



The Out of the Boxes Destination Imagination team took first place in the regional tournament held Saturday in Custer. The team was unable to compete in the regionals held in Groton due to team members having prior obligations. The team also received a DaVinci and a Renaissance award. Pictured in back, left to right, area Trey Wright, Jenifer Fjelstad, and Nathan Fjelstad; in the middle are Emma Donley and AnneMarie Smith; and in front is Halie Yarborough. Team managers Clint and Tara Fjelstad.



Pictured are MS Band Director Desiree Yeigh, Braden Freeman and HS Band Director Austin Fordham.

Freeman selected to MS All State Band for the 2nd year!

On March 3-4, 8th grader Braden Freeman represented Groton Area in the 18th Annual SDMEA's Middle School All State Band. The event was located in Huron, SD for 2017 year. The audition process for this band requires sending in a recording of a chromatic scale, a selected major and minor scale, an etude in 4/4 time and an etude in 6/8 time. It was stated that over 500 auditions were sent in this year, which was a higher number than previous years. Braden is a two year Middle School All State Band Member on the tuba.

The guest conductors for this prestigious event was Mrs. Mary Goheen and Mr. Dale Nelson, both retired teachers. Braden had the opportunity to work with both directors but his main one was with Mr. Dale Nelson. Nelson recently retired after a 40-year band-directing career, and he continues to be an active adjudicator and clinician in South Dakota.

The final concert received many standing ovations complete with a full house seating at Huron High School. Congratulations Braden!

Wanner named to NEC All-Conference Girls' Basketball Team voted on by the conference coaches

1st Team: Haley Rithmiller, Webster Area; Lexi Wadsworth, Hamlin; Caryssa Mielits, Milbank Area; Janae Golden, Clark/Willow Lake; Grace Imbery, Aberdeen Roncalli

2nd Team: Audrey Wanner, Groton Area; Brynn Alfson, Hamlin; Olivia Breske, Webster Area; McKenzie Volesky, Webster Area; Alyssa Magnuson, Sisseton

3rd Team: Gabbi Cummins, Milbank; Ashley Fosness, Britton/Hecla; Laken Olson, Britton/Hecla; Aubree Bearsheart, Tiospa Zina; Britney Lovre, Deuel



Independent office moving downtown

The Groton Independent office is moving from the house back to downtown at 21 N Main. The process of organizing the balloons up on a wall for easy viewing has begun. The Independent office will also serve as headquarters for the fitness center, the rental apartments upstairs and the laundromat.



Laundromat Reopens

The laundromat in downtown Groton has reopened its doors under new ownership. Paul and Tina Kosel have purchased the laundromat and it is open 24-7.

Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping
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Branden Abeln and Dan Sunne have been putting the new boards on the frames of the baseball bleachers.

Updated bleachers on the way to the baseball complex

The baseball complex will be having updated bleachers this year. The baseball park bleachers are three-fourths done - new boards were purchased by the Baseball Foundation and they have been primed and painted and are now being installed on the frames.

Councilman Mary Fliehs brought up at the city council meeting about parking stripes on Main Street. There is a safety concern around the Post Office. Every corner where there are businesses should have a safety area, she said. City Supervisor Terry Herron will get a bid to have these areas done. Main Street gets chip seal every three years and that should be coming up soon, so it would not pay to put down stripes if they are going to be covered up too soon.

On April 22 NSU athletes will come out and help the city for day through United Way.

A new steamer has been ordered. It is currently being backlogged at the factory.

Load limits will be held off for a week or two in the city.

The city has three 100lb propane cylinders that it is declaring as surplus. A price of \$100 per tank was established. The city also has 250 pounds of grass seed from the airport project. The price was established at \$3 a pound for a 50 lb. bag.

The old Tahoe will be put up for sale. Lowary said she found on Kelley Blue Book that a vehicle in fair condition goes for \$8,390. It has 143,000 miles. The council agreed to set a price of \$5,000. There are two old mowers that were declared as surplus with value of \$100 and \$300 established. The Tahoe will have to be bid out.

There is a pole behind MJ's Sinclair that has been hit several times and there was discussion on putting the electrical lines underground. The pole serves as a service line to MJ's Sinclair as well as providing primary service to S & S Lumber and the Olson Development. It was estimated that it would cost \$36,000 to put the primary wire underground from SD37 to S & S Lumber.

Jerry Bjerke talked about the new cop car. He said he is impressed with the new vehicle. "It's very nice," Bjerke said. The only problem right now is the in-car camera and that the videos will not transfer to the computer in the office. He reported that the audio and video quality of the body cameras is excellent. There are two body cameras right now and they would like to get two more so each officer would have their own.

A planning grant for a new water tower which would include a review of the other infrastructure. It would cost \$10,000 for a water study, \$12,500 for a storm sewer study and \$12,500 for a storm sewer study, but the grant would cover all but \$2,500. The council decided to pursue the grant.

Anyone who has a dispute with their property evaluation has until Thursday to file with the city a review of the evaluation. Some areas of the city have seen a 2.5 percent increase in evaluation.

Nominating petitions have been turned in by Ed Opp, Jay Peterson, Mary Fliehs and Karyn Babcock. There will be an election in Ward 3 between Fliehs and Babcock.

The Groton Independent

605/397-NEWS (6397)

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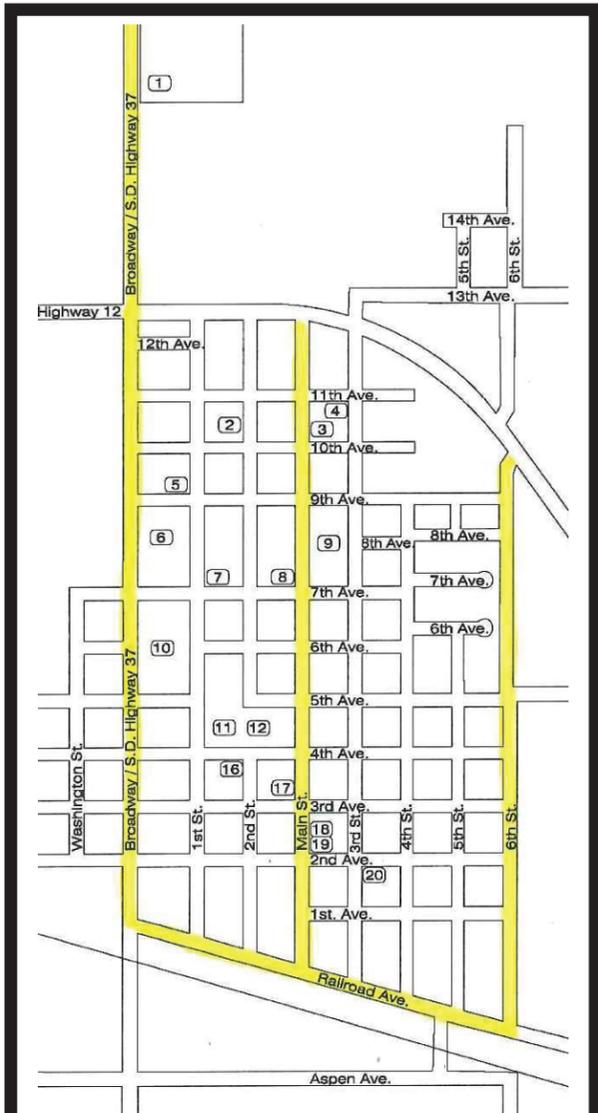
Groton, SD 57445

