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Vol. 134 No. 31 ♦ Groton, Brown County, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, March 22, 2017 ♦ Established in 1889

Top Kote gets low bid for street project

It was a short city council meeting Monday night at the Groton Community Center. Bids were opened for this year's street project. Four bids were received. They were Jensen Rock & Sand from Mobridge for \$125,094.66, Bituminous Paving from Ortonville, Minn., for \$100,520.70, The Road Guy from Yankton for \$95,724 and the low bid from Top Kote out of Yankton for \$87,322.60 was accepted.

Election workers for the Ward 2 election were approved: Debra McKiver, Wanda Hamilton and Linda Locken. Their pay will be \$130 for the 13 hour day.

The garbage routes were announced which will be in effect next week.

After the council meeting, they went into executive session with Stacy Mayou present, and then went into equalization.

State DI Tournament is this weekend

The State Destination Imagination tournament will be held Saturday in Pierre. Schools being represented at state are Brandon Valley, Clear Lake, Cheyenne-Eagle Butte, Custer, Doland, Rapid City Douglas, Dupree, Edison Middle School, Elk Point-Jefferson, Gayville Volin, Groton Area, Huron, Meade, Mitchell, Pierre Indian Learning Center, Rapid City Catholic, Rosholt, Spearfish, Todd County, Tri-Valley, Wagner, Watertown, Webster and West Central.

Here is the schedule for the Groton Area teams:

Challenge D: 3-Peat Improvisational - Room 309

Bazang Boys - Groeblinghoff/Barse - ML - Main Challenge at 11:30 a.m., Instant Challenge at 8:50 a.m.

Army Ants - Marzahn - EL - Main Challenge at 12:30 p.m., Instant Challenge at 1:05 p.m.

Challenge C - Vanished - Fine Arts - Band Room

The Wonderful Nonsense - Jensen/Rosenau - SL - Main Challenge at 8:40 a.m., Instant Challenge at 11:50 a.m.

The Aquarium Solvers - Kosel/Bahr - EL - Main Challenge at 10:20 a.m., Instant Challenge at 2:05 p.m.

Dysfunctional Broad Squad - Milbrandt - ML - Main Challenge at 2:15 p.m., Instant Challenge at 9:10 a.m.

Challenge B - Top Secret - Scientific - Choir Room

Out of the Boxers - Fjelstad - SL, Main Challenge at 11:10 a.m., Instant Challenge at 1:40 p.m.

Challenge A - Show & Tech - Technical - Main Gym

Dumpling Jokers - Groeblinghoff/Weismantel - EL, Main Challenge at 2:00 p.m., Instant Challenge at 10:10 a.m.

And this is from the state affiliate, Dean Fenenga:

Once again congratulations to your team for qualifying for the South Dakota Destination Imagination Affiliate Tournament. I am certain all of your garages are full of spray paint stains and duct tape patches, kitchens full of glitter and balsa wood, and those improv kids are still trying to figure out how to stuff one more thing into that tiny box. That being said, praise those kids, encourage them on, and sit back and be amazed at the solutions they are responsible for. Win or lose, they have all arrived at solutions to be proud of.

So I have some house keeping and details for the teams arriving at Pierre.

1. We will open the doors for teams at 8:00 AM. The only exception being the 2-3 teams performing before 8:30. We will allow teams to enter at 7:30 so they can be at the prop check in the 30 minutes before as required. Please allow this time so we can make sure the appraisers and volunteers are 100% ready for each team.

2. Those of you unfamiliar with Riggs High School in challenges Vanished and Top Secret. Be prepared for stairs. Parents and Volunteers can help get props to the storage area. But that is transport only. Any repairs or touch up need to be done by the teams, and once the props are in storage -- HANDS OFF -- by any one who is not a team member.

3. Concessions will be available on site. As wells as sales and jar raffle.

4. Arrive for your challenges 30 minutes early to check in (or earlier for In it Together). Get your team gathered for a couple deep breaths.

5. Be respectful of all teams. Watch other teams, other challenges. Applaud, cheer, laugh, and support others in your challenge as well as other challenges. Be amazed at your peer's solutions.

6. Award ceremony will start at 4PM. Jar Raffle will be immediately before then.

7. First place teams have the opportunity to go to globals. If your team gets first and are not planning on Globals let me know as soon as possible so we can offer the opportunity to second place.

8. Immediately after the awards ceremony, we will have a brief Q&A meeting for the teams advancing to Globals. We will let you know at the awards ceremony.

9. Your Volunteers will soon be getting information on their duties. I will be sending information out to individual appraising teams. Those that are not appraising will be a sign up genius link to chose a task. I ask that each team volunteer try to sign up for at least 4 hours. More if they are having the fun I am sure they will. This is first come first serve so if they have their heart set on a position, they should sign up early.

10. Reply to all for general questions. I am sure if you have it, someone else is thinking the same. Feel free to contact me or your regional tournament director for team specific questions,



National Honor Society ceremony is set for Monday

The National Honor Society will hold its induction ceremony on Monday, March 27, 7 p.m., at the GHS Conference room. The event is open to parents, grandparents and friends of the members and inductees. Members who will be inducted this year are pictured above, in back, left to right, are Hattie Weismantel, Alexandra Stange, Trey Wright, Madison Sippel and Hannah Lewandowski; and in front, left to right, are Kate Helmer, Madilyn Wright, Jenifer Fjelstad and Emma Donley.

The current members of the Groton Area Gold Key Chapter of the NHS are Macy Knecht, Erin Smith, Keri Pappas, and Landon Marzahn. The students who will be inducted this year are seniors Kate Helmer, daughter of Loren and Alicia Helmer, and Trey Wright, son of Russell and Janet Wright; juniors Hannah Lewandowski, daughter of Brad and Becky Lewandowski, Madilyn Wright, daughter of Stephan and Lynn Wright, Madison Sippel, daughter of Monte and Sandi Sippel, Alexandra Stange, daughter of Doug and Vicci Stange, Emma Donley, Daughter of Don and Joann Donley, Hattie Weismantel, daughter of Marty and Amy Weismantel, and Jenifer Fjelstad, daughter of Clint and Tara Fjelstad.

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Third Grade Americanism Poetry Winners

The Americanism Poetry winners have been announced for this year. Pictured above at the third grade winners. The Groton Legion Auxiliary winners are Jerica Locke in first place and Gavin Englund in second place. The Columbia Legion Auxiliary winners are Mia Crank in second place and Paisley Mitchell in first place. Pictured in back are Meri Erickson from the Groton Legion Auxiliary and Cara Dennert from the Columbia Legion Auxiliary.



Fourth Grade Americanism Poetry Winners

The fourth grade winners in the Americanism Poetry contest are pictured above. The Groton Legion Auxiliary winners are Nicolette Nickeson in second place and Kayla Lehr in first place; and the Columbia Legion Auxiliary winners are Carter Simon in second place and Payton Mitchell in first place. In back are Meri Erickson from the Groton Legion Auxiliary and Cara Dennert from the Columbia Legion Auxiliary.

Groton Area Senior Citizens

Groton Seniors met February 13 at the Community center. Nineteen members attended. President Ruby Donovan opened with allegiance to the flag. Lee Schinkel played a song. Minutes and treasurers report were read and accepted. Get well cards were sent

to Jan Raap, Cindy Gemmill, Beulah Hoops, Ivan and Carolyn Morehouse. Meeting was adjourned and cards played. The winners of the games. Pinochle- David Kliensosor, Whist- Lee Schinkel Tony Goldade and Ruby Donovan. Canasta -Pat Larson, Door prizes- DeLoris Knoll, Eunice McColister and Elda Stange. Lunch was served by Ruby Pray, Mary Walker and Ruby Donovan.

