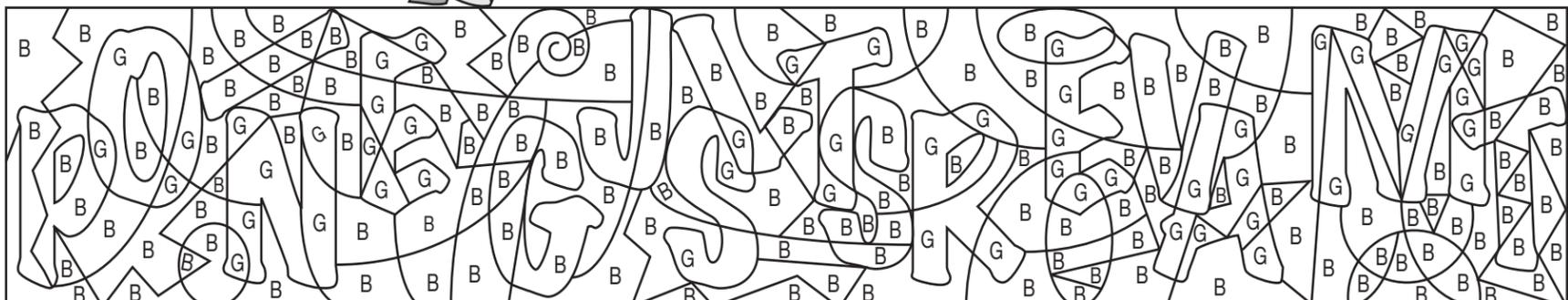
- Hybrid cars are powered by gasoline and electricity. T F
- The gas engine takes power from the battery. T F
- They get fewer miles per gallon than a gas-only car. T F
- Electric cars use electricity to power everything. T F
- Owners can plug these cars in at home. T F
- Lots of pollution is added to the air from electric cars. T F
- People are hoping to have recharging stations built in parking lots of apartments, stores and train stations. T F
- Wind-, water- and solar-generated electricity will allow for less pollution in the air. T F

## An Easier Way to Recycle!

Putting most recyclables together is easier. This kind of recycling is called **single** or...

Many towns are switching to this "mixed" recycling. It is a newer way to recycle paper, glass, cardboard and plastic. Using this method, we no longer separate and sort all of our recyclable items. Recycling plants are able to separate these items and recycle them into new materials.

G = Green  
B = Blue



# Community Calendar

**GROTON VET CLINIC**  
1503 N Broadway, Groton, 605/397-8145



**Senior Menu:** Hot turkey combos, mashed potatoes and gravy, 7 layer salad, fruit.

**Birthdays:** Aloise Brolin, Toby Dobbins, Becky Hearnen  
4:00pm: 7th/8th Track Meet in Sisseton

**Cutler Family Hair Care**  
603 N 2nd St, Groton  
605/397-2629



**Wheat GROWERS**  
Connecting Solutions



**Friday, April 15**  
**School Breakfast:** Egg omelet, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Shrimp poppers, mixed vegetables, carrots and dip, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Lemongrass baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend vegetables, peach crisp, whole wheat bread.

**Birthdays:** Brady Graf, Wayne Wien, Sam Thorson

**DACOTA BANK** Here for you.  
Member FDIC



**Ryan Likness Agency Inc.**  
717 Main St., Britton • 448-2357  
702 Main St., Webster • 345-4880  
rlkness@amfam.com



**POET** biorefining  
**Groton**  
397-2726



**RDO EQUIPMENT CO.**  
Aberdeen 225-6772 1-800-843-1865  
Redfield 1-800-247-4650  
Webster 1-800-658-2252



**Saturday, April 16**

**Birthdays:** Amy Briggs, Charles Raap, Clark Gibbs, Connor Smith, Cooper Smith, Jeff Larson, Kristi Peterson, Leslie Dohman, Marvin Bonn, Rodney Boehmer, Tom Tietz  
4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass  
7:00pm: GHS Prom Grand

**Farmers Union CO-OP**  
101 S 1st Ave., Ferny  
395-6461



**Thursday, April 7**  
**School Breakfast:** French toast, links, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Chicken patty, tater tots, carrots and dip, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, peach cobbler, whole wheat bread.