After executive session, the following were hired for summer employment: Public Works & Cemetery: Brian Gravatt and Aaron Severson; Swimming Pool Managers: Kami Lipp, Brenda Madsen, and Karla Pasteur; Swimming Pool Lifeguards: Tricia Keith, Kelly Hanson, Ann Thorson, Rebecca Fliehs, Cody Swanson, Nikki Koehler, Taryn Rossow, Audrey Wanner, Emma Donley, Jackson Oliver, Sydney Thorson, Jasmine Schaller, Luke Thorson, Marlee Jones, Seric Shabazz, Darien Shabazz, Eliza Wanner, Tylan Glover, Todyn Glover, Thomas Cranford, Jasmine Schinkel, Kaycie Hawkins, and Tayon Maine; Legion Baseball Coach: Travis Kurth; Asst Legion Baseball Coach: Bary Keith; Jr Legion Baseball Coach: Mason Madsen; Youth (Midget/PeeWee) Coach: Seth Erickson; Baseball Coordinator and U8 and U10 Softball Coach: Matt Locke; Softball Coordinator and U12 Softball Coach: Kathy Bjerke; Baseball Groundskeepers: Bennett Shabazz, Brandon Keith, Truit Rogers, and Wyatt Locke; and Baseball Gatekeeper: Katie Hansen; Baseball Concessions – Randy & Becca Padfield.

Second reading to Ordinance No 710, The 2017 Summer Salary Ordinance was approved.

News from Janice Fliehs

This is a news article from an old Independent reporter who worked for Mr. Spencer. I just returned from a five week trip to sunny Florida at Fort Myers Beach. Here I visited with family and friends and enjoyed many evening meals watching the sunset and the grilling of food done by the male members of the South Dakota group. The younger group included Brooklyn, Braxton and Breanna children of Mike and Dawn Imrie, Great grand children Madeline, Elizabeth, Zachary and Sophia, children of Jeff and Bridget Fliehs kept the pool busy. Also vacationing at Fort Myers Beach were Larry and Valerie Fliehs, Shirlee Briggs, Bill and Eilene Schuelke of Groton and daughter Nickie and children; also of Sioux Falls were Amy and Nick Flowers. Janice's grand daughter Amber and husband Matt Cooper and great-grand daughter Kassidi Stumpf, all of Des Moines, Iowa. I made my trip home to Des Moines by car with my grand-daughter Amber followed by a brief visit at the home of Matthew and Janelle Wegner, Kaitlyn and Keegan at Nevada, Iowa, a short distance from Ames, Ia. We all attended a 5-12th grade Band Festival at the Nevada School with great-grandson Keegan participating after getting back in South Dakota I visited at the home of Sarah and Mike Adamson and little Will who I was able to wish Happy 1st Birthday of course after returning to Groton I got in on the big snow of the Season- the first for me in a few years. A little tidbit - I was very much surprised Sunday afternoon when seeing the first Robin of the Spring season, trying to find shelter.



EFFECTIVE MARCH 27TH, 2017 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

**To Help Preserve Our Streets
GROTON Garbage Pickup Service
Will only be on Railroad Ave,
Main St, 6th St, & Hwy 37**

Residents of HRH Mobile Home Park need to take their garbage to Highway 37. Residents north of 13th Avenue (Olson and Jacobson Development) need to bring their garbage to the Bus Barns.

Please bring your garbage bags & cans to these streets for Tuesday pickup
Thank you for your cooperation!!

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Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings: Cheetahs 14, Jackelopes 11, Foxes 11, Coyotes 10, Chipmunks 10, Shih Tzus 4

Men's High Games: Brad Waage 257, 219, Brad Larson 216, 210, Ron Belden 214, Roger Spanier 203

Women's High Games: Vicki Walter 201, Darci Spanier 189, Nicole Kassube 183

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 665, Brad Larson 612, Ron Belden 541

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter 516, Darci Spanier 497, Sue Stanley 489

Groton Coffee Cup

March 13 Team Standings: James Valley 35, Kens 23, Jungle Lanes 21, Ten Pins 17

High Games: Vickie Kramp 194, Vicki Walter 191, Sue Stanley 177

High Series: Sue Stanley 508, Vickie Kramp 495, Vicki Walter 491

Conde National

March 13 Team Standings: Braves 28, Pirates 27, Mets 23 1/2, Cubs 23, Giants 22, Colts 20 1/2

Men's High Games: Bryce Dargatz 189, Justin Kesterson 181, Lance Frohling 174

Men's High Series: Justin Kesterson 516, Tim Olson 493, Bryce Dargatz 491

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 183, Joyce Walter 175, Hope Dargatz 161

Women's High Series: Joyce Walter 474, Mary Larson 439, Nancy Radke 432

Savo Township

The Savo Township Board of Equalization will meet at Savo Church on Thursday March 23, 2017 at 7 pm. All appeals shall be filed in writing with the clerk no later than Saturday, March 18, 2017.

Putney Township

Putney Township equalization will be at Mark Thompson's shop Tuesday March 21 at 5:30pm. Prior notification to the clerk is required

Henry Township

March 20, 2017
Equalization Notice

Notice is hereby given that the governing body section will serve as review board of Henry Township, Brown County. They will be meeting at 7 p.m. Monday, March 20, at the Doug Abeln Seed Company Office for the purpose of reviewing and correcting of the assessment set of the tax districts for the year 2017. All persons considering disputing their assessments are requested to notify the clerk of the board no later than March 13, 2017. Hearings are by appointment only.

