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Vol. 134 No. 45 ♦ Groton, Brown County, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, July 12, 2017 ♦ Established in 1889

Block has dream job of Groton's finance officer

Hope Block has found her dream job. She is the new finance officer for the City of Groton.

Block had just graduated from Northern State University in May 2017 with a business accounting degree. The city was looking for a new finance officer as Anita Lowary was getting ready to retire. "I felt it was the perfect time," Block said. "This is it. It was meant to be."

Block applied for the job. Then one day, Lowary called Block at work and asked her to come to city hall to talk in person. "I went over there and told me to shut the door. Then she reached out her hand to congratulate me and said, "Welcome to the family." Block was so excited. "I cried," she said. "I really wanted this for my career job and I really do like Groton."

Block was working at Wells Fargo Bank in Groton and had to go back to tell them she had been accepted for the job. Block started working on June 5, 2017.

Block is originally from Aberdeen. She attended kindergarten and first grade in Groton and had the late Rob Luecke as a teacher. The family then moved to Yankton where she graduated from high school. She attended the University of South Dakota for two years. While at college there, she worked at an event center in Yankton planning weddings and sold shoes at Payless Shoes in Yankton. She then moved back to this area where she attended Northern State University for two years. She started working at Wells Fargo in Groton in April of 2014.

"I remember playing out in the playground when I was five here in Groton," she said. "I'm glad my kids can grow up here."

Block and Jayson Brenner live in Bristol and they have two children, a three-year-old girl, Rosalyn, and a seven-year-old son, Donovan. Brenner works for Guy Hanlon in Verdon.

Lowary and Block attended the finance officer's school in Pierre for three days. "It was a great learning experience," she said. "It made me ask questions that I would have never known to ask. I'm not as seasoned as Anita, but she was a really good teacher and I'm glad she's just a phone call away."

The first thing Block did when she took over on July 1 (actually the first work day was July 5) was to rearrange the office. "It was too claustrophobic for me," she said. "I like the office to be open and welcoming."

In her spare time, Block likes to garden and travel.

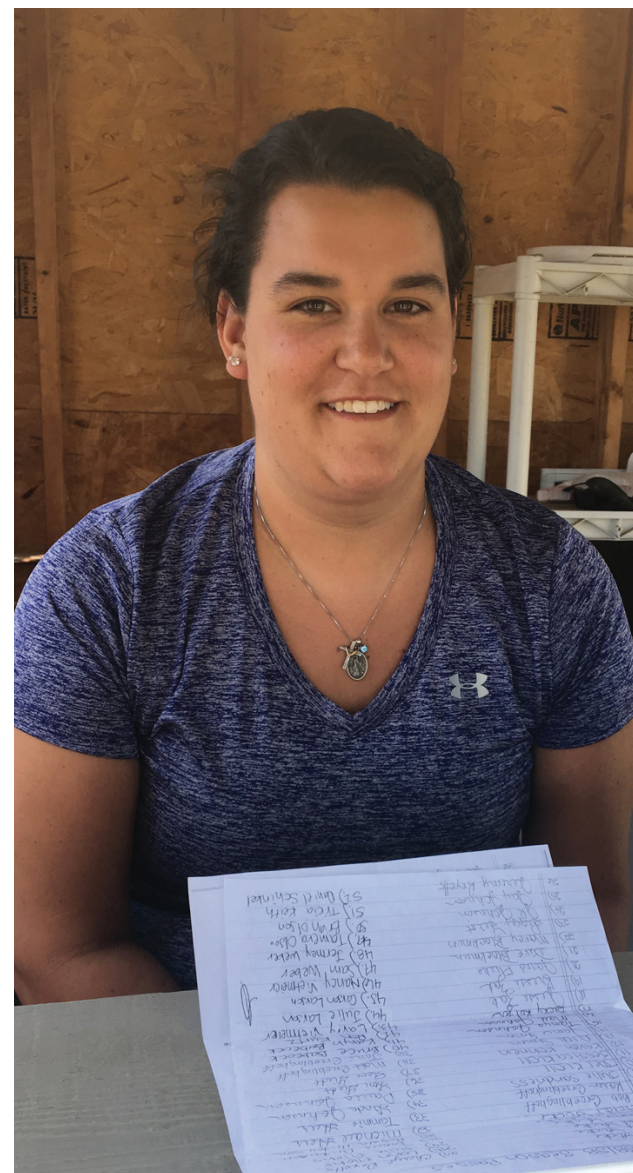
Her parents are Albert and Bernice Cox and grandparents are Lena and the late Doug Cox.

- Paul Kosel



Hope Block is Groton's new finance officer. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Meet the face in the booth



If you have been to any of the Groton baseball games, you will meet Katie Hansen. Katie is originally from Harrisburg and her husband, Brian Hansen, is from Vermillion. The couple moved to Bath in 2014 and Kattie is a PE teacher at CCLee Elementary School in Aberdeen and Brian is a lineman at Northern Electric.