February 20 Seniors had their pot luck dinner nineteen members attended. In the afternoon bingo was played. Lois Pasch won the black out. Cards were played after Bingo. Door prizes went to Mary Walker, Bert Raap, Tony Goldade. Lunch committee was Beulah Hoops, Eunice McColister and Elda Stange.

February 27 seniors met at the community center. Twenty one members were present. Cards were played. The winners of each game. Pinochle- Ruby Donovan and Ivan Morehouse. Whilst - Ruth Pray, Bridge-Wally Fisher lunch was served by Beulah Hoops, Ella Johnson and Mary Walker.

The Groton Independent

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By Richard P. Holm M.D.

Opium, Oxycodone, and Overdose
We are in the middle of an opioid overuse and abuse epidemic.

Opioids, also known as narcotics, are drugs which are either processed from the white tears of scored opium poppy fruit or made synthetically. Legal prescription opioids include morphine, oxycodone, hydrocodone, fentanyl, tramadol, whereas all these alone or in combination with heroin, methamphetamine, and cocaine are sold on the black market. An estimated 16 million people in the U.S. are abusing prescription or black market opioids, including 20 percent of our high school kids.

Abuse is one thing, but death is another. According to the Center for Disease Control, from years 2000 to 2015 the number of opioid overdose deaths quadrupled; with more than half a million-people suffocating to death from opioid overdose during that time. 91 U.S. citizens are dying from opioid overdose every day. Embarrassing news for the healing professions is that at least one-

half of these deaths are from prescription medications and three-out-of-four heroin users were initially addicted to legal opioid pain medicines prescribed for so-called legitimate reasons. When they could no longer get a refill of the prescription pain med, they turned to heroin.

This has all happened during the era of the electronic medical record with progressively obsessive government monitoring and discouragement of narcotic prescribing. I personally believe this speaks to how impotent oversight is in effecting control or change.

Causes for this deadly epidemic are myriad. For more than twenty years, we have been encouraged to ask patients to rate their pain on a zero-to-ten scale and quality parameters rate physicians poorly if they aren't addressing pain needs. Additionally, our whole culture has been almost hypnotized by pharmaceutical advertisements telling us that the answer to every medical problem is a medicine which is obtained if you "ask your doctor." Take it from me, it is easier to prescribe a pill than to say "no" to a demanding patient.

Still, we must say "no." Treatment for chronic pain means listening, encouraging movement, and insisting the return to function and work; NOT prescribing opioids. During the last 15 years of quadrupling of narcotic prescriptions, there has been no change in patient-reported pain across U.S. hospitals. Simply put, chronic pain responds poorly to narcotics, is always rated 11 on the 1-10 pain scale, and opioids should be avoided in treating chronic pain.

We are in the middle of an opioid overuse and overdose epidemic, to which there will be no end until doctors and patients say "No" to opioids and "Yes" to movement and return to function.

FCCLA News

On March 9, 2017, Groton FCCLA chapter met for the March meeting in the FACS Room. There was an opening ceremony led by Madison Sippel. Lexi Harder read treasurer's report. New business includes member sign up for lunch committee for April meeting. There is officer interview on April 19 for anyone who is interested. Style show is coming up! The FCCLA style show will be at the end of April and Prom dress sign up is in Mrs. Tietz room. Unfinished business included State dues need to be paid March 22 and Mother Daughter night was March 7 and everyone who attended had a blast! The meeting was closed by President Madison Sippel.

BDM RURAL WATER SYSTEM, INC.

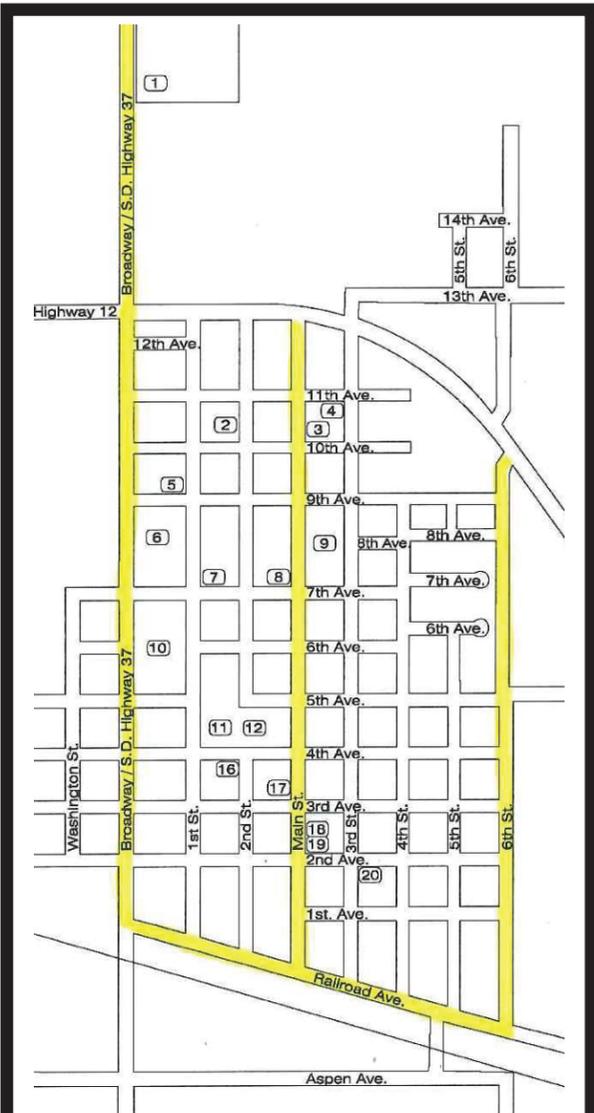
37th Annual Meeting

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!



EFFECTIVE MARCH 27TH, 2017 UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

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GROTON Garbage Pickup Service
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Main St, 6th St, & Hwy 37**

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3/25 to 3/27 The Space Between Us PG 13
4/1 to 4/3 The Shack PG 13

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 1/2 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)
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Groton City March 20 Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2017

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at the Groton Community Center for their regular second monthly meeting with the following members present: Flihs, Blackmun, Opp, McGannon, Peterson and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Glover was absent. Also present were: Finance Officer Lowary, Paul Kosel, and Kathy Sundermeyer.

At 7pm the following sealed bids for the 2017 Street Resurfacing Project were opened and read aloud: Bituminous Paving, Ortonville, MN - \$100,520.70; Topkote, Yankton, SD - \$87,322.60; Road Guy, Yankton, SD - \$95,734.00; Jensen Rock & Sand, Mobridge, SD - \$125,094.66. Moved by McGannon and seconded by Opp to accept the low bid from Topoke and proceed with the project. All members present voted aye.

The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by McGannon. All members present voted aye.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Blackmun to authorize the following bills for payment. All members present voted aye.