**Anniv:** Scott & Mary Fordham  
**Birthdays:** Reilly Ell, Shelly Le-rew, Steve Gibbs, Cody Becker

9:00am: Robotics competition at Council Bluffs, IA

1:30pm: St. John's Nursery Circle

2:00pm: Emmanuel Lutheran Nigeria Circle

beth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

9:00am: St. John's Lutheran worship

9:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Fellowship

10:00am: Heaven Bound Ministries worship at Pierpont Church

10:00am: St. John's Lutheran School

10:15am: Emmanuel Lutheran worship and Holy Baptism

11:00am: United Methodist Church Worship

2:00pm: POPS Concert

7:00pm: POPS Concert

banana pudding with bananas.

**Anniv:** Bruce & Vickie Sippel  
**Birthdays:** Brandon Spanier, Dee Kieso-Stange

10:00am: United Methodist Women's Bible Study

11:30am: Track in Groton

**Wednesday, April 13**

**School Breakfast:** Cereal, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Beef sticks, baked tiny potato, broccoli, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Scalloped potato and ham, peas, sunset salad, oatmeal raisin cookie, whole wheat bread.

Thomas Jefferson's Birthday

**Birthdays:** Jessica Morehouse, JoAnn Nehls, Nancy Cutler

7:00am: United Methodist Men's Bible Study

10:00am: NSU Math Contest

12:00pm: Kiwanis meets at the Community Center

**Thursday, April 14**  
**School Breakfast:** Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Hamburgers, French fries, romaine lettuce, fruit.

## Groton City 2016 Summer Salary Ordinance

Ordinance No. 703  
An Ordinance entitled iSupplemental Summer Salary Ordinance, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 690.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota, that Ordinance No. 690 be amended to read as follows:

Section I: Schedule of Salaries  
The salaries and time of payment of employees shall be as follows:

Swimming Pool Manager \$13.00/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard 8.55/hr Biweekly; WSI & WSI Assist Lifeguards \$9.00/hr Biweekly; Concessions Manager \$50/day+50% Comm Semimonthly; Baseball Coordinator \$2,250.00/yr Monthly; Softball Coordinator \$750.00/yr Monthly; Legion Baseball Coach \$3,500.00/yr Monthly; Teener Baseball Coach \$750.00/yr Monthly; Jr Teener Baseball Coach \$1,500.00/yr Monthly; Girls Softball Coach \$725.00/yr Monthly; Baseball Grounds Keepers \$8.55/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers \$10.00/hr Biweekly; Cemetery Caretaker \$13.00/hr Biweekly

Section II: Requirements  
Final payment of wages will be two weeks after completion of all duties of all seasonal employees.

Passed First Reading - March 7, 2016

Passed Second Reading - April 4, 2016

Published - April 6, 2016

Effective - April 26, 2016

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Attest:

Anita Lowary, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.31. 12272

**Friday, April 8**

State Student Congress in Pierre  
**School Breakfast:** Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Pizza, green peas, romaine lettuce, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Spanish rice with hamburger, green beans, Mandarin oranges, chocolate pudding, whole wheat bread.

**Birthdays:** Amanda Wheeler, Julia Grenz, Lori Gelhaus, Mitch Hanson, Tammy Erickson

9:00am: Robotics competition at Council Bluffs, IA

4:00pm: Track at Oakes

**Monday, April 11**

State FFA Convention

**School Breakfast:** Breakfast bagel, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Super nachos, romaine lettuce, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Spaghetti with meat sauce, broccoli or carrots, garlic toast, orange sherbet.