Brian was playing on the Groton Amateur baseball team until an injury has set him out. Katie got ahold of Mitch Locke about the opening for a gatekeeper at the Groton baseball complex. "I heard about the opening and talked with Mitch about it." Her experience as a gate keeper has been "fun. I like the small town vibe and it gives me something to do. Everyone is really nice."

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Garden Club

The Groton Garden Club met at the Groton Rehab Center on June 19, at 5:30pm. Pat Larson and Linda Anderson hosted. President Bev Sombke led the pledges to open the meeting. Twelve members answered roll call with 4th of July plans. Unfinished business included some suggestions for remodeling the park circle and plans were made to weed there. New business included information on the district meeting, July 22, at the Pizza Ranch in Aberdeen at 11:00 am. The Rocky Mountain Region meeting will be held August 25-26, in Jamestown, ND. Registration needs to be in by July 28 and it is \$25.00. Yard of the week was discussed and a schedule was made. The next meeting will be at Linda Gengerke's home with Arly's Kluess assisting and giving the program. Following the meeting Linda Gengerke gave the program "The Blame Game", about what or whom is responsible for the money Crisis.

GROTON KIWANIS

Tom Mahan introduced his guest Jim White, from Huron, and Lee Schinkel introduced his guest, Shaun Wanner, for Wednesday's Kiwanis Club meeting.

Sharon Simon had her friend, Shannon Bohl, Northville, for her program speaker. Shannon spoke on the Brown County Pet Rescue League, which has been in business for two years now. One of their rescue dogs was present, Maggie.

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Jr. Teeners split with Webster, drop pair to Sisseton

Groton's junior teener team split a pair of games with Webster last week.

Groton won the first game, 18-8. Chandler Larson pitched with four strike-outs, seven walks and four hits. Adrian Knutson was the catcher.

Chandler Larson had three singles, Alex Morris had a double and a single and Jayden Zak, Trevor Harry and Jordan Bjerke each had a single.

Webster scored one run in the top of the ninth inning and held Groton scoreless in the bottom of the inning pull out a 3-2 win.

Lucas Simon had three singles and a double, Alex Morris had three singles and Chandler Larson had two singles.

Jordan Bjerke and Pierce Kettering were the pitchers.

Sisseton edged out Groton in the first game, 3-2. Groton left the tying run stranded on third in the fifth inning.

Kaden Kurtz and Trevor Harry each had a double and a single, Jayden Zak, Alex Morris and Trey Johnson each had two singles while Evin Nehls had one single.

Zak was the pitcher with four strike-outs, five hits and three walks. Morris was the catcher.

Sisseton edged out Groton by scoring two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning to post a 4-3 win over Groton.

Chandler Larson had two singles and getting a hit each were Trevor Harry, Jordan Bjerke, Alex Morris and Kaden Kurtz.

Kurtz was the pitcher with eight strike-outs, eight walks and six hits. Morris was the catcher.

U12 tie, drop one to Welke of Aberdeen

Groton's U12 baseball team played the Welke team in Aberdeen where the first game ended up tied and the Welke team won the second game by three runs.

In the first game, Colby Dunker had a home run and a single, Tate Larson and Aeydon Johnson each had a double, and adding a single each were Jacob Zak, Caleb Hanten, Braxton Imrie and Danny Feist.

Groton lost the second game, 8-5.

Aeydon Johnson had a home run and adding a single each were Cade Larson, Andrew Marzahn, Cole Simon, Jacob Zak, Jacob Lewandowski, Colby Dunker and Ryan Groeblichhoff.

Fliehs Family News

Janice Fliehs entertained Virginia Abeln of Groton, Maxine Voight of Santa Clara, California, Candy Unruh of Paradise Valley, Arizona, and Vaughn Gregory of San Bruno, California, at a noon luncheon in her home on June 14. Janice, Virginia and Maxine were GHS graduates of the Class of 1946. Candy Unruh and Vaughn Gregory are the daughters of Maxine Voight.

Maxine, Candy, Vaughn and her husband, Bucky Gregory, were also afternoon guests at the home of Robert and Ruth Pray on June 10. Robert and Ruth provided a guided tour of farmlands north and west of Groton. Janice Fliehs' husband, Maxine's husband and Robert Pray were all graduates of the GHS Class of 1942.

Maxine and family were here to attend the Melcher Family Reunion at the Groton Community Center on June 11.

Clean up or the hammer will fall

There was discussion on property owners who have not cleaned up their property. "At some point along the way we have to draw the line," Peterson said. Councilman David Blackmun said, "Whatever the ordinance is, we need to follow it." The council agreed that if it's time, the hammer must fall. Councilman Karyn Babcock said, "The hammer is coming."

A bill submitted by Shirlee Briggs for painting the community center was discussed. Councilman Eddy Opp questioned the bill, stating that the estimate was \$1,000. The bill came in at \$1,642.20. Councilman Jay Peterson said, "I think it was worth it," stating that a lot of extra work was done in scraping and painting. The council approved the bill.