Cons Fed Cr Union 1,125.00 emp savings; First State Bank 7,151.69 ss & wh; Paul Kosel 716.56 med flex; SD Dept of Revenue 18.00 title, lic plates; 1st National Bank 9,604.27 lagoon bond pay; Abeln, Branden 11.00 lunch; AFLAC 797.60 group ins; Jerry Bjerke 10.01 gas; Brite 109.00 comp cover; Car Quest 168.33 filters, oil; Chief Supply 186.46 coat, case, belt, batt stick; Cole Paper 122.53 bags; Colonial Research 2,594.94 herbicide, cleaner; Dakota Playground 1,590.00 spinner; Employers Mutual Ins 75.60 life ins; Fire Safty First 30.00 1st Aid; Groton Independent 109.69 publishing; Guardian Ins 245.30 emp ins; Harry Imp 2,295.00 mower; Heartland Cons Power District 68,564.33 power; Anita Lowary 37.20 mileage, books, med flex; MJs Sinclair 729.63 gas, tire repair, battery; Red Horse Inn 60.00 Fam Cr motel room; SD Supplement Retirement 3,060.00 emp retire; Dan Sunne 11.00 lunch; T & R Electric Supply 20.00 PCB testing; Wellmark Blue Cross/Blue Shield 12,734.65 health ins; Western Area Power Adm 25,567.95 power; Wolfcom 911.98 2 cameras

The spring limited garbage routes were announced to start Mar 28.

Finance Officer Lowary proposed Deb McKiver, Wanda Hamilton, and Linda Locken to act as the election workers for the April

11 Ward 3 Election. Moved by Opp and seconded by Peterson to approve this board and set the pay at \$130.00 for the day. All members present voted aye.

At 7:15pm the Council adjourned into executive session on a motion by Opp and seconded by Peterson to discuss legal and personnel matters under SDCL 1-25-2 (1) & (3). All members present voted aye. Council reconvened at 7:50pm.

Meeting adjourned into board of equalization.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Anita Lowary, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.89. 13800

Frederick Town March 13 Meeting Minutes

Town of Frederick
March Minutes 2017

The Frederick Town Board meeting was postponed one week to March 13, 2017, 7 PM. The meeting began with Chairman R. Scott Campbell leading the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Attending were Board Members Troy Millard and Gary Schlosser, Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg, Finance Officer Diane Bruns, and soon Frederick Forward Board member Krysti Mikkonen.

The Minutes of February's meeting were read and approved with motions by TM/GS. Motion Carried.

The Financial Report was read and approved with motions by GS/TM. Motion Carried.

The Account Payables were approved with motions by SC/TM. Motion Carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Badger Meter fees Wtr \$131.40; Black Mt software chgs Wtr/Gar/Swr \$500; D. Bruns sup CC/FO/Gen'l/Wtr/Garb/Swr \$89.06; Dak Pump & Control inspect Lagoon Swr \$560; Diane Bruns wage CC \$71.43; Diane Bruns wage FO \$1000.55; DSG manhole covers Sts \$901.60; FU Oil Co propane EBL \$417.29; Frederick Area Ambulance 2017 assess Ambulance \$300; FDC Econ Dev, Econ Dev \$1200; Frohling Law Office legal Genl \$276; Gary Schlosser wage Genl \$23.09; GDI legal Genl \$69.22; JM Electric, Inc. motor, pump Water Tower \$524.58; JVT phones, services, Internets FO/Wtr/EBL/Genl \$301.87; Mavis Cox wage EBL \$466.02; MDU elect Sts/Swr/Fire/S.Park/EBL/B. Park/Wtr/CC/FO \$1388.96; Menard's sup Genl \$52.41; R Scott Campbell wage Genl \$46.17; Rich Bakeberg veh allow St/Wtr/Swr \$75; Rich Bakeberg wage St/Wtr/Swr \$413.22; SD Assoc of Twns & Twnshps dues Genl \$239.75; SD Dept of Rev labs Wtr \$15; SD Dept of Rev Sales tax Garb \$89.10; Troy McKibben floor CC \$975; Troy Millard wage Genl \$23.09; True Value sup Wtr \$29.48; USDA-RD AP loan Wtr Repair \$475; WEB Wtr 2 mo \$4197.07. Total A/P \$14,851.36.

OLD BUSINESS:

Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg reported that Thorpe Excavating will help him replace two manhole covers that have arrived. Helms and Associates have been up here checking inside manholes by the Lagoon, the Board gave the go ahead to check sewer lines. Rich will be flushing cells at the Lagoon again. Rich was granted approval to attend classes in Pierre offered by WWA on April 19 and 20.

Frederick Forward Krysti Mikkonen reported on the playground equipment income success. She has opened an online account for distant alumni to contribute. In response to question about upkeep of playground equipment she believes there won't be any. She talked about an upcoming meeting for "Rise Up and Raise the Bar". Krysti also mentioned St. Urho's Day. A letter about Day of Champions was mentioned, no action taken.

Historical Society, no info.
Emma Burnham Library has Soup and BINGO Fundraiser in the CC on March 19.

Frederick Development Corporation, no info.

Other Old Business;

A mowing bill was discussed. Person needs to turn in bill to city and after paying, the city will add the cost to the property owner's tax bill through the Brown County Auditor's office.

Vacated streets and alleyways was tabled to a later date.

Grote Roofing proposal was shown for work done on the EBL.

Potholes on 3rd Avenue and others, will be taken care of in the near future.

NEW BUSINESS;

DENR Waste Management

Program Inspection Report was reviewed. A number of items will be done at the Landfill including haul out house debris and send documentation back to DENR, aerate compost pile monthly, and repair NE and SW corners of fence. Report was accepted with motion by TM/SC. Motion Carried.

Budget Report to USDA was accepted with a motion by SC/GS. Motion Carried.

Agent Campbell explained 1 Beacon will be the new insurance carrier for Fisher-Rounds replacing Continental Western. They carry the city's auto insurance. SDML (South Dakota Municipal League) will carry WC for Frederick. New insurance report was accepted with a motion by TM/GS. Motion Carried. Agent/Chairman Campbell abstained from voting.

Certificate To Entities pay 2017 from Brown County Auditor's Office was reviewed.

CPI Payable 2018 was reviewed.

Annual Report was reviewed but not yet approved.

Equalization Week is March 20-25. The 1st Equalization meeting is Monday night, March 20, 7 PM in CC.

The Town of Frederick thanks the Mikkonen family for the Simmons Park donation in honor of Ray Mikkonen.

CORRESPONDENCE;
A Presidential Disaster Declaration was reviewed pertaining to the Christmas blizzard. No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT;

There being no further business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8 PM. Next regular town board meeting is April 3, 2017, 7 PM, at the Frederick Community Center.

Diane Bruns
Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$45.19. 13801

Claremont Town March 14 Meeting Minutes

The board of trustees for the town of Claremont met on 3-14-17 at 7:00 pm in city hall. President Johnson called the meeting to order with trustees Crosby and Merkel present. Others present were Leon Vickers. The minutes of the February meeting were read and on a motion by Merkel and seconded by Crosby. Motion carried. On a motion by Crosby and seconded by Merkel the following warrants were allowed.

General/SD Asso. of Towns and townships, annual dues, 221.75; NWE, lights, 308.65; James Valley, phone and internet, 96.15; Charla Rye, wage, 80.00; Jason Spencer, snow removal; WSSW: Dept. of Revenue, water samples, 30.00; NWE, water and sewer, 744.40; BDM, water used, 826.90; Melinda Spencer, meter reading, 138.52; Rural Development, loan, 576.00.

Letter from the DENR- Restricted use- we will now have Leon Vickers take care of the site. He will record items going in along with name of individual bringing them- only people allowed to use this site are residents of the town- no exceptions!

Total receipts and expenses of the town were discussed and approved.

Election will be held in Claremont on April 11th at city hall from 7 am-7 pm. Crosby made a motion to adjourn seconded by Merkel. Motion carried.