**Anniv:** Art & Linda Gengerke  
**Birthdays:** Mason Dinger, Mitchel Thurston

6:30am: Emmanuel Lutheran Bible Study

7:30pm: School Board Meeting

**Saturday, April 9**

Show Choir at O'Gorman High School

**Birthdays:** Becca Monson, Carla Smith, Dale Grenz, Debora Tietz, Lance Larsen, Melissa Connolly, Roxie Merkel, Sydney Rossow

8:00am: ACT Testing at Groton Area

9:00am: Robotics competition at Council Bluffs, IA

4:30pm: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church Mass

**Tuesday, April 12**

State FFA Convention

**School Breakfast:** Pancake on stick, fruit, juice, milk.

**School Lunch:** Hot dogs, baked beans, carrots and dip, fruit.

**Senior Menu:** Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, buttermilk biscuits,

**Sunday, April 10**

State FFA Convention in Brookings

**Birthdays:** Amber Farman, Martha Miller, Pauline Luce, Cody Herron, Matthew Hinds

9:00am: Emmanuel Lutheran School

9:00am: St. Eliza-

**golden living**

**We now accept**

**Avera** Health Plans

**for out patient therapy.**

1106 N 2nd St., Groton  
605/397-2365



**Parts • Sales • Service**

**ABERDEEN - 800-843-1865**  
4935 6th Ave. SE  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

**REDFIELD - 800-247-4650**  
17440 - US HWY 281  
Redfield, SD 57469

**WEBSTER - 800-658-2252**  
901 W. Highway 12  
Webster, SD 57274




**livestream**

**School Board Meeting**

**Monday, April 11, 7:30 p.m.**

**gdilive.com**





The Groton fourth grade basketball team placed second in the Sioux Falls Y tourney today and finished the season with 29 wins and 3 losses. They scored a total of 1,060 points and gave up a mere 604. They won 5 of their 7 tournaments and placed 2nd in the other 2. They play their hearts out every game and have a ton of fun! Looking forward to watching you all play next year but for now, onto baseball and soccer!!

## Blood Drive set for April 12

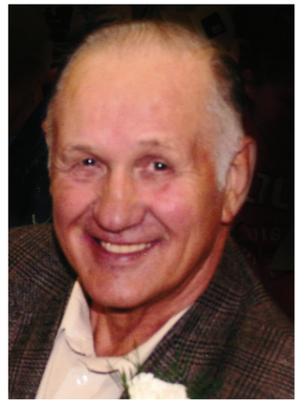
Blood drive April 12th from 11:30am to 6pm at the Groton Legion. Call for an appointment Carol Osterman at 397-8498 or June Ackman at 397-8369

## 4th Grade Boys Basketball

In back, left to right, are Coach Mike Imrie, Logan Ringgenberg, Colby Dunker, Jacob Frohling, Holden Sippel, Coach Tom Tietz; in front, left to right, are Dillon Abeln, Braxton Imrie, Austin Aberle, Lane Tietz. (Photo by Dawn Imrie)

## The Life of Willis A. "Bill" Kruse

Funeral services for Willis A. "Bill" Kruse, age 80, of Columbia, SD, was held Wednesday, April 5, 2016 at St. John's Lutheran Church, Columbia, SD, with Pastor Thomas Brown and Pastor Tyler Poppen officiating. Burial at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery in rural Columbia, SD. Willis fell asleep Sunday, April 3, 2016 at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls, SD.



Willis Arlen Kruse was born on a farm near Columbia, SD, on April 10, 1935 to John and Lillian (Bretch) Kruse. He grew up and attended School in Columbia. He was baptized and confirmed at St John's Lutheran Church.

On September 2, 1956 he married Darlys Wenck at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Aberdeen, SD. Willis farmed and worked for Groton School District in Columbia.

Dad shared his love of basketball with many school aged kids by coaching and taking them to YMCA tournaments. He also loved farming and working with his cattle. He loved spending time with family and friends, especially playing cards. He was always quick with a smile or a joke.

Willis is survived by his wife, Darlys of 59 years; two daughters: Beth (Loren) Wegehaupt of Mt. Vernon, SD, and Nancy (Mitchell) Johnson of Sioux Falls, SD; two sons: Terry (Donna) Kruse of McCarty, AR, and Tim (September) Kruse of Lakeville, MN; 10 grandchildren; and two brothers: Ernie Kruse of Columbia, and Robert Kruse of Ft Collins, CO.