Darlene Sass
Henry Township Clerk

BDM RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC.

37th Annual Meeting



Monday, March 27, 2017
6:00 p.m.

BDM Building, Britton, SD

Lunch after the meeting • Door Prizes

- Board and Management Report
- Election of Directors

Please attend your water system's annual meeting!

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3/18 to 3/20 Rock Dog PG
3/25 to 3/27 The Space Between Us PG 13

Groton City Bids for Street Project

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Separate sealed BIDS for the resurfacing of City Streets in Groton, SD will be received by the City Finance Officer, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445-0587, until 7:00 PM, CST, March 20, 2017, and then at the City Council meeting at the Groton Community Center publicly opened and read aloud.

The work on this project includes the following:

Approximately 11,620 square yards of bituminous prime coat.
Approximately 46,730 square yards of bituminous seal coat.

All work areas are located within the City limits of Groton, SD.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

City Hall, Groton, SD.

Anita Lowary
Finance Officer
(0308.0315)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$12.06. 13772

BC Mud Creek Watershed

Annual Meeting

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 21, 2017 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.

(0308.0315)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$25.74. 13773

Groton City Voter Registration Notice

NOTICE OF DEADLINE OF VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration for the Municipal Election to be held on the 11th day of April, 2017 will close on the 27th 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.

Anita Lowary, Finance Officer
Groton City
(0308.0315)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of 15.34. 13774

Groton Fire Notice of Annual Meeting

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING GROTON AREA FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of the Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District members who live in the District and own any real property interests in the District will be held on March 20, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. in the Fire Hall located on Railroad Avenue, Groton, South Dakota.

Order of Business: This is the time and place for the annual election of Board members and a regular meeting of the Board.

All interested parties should attend.

/s/ Bruce Sippel

Bruce Sippel, Secretary
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$7.59. 13786.

Brown County March 7 Meeting Minutes

MARCH 7, 2017 – 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 Hansen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to approve the Joint City/County Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2017 and the General Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2017. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to approve the following claims:

Payroll: Commission \$5,289.97; Auditor \$8,030.07; Treasurer \$13,386.55; States Attorney \$20,587.62; SWAVA Grant \$1,286.82; Maintenance \$7,403.51; Assessor \$15,848.15; Register of Deeds \$9,277.34; Veterans Service Office \$4,190.87; GIS \$2,301.47; Information Technology \$7,574.37; Human Resources \$3,082.22; Sheriff Admin \$34,666.91; Jail \$49,435.14; JDC \$22,341.09 Welfare Office \$3,665.57; Museum \$7,993.03; Parks & Fairgrounds \$4,689.23; Fair Board \$3,828.13; 4-H \$465.92; Weed \$2,602.92; Planning and Zoning \$1,866.02; Highway \$44,678.59 Communications \$24,798.54; Emergency Management \$3,962.75; Teen Court \$571.98; 24/7 \$3,399.67; Landfill \$11,538.55.

Matching Benefits: FICA \$18,857.17; Medicare \$4,410.16.

Professional Fees: Adam Altman \$5,039.74; Avera St. Lukes \$3,104.00; Kelli J Aslesen \$40.00; Mark Berg \$20.00; Blue Earth County \$65.00; Bon Homme County Sheriff \$62.00; Kristi Brandt \$522.00; Dallas County Sheriff \$30.00; Michelle Gaikowski \$1,004.60; Gateway Group #2 LLC \$90.00; Kuck Law Office \$6,521.70; Leggette, Brashears & Graham \$1,522.35; NE Mental Health Center \$780.00; North Justice Center \$50.00; Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb \$1,432.40; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$657,448.05; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$1,549.00; Siegel, Barnett & Schutz \$102.30; Jennifer Stoddard \$679.88; SD DOT \$2,159.56; Tammy Stolle Court Reporting \$482.80; Jodi Weeks \$40.80; West Justice Facility \$50.00; Luther "Luke" Yellow Rose \$1,500.00.

Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$247.51; Forum Communications \$37.06; Gregory Plains Publishing Co \$13.00; Groton Independent \$76.19; Hub City Radio \$300.00; Rapid City Journal \$54.84; Star Tribune Media Intermediate \$151.20.

Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Plumbing & Heating \$962.65; Clark Engineering Inc \$15,378.81; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$601.68; Dakota Electronics \$267.50; Dakota Tree Company LLC \$450.00; Grafix Shoppe \$246.00; Lawson Products Inc \$13.33; Productivity Plus \$2,784.10; Sand Lake Tree, LLC \$3,300.00; Taylor Laundry & Dry Cleaners \$67.65; Woodman Refrigeration \$1,010.06.

Supplies: A&B Business Inc. \$733.18; Ameripride Services Inc \$59.83; Auto Glass Solutions \$245.26; Mary Baird \$26.95; Bakken Building Maintenance \$500.00; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$2102.46; Crescent Electric Supply Co. \$248.38; Dakota Fluid Power Inc \$735.43; Dakota Mailing

& Shipping \$181.89; Digital Ally \$70.00; DPM Merchantile \$3.95; Fastenal Co \$808.24; Fedex \$22.49; Galls \$661.68; Geffdog \$45.00; Govconnection Inc \$1,102.98; Graham Tire Inc \$50.60; Great Western Tire Inc \$4,447.90; Kesslers \$36.35; LarJo's \$499.10; Lawson Products Inc \$157.89; Mac's Inc \$149.23; Mardian Scrap Recycling Inc \$296.99; Menards \$52.75; Midwest Printing \$37.15; Midwest Pump & Tank \$94.78; NCFE Warner Elevator \$8,201.38; Network Services Company \$908.81; NVC \$36.06; Runnings \$410.13; Productivity Plus \$1,480.47; Simon Solutions Inc \$162.00; SD State 4-H Office \$225.00; SDAE4-HP \$15.00; Taylor Laundry & Dry Cleaning \$111.75; US Postmaster \$5,909.84; West Payment Center \$396.85.

Travel & Conference: Troy Grote \$11.00; Sarah Hartje \$35.25; Chris Hemen \$74.00; Casey Jensen \$11.00; Dale Kurth \$19.74; Jerry Lehrkamp \$74.00; Brad Nehlich \$11.00; David North \$35.25; Mike Rohrbach \$74.00; SD Assoc of County Officials \$200.00; SD SHRM \$418.00; Kennel Titze \$11.00.

Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$157.08; BDM Rural Water System Inc \$35.00; CenturyLink \$48.06; City of Aberdeen \$1,306.99; Midcontinent \$204.26; Nalco \$611.80; NWPS \$8,918.73; NVC \$1,004.40; Town of Frederick \$48.00.