Rye F.O.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$12.87. 13802

Bates Township Right-of-Way Notice

Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road right-of-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and charged to the landowner, effective with the 2017 growing season.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors

Betty Geist
Township Clerk
(0322.0329)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$11.56. 13803

Brown County March 14 Meeting Minutes

MARCH 14, 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 Fischbach led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve the Joint City/County Meeting Minutes of March 6, 2017 and the General Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2017. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Professional Fees: Avera St. Luke's \$56.50; Bantz, Gosch & Crèmer \$8,696.22; Certified Languages \$460.35; Clerk of Superior Court \$70.00; Dependable Sanitation \$20,157.18; DevNet \$3,281.25; Dohrer Law Office \$1,217.40; Edmunds County \$800.00; GeniusWeb.com \$99.00; GovConnection \$2,934.19; Kuck Law Office \$2,259.20; LexisNexis \$132.90; Nat'l Emergency Number Assoc. \$137.00; Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck \$5,177.27; SD Dept. of Revenue & Regulation \$1,683.28; Christy Griffin-Serr \$2,877.60; Jodi Sudweeks \$321.60; Taliaferro Law Firm \$2,321.80; Yankton Co. Sheriff \$50.00.

Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$1,629.94; Groton Independent \$298.71; US Bank \$415.00.

Rentals: 446-Praxair \$23.28; Dakota Electronics \$162.10.

Repairs & Maintenance: Dakota Electronics \$175.00; DMI \$3,141.07; ES & S \$7,476.00; Farnam's \$100.99; Fastenal \$17.22; Graham Tire \$14.98; Gillund Enterprises \$6.00; Helm's & Assoc. \$2,846.50; Hoven Auto Repair \$356.00; J Gross Equip. \$800.00; Lawson Products \$61.49; Leidholdt Electric \$5,685.95; Myers Tire Supply \$8.13; PowerPlan \$6,886.17; Productivity Plus \$1,640.03; Running's \$144.99; Sheehan Mack \$2,068.54; Steven Lust Automotive \$64.03; TAPCO \$20.23; US Bank \$1,855.79; Wallwork Truck Center \$13.97; Western States Fire Co. \$380.00.

Supplies: A & B Business \$2,174.01; Ameripride \$245.04; Mary Baird \$36.42; Butler Machinery \$117.85; CarQuest \$663.30; Cartney Bearing \$184.03; Cash-Wa \$6,426.93; Dakota Oil \$353.23; DMI \$2,311.23; DSG \$30.83; Danko \$163.06; Dean Foods \$739.80; DPM Mercantile \$30.95; Earthgrains \$1,204.99; Farnam's \$22.99; Ferguson Enterprise \$1,396.51; Galls \$98.95; Sue Gates \$36.66; GCR Tires \$20.00; Gillund Enterprises \$198.00; Hanlon Brothers \$181,038.80; Dan Higgins \$50.00; HF Jacobs & Son \$123,931.11; Interstate Battery \$313.90; J Gross Equip. \$277.08; Kessler's \$49.92; LG Everist \$7,488.78; Lawson Products \$827.62; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$45.70; Marco \$39.69; Menards \$149.85; Midstates Printing \$531.35; Myers Tire Supply \$229.26; NCFE - Warner \$4,673.25; Pheasantland Industries \$820.00; PowerPlan \$8,438.33; Running's \$442.55; Sewing Shoppe \$38.50; Sheehan Mack \$1,329.04; TAPCO \$28.50; Taser International \$809.45; US Bank \$9,479.10; Wallwork Truck Center \$373.86; Web Water Bottling Co. \$6.50.

Travel & Conference: Mary Baird \$41.08; Mark Milbrandt \$306.90; US Bank \$2,555.90.

Utilities: Aberdeen City Treasurer \$307.66; AT & T \$37.99; CenturyLink \$250.69; City of Hecla \$187.60; Economy Propane \$552.50; Exec. Mgmt. \$75.65; James Valley Telecommunications \$245.90; Midcontinent \$470.63; NWPS \$4,194.26; NVC \$326.02; US Bank \$708.91.

Other: Safe Harbor \$750.00.

Machinery & Equip: Butler Machinery \$36,380.00; DMI \$28,750.00; RDO Equip. \$49,930.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Approve employee classification changes for Margarita Okusanya (effective March 13, 2017 and Breanne Bjerke (effective April 3, 2017) from part-time JDC Correctional Officers to full-time Jail Correctional Officers at \$15.38 per hour.

Authorize payment of retirement award per policy D-3 Retirement for Mary Worlie in amount of \$150.00 before taxes as requirements were met.

Acknowledge the following miles driven and amount to be taxed for personal use of County vehicles during the month of February 2017: Kendall Titze-108 @ \$57.78, Dirk Rogers-665 @ \$355.78, Mike Scott-170 @ \$90.95, Gary Vetter-128 @ \$68.48.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Hansen to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following agreements: Doreen Frohlich for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp with permission to serve alcoholic beverages on June 22-25, 2017; Becky Schuldt for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp on June 9, 2017. 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: Northern Electric, Ellen Schlosser, Evalyn Smith, Ann Gibbs, Linda Generke, Sherry Perrion @ \$30.00 each (Judge); Pauer Sound & Music (sound equipment) @ \$12,000.00; PRCA/WPRA (rodeo) @ \$1,200.00; Quote from Ramkota @ \$85.99 per room per night (rejecting My Place @ \$95.00, Holiday Inn Express @ \$122.00, Hampton Inn @ \$119.00, Americinn @ \$109.00); Lauren Alaina (entertainer) @ \$20,000.00; LOCASH (entertainer) @ \$40,000.00; Carl Brandon Lay (entertainer) @ \$2,500.00; The Overtones (entertainer) @ \$1,800.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF REPORTS: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve the following February 2017 Sheriff Reports: Incidents and offenses, Prisoner care, JDC, and Money deposited with the County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITORS REPORT OF ACCOUNT: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Fischbach to approve the February 2017 Auditor's Report of Account with the County Treasurer in total amount of \$14,425,569.67 (total amount of actual cash @ \$5,000.00, US Bank @ \$61,555.37, Dacotah Bank @ \$5,555,488.65, Petty Cash @ \$2,000.00, Fund Investments @ \$8,801,525.65). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FOOTSTEPS COUNSELING: Jerry Feist presented information about the Employee Assistance Program offered by Footsteps Counseling designed to assist an employee who is having trouble in life that negatively impacts their ability to perform their job. Gary Vetter explained that the County's current medical insurance offers a similar program.

REAL ESTATE TAXES DISCUSSED: Drew Becker, Freedom Worship Center met to discuss an adjustment on the Church's real estate taxes, as they have applied for Tax Exempt Status. Larry Lovrien, Deputy States Attorney explained that the Church was not the owner of the property on the assessment date.

ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT FILING: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Sutton to approve and authorize the Chair sign Memorandum of Understanding between Brown County (Register of Deeds) and Active Data Systems and Professional Document Systems Inc. for E-filing of documents from stipulated sources; and further approve and authorize the Chair sign price proposal in amount of \$13,564.00, sub-

mitted by Active Data Systems for software to facilitate the E-Commerce and Clerk Track WEB for the E-filing of documents. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

WEBSITE DISCUSSION: Paul Sivertsen discussed the County's Website and agreed that individual departments may have access to the template, but should not incur outside vendor expenses for managing the Website.