Willis is preceded in death by his parents; one brother, Harley Kruse; and two sisters: Doris Smith and Arlene Weismantel.

In lieu of flowers you can send donations to Main Street Living Ministry or Dougherty Hospice house, both in Sioux Falls.

## The Life of Thelma Rossow

Services for Thelma Rossow, 97, of Henderson, Nevada and formerly of Groton was held Monday, April 4 at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. The Rev. Bill Duncan officiate.d Burial followed in Sunset Memorial Gardens, Aberdeen.



Thelma fell asleep on Monday, March 28, 2016 at her home in Henderson.

Thelma Kathryn was born on September 20, 1918 in Verdon to Russell and Emma (Fredrickson) Hitchcock. She attended and graduated from Conde High School. She was united in marriage with Duane Rossow and together they had four children. Thelma worked for many years at Kessler's Deli in Aberdeen.

In earlier years, Thelma enjoyed bowling and flower-gardening.

Celebrating her life are her children, Judith (Emmet) Anderson of Chandler, Arizona, Gerald Rossow of Groton, Ginger Vickers of Henderson, NV and Debbie Rossow, of Henderson, NV. She is also survived by her six grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

Preceding her in death were her parents, her husband, one grandchild, three brothers, one sister and a daughter-in-law.

**Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS**  
FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS  
www.kenssuperfair.com  
Aberdeen • Groton • Clark • Ipswich • Eureka • Britton  
View Our Weekly Flyer on the American News Mobile App!

**Be Sure To Look Elsewhere In Today's American News For Our HUGE 3 BIG WEEKS OF SAVINGS Coupon Insert**

**SPICE UP YOUR MEALS**

**USDA Choice Boneless Bottom Round Roast**  
Per Lb. **\$2.99**

**FRESH Strawberries**  
1 Lb. Pkg. **2 for \$4**

**Ken's BIG VIP ITEM**  
Bounty Paper Towels 6-8 Roll or Charmin Bathroom Tissue 12 Double Roll Pkg. **Your Choice \$5.99**

**Formel Always Tender Pork Baby Back Ribs**  
Per Lb. **\$2.98**

**Tyson Chicken Drumsticks or Thighs**  
Per Lb. **99¢**  
VALUE PACK

**California Halo Clementines**  
3 Lb. Bag **\$3.99**

**Butter-Nut Coffee**  
1.1 Oz. Can **\$6.99**

**Coke, Diet Coke, or Coke Zero**  
20 Pack Cans **\$5.88**

**Shurfine Cottage Cheese**  
24 Oz. Ctn. **\$1.99**

**Tide 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent**  
92-100 Oz. Jug **\$11.99**

**Shurfine Tomato or Chicken Noodle Soup**  
10.5-10.75 Oz. Cans **2 for \$1**

**Shurfine Vegetable Blends**  
16 Oz. Bag **99¢**

**General Mill's Honey Nut Cheerios 12.25 Oz., Multi-Grain Cheerios 9 Oz., Golden Grahams 12 Oz., Lucky Charms 11.5 Oz., or Super Hero Cereal 10.5-11.9 Oz. Bases**  
**2 for \$4**  
With \$1 OFF Coupon on Page 4

**Budweiser and Bud Light**  
18 Pack, 16 Oz. Cans **\$14.99**

**Black Velvet**  
1.75 Liter **\$15.95**

**Handiman looking for work**  
I can do almost anything from building whatever you need, repairing machinery, welding, flooring, installing windows and doors. If you're looking for work to be done around the home or farm, I'm your guy. Call me at 605/228-4172.



# Kumla

\$10

# Dinner

**Sunday, April 17th**

**Serving 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Groton Community Center**

**(From US 12, go south on Main Street,  
then go east on 2nd Ave for one block.)**

**Sponsored by  
Heaven Bound Ministries  
of Pierpont**



By placing an order through [Schwans.com](https://www.schwans.com) a portion of the sales will come back in support of our congregation! Your support of Heaven Bound Ministries is greatly appreciated! (When you check out, under Step 2: Coupon Codes and Fundraising, Click on "I would like to contribute to a new fundraiser." Then enter Campaign ID 26276.