Other: SD Assoc of County Officials \$794.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to approve the Commission Assistant/HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes:

Approve the following employee step increases, effective March 12, 2017: Cindy Mitchell @ \$19.62 /hr, JoAnn Sheffield @ \$16.88 /hr, Joseph Embury @ \$19.22 /hr, Dana Breske @ \$18.80/hr, Scott Richards @ \$16.17 /hr.
Approve hiring Pamela Wolf as part-time Maintenance employee, effective March 8, 2017 @ \$10.17/hr.

Approve hiring Steve Westby, effective March 7, 2017 for purpose of prisoner transport.

Approve the following Employee Policy Manual changes: E-2) page 2 bottom: Employees actively involved in Reserve Units or National Guard Units of the United States Military Service shall receive up to fourteen days/112 hours military leave with pay each year.

E-10) Reserve or National Guard Training Leave. An employee who enlists as a reservist or a member of the National Guard shall be granted time off without pay for initial active duty for training, weekend training drills, and other active and inactive training duty, however, time off with pay up to 14 days/112 hours will be granted for annual training encampment.

Addition to D-3 Retirement) Award for Retirement. A retirement award will be given to each employee with a minimum of ten years of service who is eligible for retirement from the County and who conducts an exit interview with the Human Resources Department prior to his or her retirement date. He or she will be given a check in the amount of \$150 before taxes as authorized by the County Commission. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to authorize the County pay the registration fee and allow interested employees to comp/flex hours for attendance at a Conversational Karen Language Class (5:30-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, March 23-April 27), sponsored by CORNERSTONES Career Learning Center, Inc. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve and authorize the Chair sign documentation to assign claims against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL LAND LEASE: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Fischbach to authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider proposals for the lease of available acres on the quarters of land east and west of the landfill, to be held in the Commissioners Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD on March 28, 2017 at 8:45 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to approve and authorize the

Chair sign the following contracts for the 2017 Brown County Fair: Brown County 4-H @ 10 Carnival Passes (promotion); Rugby Team @ \$3,000.00 (clean grandstand and racetrack); Carol Hein, Marilyn Maloney, Duane Jark, Pat Dennert, Becky Erickson @ \$30.00 each (Judges). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following agreements: Prairie Fiber Guild for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp on April 22-23; Aberdeen Humane Society for lease of the Club House on April 29-30; RDO Equipment for lease of the Expo Building on March 20-21, 2017. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE OPTION RLYC: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve and authorize the Chair sign renewal option, submitted by Sheryl Erickson for lease of approximately 21 acres of county hay land located at the Richmond Lake Youth Camp. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

NOXIOUS WEED NOTICE: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Sutton to authorize publishing the 2017 Noxious Weed Notice. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL AIR QUALITY COMPLIANCE REPORT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize the Chair sign the 2016 Annual Compliance Certification Report – as required by the Title V air quality operating permit. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize the Chair sign Abatement in amount of \$2,300.21 (paraplegic tax credit). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EQUIPMENT PURCHASE: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Hansen to approve purchase of a Kyocera TASKalfa 3050ci Color MFP off lease Copier from Century Business Products in amount of \$4,388.67 for the Welfare Department. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:20 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

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Brown County March 6

Joint Minutes

MARCH 6, 2017 - JOINT ABERDEEN CITY/BROWN COUNTY MEETING

The Brown County Commission and the Aberdeen City Council met in joint session at 5:30 P.M. in the Aberdeen City Council Chambers, 123 S Lincoln Street, Aberdeen, SD. Present from City were Council Members Bunsness, Campbell, Johnson, Remily, Ronayne, Rux, Slaughter-Hansen and Mayor Levsen. Council member Olson was absent. Present from County were Commissioners Kippley, Sutton and Fischbach. Commissioners Hansen and Fjeldheim were absent.

ORDINANCE #17-02-01/464: On motion by Bunsness, seconded by Johnson, the City unanimously voted to adopt Ordinance #17-02-01/464. Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to adopt Ordinance #17-02-01/464, An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of (M-AG) Mini Agricultural District and (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini Agricultural District: Lot 1, Sunray Addition in the SE ¼ of Sec 8-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (38394 132nd Street and 13191 384th Avenue). Roll call vote: Commissioners Hansen-absent, Sutton-aye, Fischbach-aye, Fjeldheim-absent, Kippley-aye. Ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE #17-03-01/465: On motion by Rux, seconded by Slaughter-Hansen, the City unanimously voted to set public hearing for Resolution #17-03-01/465. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to set public hearing for Resolution #17-03-01/465, An Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of (M-AG) Mini Agricultural District and (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini Agricultural District: Lots

11 - 13, Block 2, DeVaans Villa Rancheras Subdivision in the S ½ of Sec 31-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (2101 NE 130th Street), to be held in the City Council Chambers on March 27, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$21.02. 13788

Brown County Noxious Weeds Declared Pests

NOTICE OF RESPONSIBILITY TO CONTROL NOXIOUS WEEDS AND DECLARED PESTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN this 15th day of March, 2017 pursuant to SDCL 38-22 as amended to all owners, occupants, agents and public officials in charge of lands in Brown County, South Dakota, that they are responsible for the suppression, control, and eradication of noxious weed and declared pest infestations that my exist on such lands.

Chemical, biological and/or cultural control methods used for the suppression, control and eradication of noxious weed and declared pest infestations shall be those approved for such purposes by the Brown County Weed and Pest Supervisor, Regional Extension Educator or the South Dakota Department of Ag.

Upon failure to observe this notice, the county weed and pest board is required to proceed pursuant to the law and have the noxious weeds or declared pests destroyed by such methods as they may find necessary, the expense of which shall constitute a lien and be entered as a tax against the land, and be collected as other real estate taxes are collected, or by other means as provided by law.

Plants and animals designated as being noxious weeds and declared pests in the state of South Dakota are Leafy Spurge, Salt Cedar, Perennial Sow Thistle, Russian Knapweed, Hoary Cress, Canada Thistle, Purple Loosestrife, and Gypsy Mole.