AUDIT ENTRANCE CONFERENCE: Dave Schlosser, SD Department of Legislative Audits met with the Commission for Entrance Conference for the Audit being conducted for fiscal year 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:40 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$73.56. 13804

Brown County County Equalization

NOTICE OF MEETING OF COUNTY EQUALIZATION BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the Board of County Commissioners, sitting as a County Board of Equalization (SDCL 10-11-25) of Brown County, SD will meet in the Commissioners' Chambers in said County on TUESDAY, the 11th day of April, 2017, (being the second Tuesday in April) for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of said County for year 2017.

All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment are required to submit written notice to the County Auditor no later than April 4, 2017.

Maxine Fischer, County Auditor, Brown County, SD

Dated this 21st day of March, 2017

(0322.0329)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$15.77. 13805

Brown County Consolidated Equalization

NOTICE OF MEETING OF CONSOLIDATED EQUALIZATION BOARD

Notice is hereby given that members of the Board of County Commission, Aberdeen City Council and Aberdeen School Board, sitting as a Consolidated Board of Equalization (SDCL 10-11-66) of Brown County, SD will meet in the Commissioners' Chambers in said County on TUESDAY, the 11th day of April, 2017, (being the second Tuesday in April) for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of said County for year 2017.

All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment are required to submit written notice to the County Auditor no later than April 4, 2017.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor, Brown County, SD.

Dated this 21st day of March, 2017

(0322.0329)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$17.34. 13806

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Groton City Summer Salary Ordinance

Ordinance No. 710

An Ordinance entitled Supplemental Summer Salary Ordinance, An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 703.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota, that Ordinance No. 703 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 \$13.25/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard - First Year \$9.00/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard - Second Year \$9.25/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard - Third Year \$9.50/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard - Fourth Year \$9.75/hr Biweekly; Swimming Pool Lifeguard - After Fourth Year \$10.00/hr Biweekly; WSI Lifeguards during Swimming Lessons Regular Salary Plus \$1.00/hr Biweekly; WSI Assist Lifeguards during Swimming Lessons Regular Salary Plus \$.50/hr Biweekly.

Baseball Concessions Manager \$50/day Plus 50% Taxable Sales Semimonthly; Baseball Coordinator \$3,000.00/yr Monthly; Softball Coordinator \$1,000.00/yr Monthly; Legion Baseball Coach \$3,500.00/yr Monthly; Assistant Legion Baseball Coach \$2,000.00/yr Monthly; Jr Legion Baseball Coach \$1,500.00/yr Monthly; Jr Teeners Baseball Coach \$1,500.00/yr Monthly; Midget/PeeWee Coach \$2,500.00/yr Monthly; Girls Softball Coach \$800.00/yr Monthly; Baseball Grounds Keepers-First Year \$9.00/hr Biweekly; Baseball Grounds Keepers-Second Year \$9.25/hr Biweekly; Baseball Grounds Keeper ?Third Year \$9.50/hr Biweekly; Baseball Grounds Keeper - Fourth Year \$9.75/hr Biweekly; Baseball Grounds Keeper After Fourth Year \$10.00/hr Biweekly; Baseball Gatekeeper \$9.00/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers - First Year \$10.25/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers - Second Year \$10.50/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers-Third Year \$10.75/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers - Fourth Year \$11.00/hr Biweekly; Public Works Laborers - After Fourth Year \$11.25/hr Biweekly; Cemetery Caretaker \$13.25/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 - February 21, 2017

Passed Second Reading - March 13, 2017

Published March 22, 2017
Effective April 12, 2017
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$15.52. 13807

Meters 2,025.98 reading equip; Border States 36.00 ground strap; Chase Visa 4,256.33 hub, cable, post, bks, umbrella; Dakota Electronics 3,040.65 cable, car installations; Dollar General 47.90 supplies; Eaton/Cannon Tech 4,500.00 LM comp support; Farmers Union Coop 1,065.90 dsl; Galls 53.98 rifle case, seat organizer; Heartland Waste Management 6,546.75 garbage hauling; Terry Herron 804.00 med flex; David Hunter 32.00 meals; James Valley Telecomm 510.69 telephone, internet; Johnson, Drew 925.00 legal services; Kens Food Fair 577.65 gas; Paul Kosel 90.00 med flex; Shawn Lambert 96.60 meal, mileage supt conf; Locke Electric 165.30 generator repairs; NW Energy 10.58 nat gas; S&S Lumber 139.58 supplies; SD Dept of Health 30.00 testing; SD Retirement 9,098.40 retirement; SD State Treasurer 10,992.80 sales tax; SD Federal Surplus Property 30.00 supplies; Share 200.78 cleaner; Stan Houston 204.34 wand, blade, tape, lite; Dan Sunne 555.00 med flex; Verizon Wireless 41.81 gate comm; Web Water 10,323.05 water

Justin Olson came before the Council to report on the skating season. New hockey goals have been donated at a value of \$300 from fund raising efforts of the Weismantel family.

Finance Officer Lowary presented the 2016 annual report and discussed the automatic fund transfers for debt service from general fund. Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Glover to accept the annual report and direct the publication and filing of the report. All members present voted aye.

Terry Herron, and Shawn Lambert enter the meeting and gave department reports. Discussion was held on water meters reading repairs, a house moving through Groton, options for striping of Main St, baseball playground equipment, snow removal, mower conditions, school transformers, a transformer with PCB contamination, and a request for underground at MJs. The spring garbage route will not go into effect for another week.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Flihs to declare the following property as surplus with these values: 5 - 50 lb bags of Wheatcrest grass seed at \$150.00 each; 3 - 100 lb propane cylinders at \$100.00 each; 2 John Deere 725 mowers at \$200.00 and \$300.00; and a 2008 Chevy Tahoe at \$5,000.00. All members present voted aye. Bids will be opened April 3 on the vehicle.

Terry and Shawn leave the meeting at this point.

Jerry Bjerke, Asst Police Chief, reported on the new vehicle and some of the issues with the car camera. An additional 2 body cameras have been ordered. Jerry leaves the meeting at this point.

Moved by Opp and seconded

by McGannon to authorize the Mayor to sign the contracts with Clark Engineering for planning grants for water, sewer, and storm water drainage for the small community planning grant. All members present voted aye.

Discussion was held on the Paint South Dakota Program, a Code Enforcement training in May, and the United Way is arranging for NSU athletes to come for a Community Service Day on April 22 and a food distribution in Groton on May 1.

Equalization will be held March 20 and 21 at 7pm at the Community Center. Anyone needing an appointment must contact the Finance Officer by Mar 16.

Four nominating petitions were filed by the Feb 24 deadline for Ed Opp, Jay Peterson, Mary Flihs, and Karyn Babcock. No election will be held in Wards 1 or 2, but Ward 3 will have the election on April 11 at the Community Center. Lowary will contact possible poll workers and report back at the next meeting.

At 8:23pm the Council adjourned into executive session on a motion by Glover and seconded by Blackmun to discuss legal matters SDCL 1-25-2 (3) and personnel matters under SDCL 1-25-2 (1). All members present voted aye. Council reconvened at 9:06pm.

Moved by Glover and seconded by Opp to hire the following people for summer employment: All members present voted aye. 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 Flihs, 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, Tady 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; Baseball Concessions Randy and Becca Padfield and Baseball Gatekeeper: Katie Hansen.

Moved by Glover and seconded by Blackmun to give 2nd Reading to Ordinance No 710, The 2017 Summer Salary Ordinance. All members present voted aye.

Meeting adjourned.
Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Anita Lowary, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$40.90. 13808

Students Win South Dakota State Math Competition



Smith qualified for state

coached by Shannon Renkly.

The second and third place teams were from Edison Middle School of Sioux Falls, and Holgate Middle School of Aberdeen, respectively.

The top four individuals from the state competition will represent South Dakota at the 2017 Raytheon MathCounts National Competition in Orlando, Florida, May 13-16. The four team members are Serena An (Mickelson), Samyok Nepal (Mickelson), Drew Comstock (Holgate), and Tristina Ting (Mickelson). The coach is Shannon Renkly (Mickelson).

As a national math enrichment, coaching, and competition program designed to improve math skills, MathCounts prepares students for future career opportunities and success. More than six million students across the United States have participated in MathCounts programs.

The state program is sponsored by the South Dakota Engineering Society and 3M Gives Foundation. MathCounts was founded by the National Society of Professional Engineers, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and CNA Foundation.

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Groton City March 13 Meeting Minutes

March 13, 2017

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at the Groton Community Center for their regular first monthly meeting because on March 6, a quorum could not attend. The following members present March 13 were: Flihs, Opp, McGannon, Glover, Blackmun, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Peterson was absent. Also present were: Finance Officer Lowary, Asst Chief Bjerke, Attorney Johnson, Justin Olson and Kathy Sundermeier.

The minutes were approved as read on a motion by Glover and seconded by Opp. All members present voted aye.

The financial report was approved on a motion by Flihs and seconded by Opp. All members present voted aye.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Opp to authorize the following bills for payment. All members present voted aye.

Executive Payroll 567.61 salaries; Administrative Payroll 5,078.01 salaries; Public Safety Payroll 15,576.32 salaries; Public Works Payroll 17,997.91 salaries; Cultural & Recreational Payroll 799.69 salaries; City of Groton 397.35 postage, dep ref, util, savings; Cons Fed Cr Union 1,125.00 emp savings; First State Bank 7,873.51 ss & wh; US Post Office 199.52 postage; Ann Rolie 229.67 deposit refund; Marti Seurer 100.00 deposit refund; Willow Seurer 260.60 overpayment refund; A & B Business 359.10 copier rent; Abeln, April 74.21 dep flex, supplies; Ameripride 31.70 rug rent; Badger

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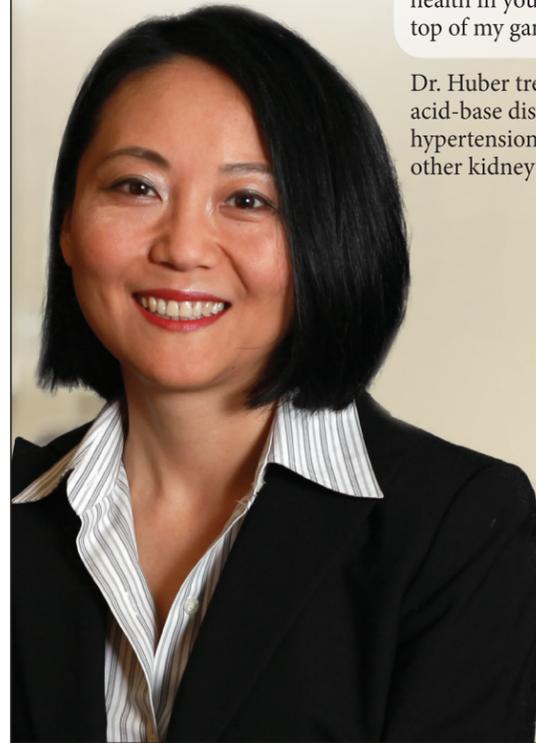
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Local Classified and Card of Thanks Rates

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

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter

2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter

3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter

4th consecutive week is free

605/397-NEWS (6397)

110 N Washington St., Groton SD 57445

AUCTIONS

HERBER RANCH, KADOKA, SD. 605-488-0360. Selling 80 home-raised 2-year-old F1 and Black Angus pairs. APRIL 11, 2017. Philip (SD) Livestock Auction.

EMPLOYMENT

FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER for the City of Chamberlain. Salary DOE. Medical insurance, vacation, sick leave, state retirement, uniform allowance, 12-hour shifts; every other week-end off. Position will remain open until filled. 605-234-4401 for application. Chamberlain City Finance Office, 715 North Main Street, Chamberlain, SD 57325. EOE.

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.

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.

PIC SWINE GENETIC NUCLEUS farm near Mound City, SD needs swine technicians. No experience necessary but preferred. Excellent compensation and benefits package. Contact susan.peterson@genusplc.com

CAMBY'S PASS, an Ag Retail business located between Roscoe and Ipswich, SD is hiring individuals to assist in the agronomy department, the feed sales department, and warehouse-delivery department. Applicants must be able to work independently and have valid drivers license. Camby's Pass offers competitive pay, benefits including health insurance, paid holiday/vacations and bonuses. Email your resume to cambys@valleytel.net. or call 605-426-6108.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION TEACHER, Lake Preston, SD. Opened 3-14-17, closes when filled. Contact: Tim Casper, Superintendent at tim.casper@k12.sd.us, 605-847-4455 or Dana Felderman, Elementary Principal at dana.fel-

derman@k12.sd.us, 605-847-4464.

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.

FOR SALE

City of Groton is taking sealed bids on 2 used John Deere 725 mowers and 3 propane cylinders-100 lb. until Mar 29. Send bid with your name to City Hall, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445 in envelope marked bid. Call 397-2690 for more info.

MISCELLANEOUS

IF YOU HAD HIP or knee replacement surgery and suffered an infection between 2010 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson 1-800-535-5727.

NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Call the Independent at 605/397-7460 for details.

Groton Coffee Cup

Final Team Standings:

James Valley 39 winners of second half, Kens 26, Jungle Lanes 22, Ten Pins 17

High Games: Angie Carlson 178, Mary Jane Jark 167, Vickie Kramp 158.

High Series: Vicki Walter 462, Mary Jane Jark 456, Vickie Kramp 455.

Conde National

Final Team Standings:

Pirates 29 1/2 winners of second half, Braves 29, Mets 26 1/2, Cubs 26, Giants 23 1/2, Colts 20 1/2.

Men's High Series: Lance Frohling 200, Bryce Dargatz 187, Larry Frohling 186.

Men's High Series: Lance Frohling 522, Larry Frohling 509, Bryce Dargatz 493.

Women's High Games: Kayla Johnson 170, 163; Mary Larson 168; Vickie Kramp 160.

Women's High Series: Mary Larson 474, Vickie Kramp 454, Kayla Johnson 432.

Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings:

Cheetahs 15 1/2, Foxes 14, Chipmunks 14, Coyotes 11, Jackelopes 11, Shih Tzus 6 1/2

Men's High Games: Tony Madsen 216, Brad Waage 213, 206, Ron Belden 213, Randy Stanley 210, Mike Siegler 210, Roger Spanier 203

Women's High Games: Angie Carlson 190, Darci Spanier 178, Karen Spanier 177, Dar Larson 177

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 606, Roger Spanier 567, Mike Siegler 566

Women's High Series: Darci Spanier 462, Dar Larson 462, Vicki Walter 459, Nicole Kasube 455

Weekly Vikings

Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Last week, we looked at the free agents who have departed the team and at those who have been added to the Vikings' roster. Since then, there have been a couple more players added, and one of those players signals a clear transition away from one of the greatest players in team history.