In addition, Absinth Wormwood, Musk and Plumelless Thistle, Yellow Toadflax and Bull Thistle have been approved by the South Dakota Weed and Pest Control Commission and are subject to the same suppression, control and eradication requirements as the before mentioned plants and animals.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that upon establishing probable cause to believe a noxious weed or declared pest infestation exists upon any property in Brown County a representative of the Brown County Weed and Pest Board will enter upon said property for the purpose of inspecting and confirming that such infestation actually exists.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$21.31. 13789

Brown County Meyers Rezoning Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL AND THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION

REGARDING A PETITION TO REZONE CERTAIN PROPERTY

A public hearing will be held by the Aberdeen City Council and the Brown County Commission on the 27th day of March 2017, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in the Aberdeen City Council Chambers, 123 S Lincoln Street, to consider the petition filed by Paul Meyers, to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District and (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District, said property being described as follows:

Lots 11 – 13, Block 2, DeVaans Villa Rancheras Subdivision in the S ½ of Sec 31-T124N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (2101 NE 130th Street)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present testimony and comments pertaining to the petition to amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the above described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, each board may adopt first reading of Ordinance #17-03-01/465 granting petition to amend Ordinance No. 1164 and granting the petition to rezone said property. Dated this 6th day

of March 2017.

ATTEST: Karl Alberts, Finance Officer

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

(0315.0322)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$27.32. 13790

Brown County Ord. 464

Rezoning Approved

ORDINANCE #17-02-01/464 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 1164

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Aberdeen, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Ordinance No. 1164 to rezone the following described property filed by Nikolas Gehrts and Theodore Arlt, is hereby granted and Ordinance No. 1164 is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District and (A-1) Agricultural District to (M-AG) Mini-Agricultural District, said property is described as follows:

Lot 1, Sunray Addition in the SE ¼ of Sec 8-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (38394 132nd Street and 13191 384th Avenue)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Aberdeen, South Dakota, that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for the County of Brown to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: February 15 & 22, 2017

Passed First Reading: February 27, 2017

Passed Second Reading: March 6, 2017

Adopted: March 6, 2017

Published: March 15, 2017

Effective Date: April 4, 2017

Rachel Kippley, Chair

Brown County Commission

ATTEST: Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$15.47. 13791

Brown County Landfill

Land Lease

NOTICE OF COUNTY LAND LEASE

BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL

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 8:45 A.M. on March 28, 2017, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for "COUNTY LAND LEASE / BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL".

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY'S TO LEASE:

1. Northwest Quarter of Section 14 Township 123 North, Range 65 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Brown County South Dakota (35 ACRES). This quarter is directly WEST of the Brown County Landfill. Minimum lease amount per acre: \$100.00

2. Northwest Quarter of Section 13 Township 123 North, Range 65 West of the Fifth Principal Meridian, Brown County South Dakota (129 ACRES). This quarter is directly EAST of the Brown County Landfill. Minimum lease amount per acre: \$100.00

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Ste 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401, and are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: "COUNTY LAND LEASE / BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL", to be opened on March 28, 2017 at 8:45 A.M.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

Copies of the specifications are on file at the Brown County Auditor's Office and the Brown County Landfill Office and may be obtained at no charge.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published at the total approximate cost of \$19.56. 13792

**Groton School
March 9**

Special Meeting
UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
NO. 06-6
SPECIAL MEETING
March 9, 2017

President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Groton Community Center. Members present: Fjelstad, Gengerke, Harder, Kjelden, Rix, Smith and Weismantel. Others present were Superintendent J. Schwan and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Kjelden, second Weismantel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

The purpose of the meeting was a public presentation and discussion of MS/HS Building Project. There were 72 school patrons were in attendance. After the presentation, administration and board members answered patron questions.

Moved by Rix, second Gengerke to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Steven R. Smith, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$7.30. 17793

**Westport Town
March 6**

Meeting Minutes

Town of Westport General Meeting

March 6th, 2017

The Town of Westport met on March 6th, 2017 with Tim Selzler, Shane Storm, Mike Wilson and 4 community members present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General
NWPS (\$460.50), Groton Independent (\$27.58), Tim Selzler (\$75.00), Shane Storm (\$75.00), Michael Wilson (\$75.00), & Doreen Hertel (\$900.00).

Sewer
NWPS (\$49.70), NRW -loan repayment (\$210.13) & Payroll -Doreen Hertel (\$300.00).

Water
WEB (\$913.63), Dept. of Revenue (\$30.00), Water Maintenance District (\$321.43), Payroll-Doreen Hertel (\$300.00).

Mike Wilson made motion to pay all bills; second by Shane Storm.

The following deposits were presented:

City General
Brown County Collections (\$912.93), State of SD (\$1,726.19), & Interest (\$19.11).

Sewer
Resident Payments - (\$1,860.00).

Water
Resident Payments - (\$3,363.32).

NEW BUSINESS:
The 2016 annual report was presented and approved.

Water loss increase was discussed. Shane will e-mail WEB about some updates at the pit coming into Westport that will be presented at the next WEB meeting.

We will be meeting with the Church to discuss mowing rates again. It was proposed to keep them the same.

Westport will be looking for summer help with mowing. We will check with Micheala to see if she wants to work again this summer.

The Board discussed raising sewer rates to \$75.00 a month. Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.08. 13795

**Olean Township
Road Maintenance
& Gravel Bids**

The Olean Township in Spink County will be receiving bids for road maintenance and gravel. Please mail bids to Betty Geist, Bates Township Clerk, 14523 409th Ave., Conde, SD 57434 by March 20, 2017.

(0308.0315)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$7.36. 13769

Groton City 2016 Annual Report

ANNUAL REPORT FOR CITY OF GROTON
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016

	GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS--MODIFIED CASH BASIS			Total Governmental Funds
	General Fund	Debt Service Fund	Other Governmental Funds	
Beginning Balance	274,593.58	0.00	79,647.92	354,241.50
Revenues and Other Sources:				
Taxes:				
Property Taxes	648,480.59			648,480.59
General Sales and Use Taxes	481,594.76		25,793.85	507,388.61
Penalties and Interest on Delinquent Taxes	1,341.94			1,341.94
Licenses and Permits	11,489.00			11,489.00
Intergovernmental Revenues:				
Federal Grants	0.00			0.00
State Grants	19,726.08			19,726.08
State Shared Revenue	62,163.57			62,163.57
County Shared Revenue:	14,210.06			14,210.06
Other Intergovernmental Revenue				0.00
Charges for Goods and Services:				
General Government	779.57			779.57
Public Safety	1,775.65			1,775.65
Highways and Streets	1,246.80		294.75	1,541.55
Culture and Recreation	69,541.72			69,541.72
Cemetery	1,944.50		400.00	2,344.50
Other				0.00
Fines and Forfeits				
Court Fines and Forfeits	12.35			12.35
Animal Control Fines	1,093.00			1,093.00
Library	33.97			33.97
Other	695.00			695.00
Miscellaneous Revenue and Other Sources:				
Investment Earnings	60.32	1,076.62	5.84	1,142.78
Rentals			21,525.00	21,525.00
Special Assessments		109,157.96		109,157.96
Contributions and Donations from Private Sources	18,713.67			18,713.67
Liquor Operating Agreement Income	17,944.84			17,944.84
Other Revenues	482.72		2,415.76	2,898.48
Total Revenue and Other Sources	1,353,330.11	110,234.58	50,435.20	1,513,999.89
Expenditures and Other Uses:				
Legislative	11,069.81			11,069.81
Executive	5,397.78			5,397.78
Elections	26.22			26.22
Financial Administration	298,574.08			298,574.08
Other General Government	10,475.38			10,475.38
Police	349,583.36			349,583.36
Highways and Streets	276,926.62			276,926.62
Airport			31,861.73	31,861.73
Parking Facilities				0.00
Cemeteries	11,947.89			11,947.89
Transit	2,001.06			2,001.06
Health	4,568.11			4,568.11
Recreation	133,808.20		21,303.40	155,111.60
Parks	5,814.31			5,814.31
Libraries	4,121.55			4,121.55
Auditorium	3,804.41			3,804.41
Economic Development and Assistance (Industrial Development)	922.26			922.26
Debt Service		209,597.74	61,645.52	271,243.26
Intergovernmental Expenditures				0.00
Capital Outlay				0.00
Judgments and Losses				0.00
Other Expenditures	1,103.77			1,103.77
Liquor Operating Agreements	14.49			14.49
Discount on Bonds Issued				0.00
Payments to Refunded Debt Escrow Agent				0.00
Total Expenditures and Other Uses	1,120,159.30	209,597.74	114,810.65	1,444,567.69
Transfers In (Out)	-445,907.52	516,820.38	42,884.24	113,797.10
Special Item (specify)				0.00
Extraordinary Item (specify)				0.00
Increase/Decrease in Fund Balance	-212,736.71	417,457.22	-21,491.21	183,229.30
Ending Balance:				
Nonspendable	1,500.00			1,500.00
Restricted	12,662.90	417,457.22	58,156.71	488,276.83
Committed				0.00
Assigned	187.64			187.64
Unassigned	14,369.23			14,369.23
Total Governmental Fund Balance				504,333.70
Governmental Long-term Debt				3,063,797.49

	PROPRIETARY FUNDS--MODIFIED CASH BASIS			
	Water Fund	Sewer Fund	Electric Fund	Garbage Fund
Beginning Balance	104,585.59	4,620.89	38,485.94	2,775.21
Revenues	311,074.15	213,197.13	1,688,522.64	93,565.89
Expenses	243,051.54	128,741.89	1,229,685.85	81,945.47
Transfers In (Out)		(19,220.00)	61,940.00	
Ending Balance:				
Restricted for Tower Replacement	80,000.00			
Restricted for Customers	67,270.98		21,155.02	
Unrestricted	25,337.22	69,856.13	414,227.71	14,395.63
Long-term Debt	0	105,992.75	0	0

The preceding financial data does not include fiduciary funds or component units. Information pertaining to those activities may be obtained by contacting the municipal finance officer at 397-8422.

Municipal funds are deposited as follows:

Depository	Amount
Cash	\$ 200.00
1st State Bank - Groton	\$ 494,894.83
Wells Fargo Bank - Groton	\$ 2,669.52
SD Public Funds Investment Trust	\$ 700,427.43
Total	\$ 1,198,191.78

Published once at the cost of \$105.02. 13794

**Brown County
Bid Chemical
Weed & Pest**

NOTICE TO CHEMICAL DEALERS

Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners, Brown County Courthouse Annex at Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 until 8:45 A.M. on March 21, 2017, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered for furnishing of chemical for the Brown County Weed and Pest Department for 2017.

Proposal Guaranty: No deposit or bond will be required at time of bid opening.

Contract: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his proposal has been accepted, and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown County in accordance with the bid as accepted. Successful bidder shall furnish proper certificates of insurance as required by Brown County. Contract for the chemicals shall be firm and will be in effect for a period of eight months from April 1 to November 30, 2017.

Sealed envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Ste 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota and be marked "Chemical Bid for Brown County Weed and Pest Board" and to be opened at 8:45 A.M. on March 21, 2017.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or 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 Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax. Specifications are on file and may be obtained at no charge at the office of the Brown County Auditor and the Brown County Weed and Pest Office.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County

Auditor (0308.0315)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$32.05. 13768

**Groton School
Voter Registration
Notice**

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
SPECIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BOND ELECTION

Voter registration for the Special Groton Area School District Bond Election to be held on April 11, 2017, will close on March 27, 2017. 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, check the Voter Information Portal at www.sd-sos.gov or call the Brown County Auditor at (605) 626-7110, Day County Auditor at (605) 345-9500, Marshall County Auditor at (605) 448-2401, Clark County Auditor at (605) 532-5921 or Spink County Auditor at (605) 472-4580.

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, SNAP, 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.sdos.gov.

Voters with disabilities may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration, absentee voting, or polling place accessibility.

Groton Area School District No. 06-6

Michael J. Weber, Business Official

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$19.00.

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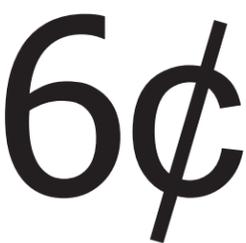
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The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent, and posted online at www.grotonsd.net. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

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

BECK FAMILY THANK YOU

The family of Floyd Beck would like to thank Pastor Cody for being with the family during Floyd's final hours and the meaningful tribute service. To Jeanne, Carmen, Angela, the grandsons, Jacob A. Heinrich American Legion Post #170 and all who helped with the set up, preparing, serving and cleanup at the community center. Many thanks for all the food, cards, flowers, plants and expressions of sympathy as we celebrate the life and memory of our beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather. A special thanks to the staff of the Ipswich Care and Rehabilitation Center for providing wonderful care to Floyd during his time there.