One of the biggest signings for the Vikings this offseason happens to be a player who was on the team last year. The Vikings signed Adam Thielen to a three-year deal that is worth at least \$17 million and can get as high as \$27 million with incentives. Thielen led the Vikings in receiving yards last season, and has quickly become a bright young player who has an even brighter future. He ranked 18th among wide receivers last season, according to Pro Football Focus. Thielen gets a full offseason to work with Sam Bradford, who will likely be looking his way plenty next season.

The Vikings also signed a former first round pick of the rival Green Bay Packers. In 2013, the Packers chose Datone Jones in the first round of the draft. In 2017, the Vikings scooped him up in the hopes he can live up to his potential. Jones' stats aren't amazing, but in my opinion he was miscast in Green Bay's 3-4 defense, where they asked him to lose weight and play both defensive end and linebacker. He will bulk up and play defensive end in Minnesota's 4-3 defense, and will likely shift inside to play defensive tackle in pass rush situations. Jones' contract is only for one year, so if he doesn't work out, it won't set the Vikings back.

The Vikings also signed free agent running back Latavius Murray, who will likely split carries with incumbent Jerick McKinnon. Murray will be a nice compliment to McKinnon, as he is a bigger back who can grind out the tough yards. Murray can also catch the ball, which will be great for versatility. Perhaps his biggest asset is his pass blocking, however, as Murray was rated the 3rd best pass-blocking running back by PFF last year.

With Murray, McKinnon, and a draft pick filling up the running back depth chart, it officially signals the end of the Adrian Peterson era. Peterson was the 7th overall pick in the 2007 draft, and leads the Vikings in nearly every important rushing category. Peterson has won many awards during his career, including the 2012 NFL MVP and 7 Pro Bowls, and will always be remembered as one of the greatest Vikings ever. But he is 32 years old and would have cost the Vikings \$18 million if he remained in purple and gold.

According to OverTheCap.com, the Vikings still have over \$18 million in cap space to work with. The team will need to set aside 5 to 6 million for rookie contracts, so that leaves over \$12 million to fill out the rest of the roster. It wouldn't be surprising to see the team look for a backup quarterback and a linebacker who will compete with Emmanuel Lamur for the open linebacker spot now that Chad Greenway has officially retired.

What do you think of the Vikings' signings? Who else do you think they should bring in? Reach out to me on Facebook.com/SkolJWright or on Twitter @SkolJWright

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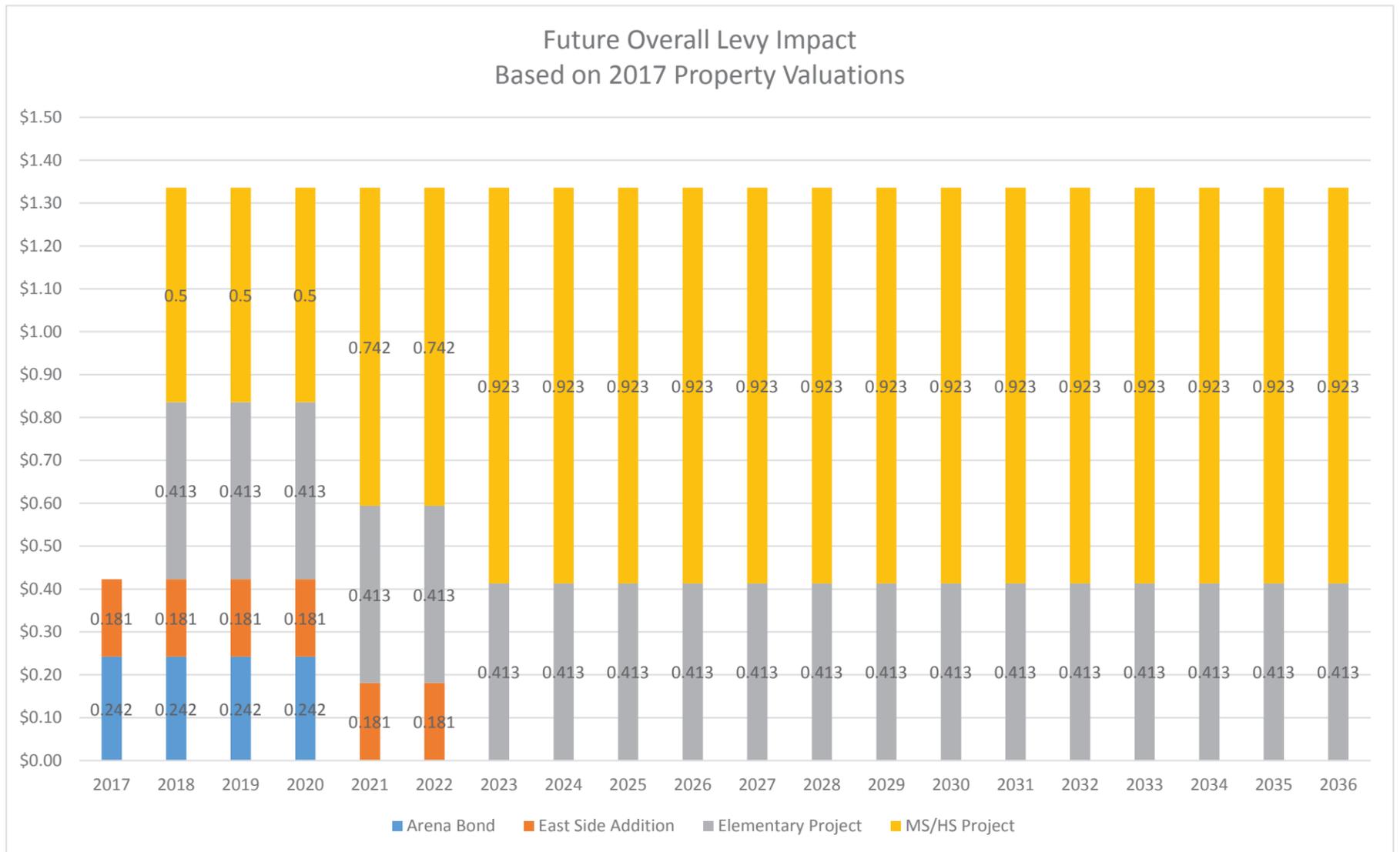
Groton Daily
INDEPENDENT

605/397-NEWS (6397)

School Project Levy Impact

The Groton Area School will be undergoing a major renovation project at the elementary school this year and the voters will be going to the polls to vote on a major renovation project for the middle and high school school. The graph below shows the impact on the projected mil levy to patrons in the Groton Area School District.

The MS/HS project bond reflects paying only interest for the first three years as shown in the graph below at the .50 mil levy. Then once the Arena bond mil levy comes off, the overall payment stays the same but the .242 savings from the Arena will be the start of paying the principle. Then when the East Side addition bond is paid off in 2022, the .181 mil levy from that project will be added for further principle payments on the MS/HS project.



2017 Groton School District Valuation \$856,890,160
 2017 Groton Area School District Valuation \$1,237,752,540

Climate Update Predicts Wetter Than Average April

BROOKINGS, S.D. - April is more likely to be wetter than average, according to a climate outlook released March 16, 2017 by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center.

"Of anywhere in the United States, the highest likelihood of wetter conditions is in our area," said Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension State Climatologist. "There is a bulls-eye in eastern South Dakota that is projected to have wetter conditions than average in April."

Edwards explained that this spring outlook is consistent with the long term trend in the region.

"The long term trends in eastern South Dakota over the last several decades has shown more precipitation in the spring and falls seasons," she said. "The good news is that there is no concern about drought development in the spring season for farmers and gardeners."