EMPLOYMENT

Full-Time Job Opportunity

This unique full-time position will provide for cross organizational support of accounting, marketing, and loan processing. May be based out of Sisseton, Webster, or Aberdeen. Regular travel to the Sisseton office will be required. Experience beneficial, but will train. Applications taken until Friday, March 17. To request a job application and job description, contact GROW South Dakota, 104 Ash St. E., Sisseton, SD 57262, www.growsd.org, or call (605)-698-7654. EOE



Sun Dial Manor in Bristol has openings for an RN or LPN, full time, part time or PRN. Increased wage based on previous experience. May be eligible for \$10,000 recruitment bonus. We also have openings for CNA's, training for certification provided. For more information, please call Connie Brown RN, DON at 605/492-3615. EOE. DFW.

SMART SALES AND LEASE (est 2001) seeks FT Customer Account Manager. Work online from home. Competitive hourly wages. Management experience desired. Some evenings/weekends. Resume, questions: careers@smartsalesandlease.com.

RAILROAD VEGETATION CONTROL: Full-time traveling opportunity, 60-80 hours/week, \$13-\$15/hour starting, meal allowance, paid lodging, 95% paid health/dental, 401(k) & Paid Time Off. RAW, Inc. in Cooperstown, ND -888.700.0292 www.rawapplicators.com or info@rawapplicators.com

GROCERY STORE MANAGER/partner in Northcentral SD. Possibility of eventual ownership. Call Kyle at 605-948-2249 or cell 605-380-4830.

BOWES CONSTRUCTION, BROOKINGS is seeking: drivers, various operators, welder, mechanic, laborers, and road reclaimer. For complete details call 605-693-3557 or email v_longville@bowesconstruction.com.

FULL-TIME DEPUTY SHERIFF for Jackson County. Certified preferred. Send application/resume or LES forms to Jackson County Sheriff, POB 127, Kadoka, SD 57543 Call 605-837-2285.

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

This week, I'll be taking a break from the roster breakdown to focus on the free agency news. I'll be bringing you updates that center around the Minnesota Vikings, but also any big deals that happened around the league.

There are teams around the league who like to jump out of the gates and sign as many top-tier guys as they can. The Vikings aren't one of those teams. Instead, they prefer to let the market settle and pick up guys for much less money. This year is no different. Everyone knew the Vikings were planning to upgrade the offensive line, and as the "big name" guys were getting signed, many Vikings fans began to worry that the team wouldn't be able to find any suitable players once the dust settled. While the fans have reason to be worried, the



tion/resume or LES forms to Jackson County Sheriff, POB 127, Kadoka, SD 57543 Call 605-837-2285.

PARKSTON SCHOOL DISTRICT is taking applications for full-time or part-time custodian. Begin immediately. Contact Superintendent Shayne McIntosh or Robert Berg, 605-928-3368. References, background check required.

NORTHWEST AREA SCHOOLS in Isabel, South Dakota, is seeking applications for a Speech and Language Pathologist or a Speech and Language Pathologist Assistant. South Dakota certification is required. NWAS offers a competitive salary and benefits package (health, dental and vision) as well as SD Retirement and transportation for work-related travel. Position is open until filled. Contact Quinn Lenk, Director, at 605-466-2206, or email quinn.lenk@k12.sd.us

RED CLOUD INDIAN SCHOOL Inc. is seeking to fill the following positions for the 2017-2018 school year: high school guidance counselor, 6-8th grade math (2), high school cheer coach, 6-8th grade science teacher. Interested individuals can send a complete application and resume to: Lisa Swallow, Red Cloud Indian School 100 Mission Drive Pine Ridge, SD 57770 or email lisaswallow@redcloudschool.org. RCIS is an EOE and provider.

TEACHERS NEEDED: HS Special Education and 4-8 Special Education. Complete application at www.csd.k12.sd.us Custer School District, 527 Montgomery St., Custer, SD 57730 (605)673-3154 EOE

JOB OPPORTUNITY

LOOKING FOR A JOB? Exploring careers? Come to the BBR Job Fair! Noon-6pm, Friday, March 28, at the PHS Fine Arts Building, Philip, SD. www.badlandsbadriver.com

NOTICES

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605/397-NEWS
(6397)

Vikings were able to sign a couple second-tier guys who could prove to be big upgrades for the team.

Here is a list of the players who donned the purple and gold last season and have now signed with other teams:

- Matt Kalil (LT) – signed a 5-year, \$55.5 million contract with the Carolina Panthers

- Captain Munneryn (CB) – signed a 4-year, \$21 million contract with the Carolina Panthers

- Charles Johnson (WR) – signed a 1-year, \$2.2 million contract with the Carolina Panthers

- Jeff Locke (P) – signed a 2-year, \$3.45 million contract with the Indianapolis Colts

- Rhett Ellison (TE) – signed a 4-year, \$18 million contract with the New York Giants

- Audie Cole (LB) – signed a contract with the Jacksonville Jaguars (terms unknown)

None of the six players the Vikings lost will be sorely missed. However, the Vikings are losing Matt Kalil, who they invested in as a number 4 overall pick in the 2012 NFL draft. Captain Munneryn had a big impact in 2016, and he is a great slot corner, but the Vikings drafted Mackenzie Alexander last year to play the same position. Rhett Ellison contributed many ways on offense, but the Vikings also drafted his replacement in last year's draft (David Morgan). Audie Cole was certainly a fan favorite, but his contributions came mostly on special teams, and those players are a dime a dozen.

The Vikings have only brought in two free agents, in addition to re-signing one of their own:

- Riley Reiff (LT) – signed a 5-year, \$58.75 million contract, formerly a Detroit Lion

- Mike Remmers (RT) – signed a 5-year, \$30 million contract, formerly a Carolina Panther

- Jeremiah Sirles (T/G) – re-signed in Minnesota, 1-year, \$690,000

The Vikings are obviously hoping that Reiff and Remmers can bookend their offensive line for years to come. Out of all the free agent offensive tackles available, Reiff had the 7th highest grade according to Pro Football Focus. However, out of all the tackles in the league, his 67.9 grade ranked 48th. Reiff played left tackle for most of his career, but the Lions moved him to right tackle last season. He will likely be expected to play left tackle in Minnesota.

Mike Remmers used to be on the Vikings' practice squad until he was signed by Carolina in 2014. Remmers has started every game over the past two seasons, and looks to be a solid right tackle option. He was PFF's 8th best available offensive tackle this offseason, and the 51st rated tackle in the NFL last season.

The Vikings still have cap space available, so they will surely be signing a few more free agents between now and the draft. Personally, I'd love to see them bring in another cornerback and a wide receiver for depth. Who do you want to see in purple and gold next season? Let me know by reaching out to me on [Facebook.com/SkolJWright](https://www.facebook.com/SkolJWright), or Twitter @SkolJWright. Skol!