Edwards added that April precipitation has proven to be critical for pasture, forage and hay production throughout the state.

"Abundant moisture would benefit grasslands and hay for livestock feed this summer," she said.

Due to the above-freezing temperatures throughout February and early March, the soils are now able to absorb some more moisture.

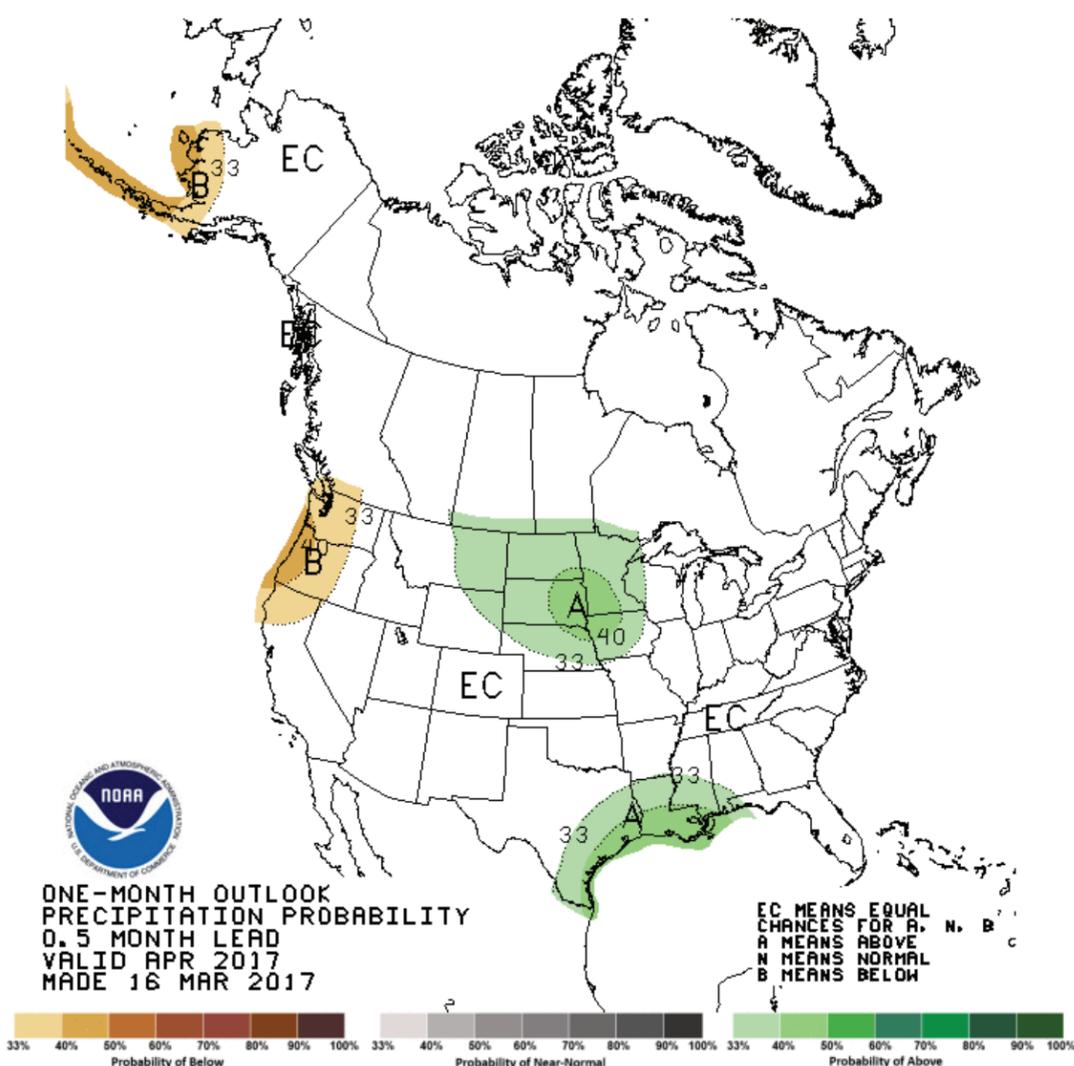
Even though many of the state's eastern counties had a refreeze, with colder temperatures that started around March 10, Edwards said soils will warm up quickly after the new snow melts.

No substantial flood risks

No regions in South Dakota are at risk for substantial flooding at this time. "According to the NOAA Flood Outlook released March 16, only the far eastern areas in the Minnesota River basin have any risk of even minor flooding," Edwards said.

The temperature outlook for April shows warmer than average conditions favored to our south and eastern portions of the U.S. but Edwards said it less clear for South Dakota.

"There is some uncertainty on what lies ahead for spring temperatures, with equal chances of warmer or cooler than average in the next three months," she said.



Community Calendar

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

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.

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Saturday, March 25

All State Band at Sioux Falls O'Gorman High School

Sunday, March 26

Catholic Parish: Mass at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church at 9 a.m., then at St. Joseph in Turton at 11 a.m.

United Methodist Parish: Conde Worship at 9 a.m., Coffee Fellowship time at 10 a.m., 3rd graders receive Bibles at 11 a.m., Groton worship

at 11 a.m., Sunday School teacher recognition at 11 a.m., Sunday School beings after children's sermon in church.

Heaven Bound Ministries in Pierpont: Worship at 10 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m., First Communion Class at 11 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at 9 a.m., Sunday School at 10 a.m.

Monday, March 27

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Taco salad, refried beans, fruit, muffin.

Senior Menu: Goulash, green beans, Swedish apple pie square, whole wheat bread.

National Honor Society induction ceremony at 7 p.m.

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

Cub Scouts: meets at 7 p.m. at United Methodist Church in Groton.

Tuesday, March 28

School Breakfast: Cinnamon roll, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Chicken sandwich, sweet potato tots, fruit, broccoli and dip.

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, au gratin potatoes, peas and carrots, cake, whole wheat bread.

Student Congress at Milbank

School board meeting at 7 p.m.

Throwers and jumpers only at NSU indoor track meet.

United Methodist, Groton: Bible Study at 10 a.m.

Wednesday, March 29

School Breakfast: Boscus breakfast stick, fruit, juice, milk.

School Lunch: Lasagna hot dish, corn, romaine salad, fruit, tea bun.

Senior Menu: Baked chicken breast, mashed potatoes and gravy, California blend vegetables, lemon tart bar, whole wheat bread.

Large Group Music Contest in Aberdeen

Emmanuel Lutheran: Lenten meal at 6 p.m. (League serves), Worship at 7 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation at 3:45 p.m., Lenten Service at 7 p.m.

United Methodist, Groton: Community Coffee Time from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. with free coffee and rolls; Kid Zone at 3:30 p.m., Confirmation at 6 p.m., Lenten Service at 7 p.m. with coffee and dessert following.

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March 19th THRU March 25th

Sat	19	Mon	20	Tue	21	Wed	22	Thu	23	Fri	24	Sat	25
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2017 Groton Area Elementary Kindergarten Roundup (Screening) for children turning 5 on or before September 1, 2017

Friday, March 31

Parents of children who will be turning 5 on or before September 1, 2017 in the Groton Area School District are asked to contact Heidi Krueger at the Groton Area Elementary School during school hours at 397-2317 to set up a screening time or to confirm their screening time. If your child is currently attending Junior Kindergarten they will not be screened.

Packets will be sent home this week with a scheduled time and additional paperwork that will need to be completed.

Kindergarten Roundup will take place at the Groton Area Elementary School. Please check in at the office.