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FIRST FLOOR PLAN

GROTON AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FINISHES PRESENTATION

FLOOR PLAN
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Elementary School project is \$600,000 under budget

The contracts for the elementary school project will be issued this week with construction to begin on May 22. The bids for the project were reviewed and accepted at the school board meeting Monday night. They are \$463,691.15 to Lien Transportation of Aberdeen for site work; \$1,551,700 to JDH Construction of Aberdeen for general construction; \$141,610 to Architectural Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc., of Sioux Falls for roofing; House of Glass, Inc., of Aberdeen for aluminum storefronts, curtain walls and glazing for \$130,324.00; Gemini Acoustical, LLC of Sioux Falls for acoustical ceilings, \$189,620.00; Grazzini Brothers & Company, Eagan, Minn., for flooring and wall tile, \$264,350.00; PrairieSons, Inc., Brandon, for fire protection, \$88,275.00; Redlinger Bros. Plumbing & Heating Co., Watertown, for plumbing and heating, \$554,350.00; Custom Sheet Metal, Inc., of Aberdeen for ventilation, \$617,400.00; Balancing Professionals, Inc., of Sioux Falls, for testing and balancing, \$23,890.00; and electrical to Muth Electric, Inc., Mitchell, for \$818,890.00; for a grand total of \$4,844,100.15.

There have been meetings with the elementary school staff for procedures in packing, storing and moving out of the facility prior to the beginning of construction. There will be big cartons arriving this week for preparation of the big move. Hundreds of boxes will be brought on site. The renovation is scheduled to be done by August 18 with the new addition to be completed in November. The question was asked of Business Manager Mike Weber, that if the project comes in under budget, what will happen to the extra funds. Weber said, that for example, if the project came in at \$300,000 under budget, then in 2018, the Capital Outlay request could be reduced by \$300,000 to give some relief to the tax payers. The \$600,000 under budget includes \$270,000 in contingency funds.

In addition to the major overhaul of the elementary school, there will be a commons area being added to the south of the complex.

MS/HS Bond rate set for 20 years, election is April 11th

The bond rate for the MS/HS addition has been set for 20 years at 3.475 percent. The mil levy will be 50 cents per \$1,000 valuation. The school board voted Monday night to defer the first three years principle and make interest only payments to keep the mil levy down. The district will be voting April 11th on a \$14 million renovation project for the middle/high school.

There were six patrons who attended the meeting in regards to the district's renovation projects. Bob Swisher said the teachers have a very short time frame to get packed up and out of the elementary school building, which is putting a hardship on them as they have to teach and pack at the same time. There was also discussion on spreading out the MS/HS building project bond over 30 years instead of 20 years. Several board members responded by saying the people they have talked with want it at the 20-23 year range. There were several questions about the elementary school bids, especially with the alternates. Superintendent Joe Schwan said the intent of the alternates was to give the board an area to cut in the event the project went over budget. The project is coming in at \$600,000 under budget.

The board accepted the following resignations: Kayla Krause as JK/kindergarten teacher as she is going to teach second grade at Mike Miller Elementary in Aberdeen; Katie Miller as middle school special education as she is taking on a teaching position in Aberdeen; Gail Kyar as an

elementary PARA as their family is moving to Minnesota; and Kelli Hanson as football/basketball cheerleading advisor. Krause has been with the district for three years, Miller for six year and Hanson for five years. All four administrators have turned in signed contracts - Superintendent Joe Schwan, MS/HS Principal Dr. Anna Schwan, Elementary Principal Brett Schwan and Business Manager Mike Weber. The next school board meeting is Tuesday, March 28th at 7 p.m.

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Community Calendar

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

Thursday, March 16

Senior Menu: Mulligan stew, cornbread, pistachio pudding, pineapple, cookie.
Spring break - No School
Emmanuel Lutheran: WELCA at 1:30 P.M.
St. John's Lutheran: Quilting at 9 a.m.

Friday, March 17

Senior Menu: Hot pork sandwich, coleslaw, baked beans, sherbet.
Spring Break - No School

Sunday, March 19

Catholic Parish: Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion at 9 a.m., No Sunday School, Emmanuel serving at nursing home with confirmands serving.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship with holy communion at 9 a.m.; no Sunday School.

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United Methodist Parish: Worship in Conde at 9 a.m., coffee fellowship time at 10 a.m. and worship in Groton at 11 a.m.
Heaven Bound Ministries in Pierpont: Worship at 10 a.m.

Monday, March 20
School Lunch: Super nachos, refried beans, romaine salad, fruit.
School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza, fruit, juice, milk.

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, peas, pineapple/Mandarin orange sauce, cookie.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study at 6:30 a.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Christian Literature Circle at 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 21

Student Congress at GHS
School Lunch: Submarine, French fries, fruit, carrots and dip.
School Breakfast: French toast sticks, links, fruit, juice, milk.
Senior Menu: Hamburger steak, braised onions, mashed potatoes, broccoli, cookie bar, whole wheat bread.

Wednesday, March 22

School Lunch: Tater tot hotdish, corn, fruit, Cauliflower and dip, garlic toast.
School Breakfast: Egg sausage biscuit, fruit, juice, milk.
Senior Menu: Herbed roast pork, baked potatoes and sour cream, tomato spoon salad, cinnamon apple sauce, whole wheat bread.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Lenten meal at 6 p.m. (Sunday School serves), worship at 7 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation at 3:45 p.m., Lenten Service at 7 p.m.

Thursday, March 23

All State Band at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School
School Lunch: Meatballs, baked tiny potato, fruit, broccoli and dip, tea bun.
School Breakfast: Pancake on stick, fruit, juice, milk.
Senior Menu: Cheeseburger soup, ham salad sandwich, fruit, cookie.

Friday, March 24

All State Band at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School
School Lunch: Fish nuggets, sweet potatoes, fruit, romaine salad.
School Breakfast: Cheese omelette, muffin, fruit, juice, milk.
Senior Menu: Lemon baked fish, rice pilaf, California blend veggies, peach crisp, whole wheat bread.

Saturday, March 25

All State Band at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School

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Per Lb.
\$3.49

Hormel BONELESS PORK LOIN ROAST
Per Lb.
\$1.99

Kraft MIRACLE WHIP
30 Oz. Jars
2 for \$5

Blue Bonnet SPREAD
1 Lb. Ctn.
89c

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12 Oz. Box
4 for \$10

Ragu PASTA SAUCE
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