There was discussion of a cell company wanting to put up equipment on the cell tower on Sixth Street. City Attorney Drew Johnson asked how the city could stop anyone from adding something to their tower. The future of cellular service is 5G which requires more mini antennas around town. The city has not allowed anyone to put antennas and equipment on the city's utility poles.

Officer Jerry Bjerke said people are still not stopping at the stop signs on SD37 crossing Second Avenue and Fifth Avenue. "They stop when we're there. When we're not there, they don't stop," he said. Bjerke said people ask why there are stop signs there when there is no traffic on SD37. He said the stop signs have always been there and that people need to continue to stop.

There was discussion on the police body camera. Blackmun said the city should put in the budget for next year a spare camera in case one is broken. Bjerke said the body camera is working very well.

Chuck Padfield was hired at \$9 an hour to fill in for Katie Hansen when she is not able to work the gate at the baseball complex.

For the newspaper quotes, the publisher of the Dakota Press, Kathy Sundermeyer, forgot her quote. One was submitted by the Groton Independent. Sundermeyer said she would accept the quote from the Independent. Both papers were designated as the official newspaper for the city.

Wells Fargo and the First State Bank of Claremont were designated as official banks.

Finance Officer Hope Block said she noticed some areas of the budget are currently overbudget and would like to get them back in the black. The council made contingency fund transfers to take care of the shortfalls. After this, there will be nothing left in the contingency. When the grant money comes in for the playground equipment, it will go back into contingency in the amount of about \$24,000.

Block said that she would like to attend the FEMA flood map training September 26-27 in Aberdeen. The council agreed to send her.

There are a bunch of Tacoma Park prints (about 50) left over from the original pool fundraiser. The price will be reduced from \$50 to \$25 and the funds raised will go back into the pool fund.

There is some interest in the jail building, so the council rescinded an earlier motion to tear it down and to declare it as surplus. The building would be moved and the grounds would have to be cleaned up. They would be responsible for any liability. They would have until the end of November to have it moved. The building was declared a value of \$1.



Crews were busy working on the south lane of US 12 in Groton Saturday morning. They are trying to get everything done so it can be poured by Thursday of this upcoming week. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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The chairs from the old Metro Dome in Minneapolis have been getting a lot of use in front of the Grand Stand. It is nice and shady there with a slight breeze to keep everyone cool and it's a place to stretch out your legs and be comfortable.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)

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7/22 to 7/24 Cars 3 PG
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Redfield's Gage Clausen got caught in a run-down between second and third. Caleb Furney ran down Clausen and tagged him out. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jarrett Erdmann gets ready to throw the ball infield during Claremont's game on Friday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Keegen Tracy hits the ball, but couldn't quite get to first fast enough. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Korbin Blackmun makes a tough catch in front of Austin Jones to get an out for Groton's Junior Legion game with Redfield on Saturday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Alex Morris tags out Peyton Osborn at home as Osborn tried to steal home. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Ryder Johnson sizes up the batter for Groton Blue's game with Claremont on Friday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Hunter Schaller gets ready to throw a pitch in Groton's Junior Legion game with Redfield on Saturday at Locke-Karst Field in Groton. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Umpire Mitchell Locke takes a little break during Groton's game with Redfield on Saturday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Wyatt Locke tried to steal home on a passball and is called out by Mitchell Locke at home as he is tagged out by Leyton Rohlf. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Kaedy Bonn keeps her eye on the ball during T-Ball action Friday in Groton. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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The dust from the agrilime was flying as Korbin Blackmun stole third base. Also pictured is Coach Mason Madsen. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Peyton Johnson makes the catch in time as Dillon Hier is called out at first base. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Henry Township Weed Notice

HENRY TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE
Henry Township owners and tenants of Henry Township are hereby notified and required according to law, to cut all weeds in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within said township on or before July 15, 2017 or someone will be hired by the township board and \$250 per half mile charged to the abutting property.
By order of the township board.
Darlene Sass, Township Clerk
(0705.0712)

Brown County July 5, 2017

Meeting Minutes JULY 5, 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 Sutton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to approve the General Meeting Minutes of June 27, 2017. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Insurance: SDACC \$8,426.78. Professional Fees: Assoc. of SD Co. Weed & Pest \$150.00; Avera Queen of Peace \$59.90; Phil Baker \$500.00; Bantz, Gosch & Crémer \$384.40; Ryan Dell \$1,718.80; Jessica Duereee \$30.00; Kuck Law Office \$774.20; Jerald McNeary \$2,850.96; Richardson, Wyly, Wise & Sauck \$2,457.55; Riverside Technology \$7,462.36; Rogers Law Office \$394.80; Ronayne Law Office \$3,699.00; SD Dept. of Environment & Natural Resources \$250.00; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$2,247.00; Teresa Visser \$200.00.

Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$128.50; Groton Independent \$399.06; SD Magazine \$295.00.

Rentals: Pantorium Cleaners \$148.00.

Repairs & Maintenance: Advance Auto \$46.43; DFP \$55.76; Ecolab Pest Elimination \$113.62; House of Glass \$206.20; Ken's Alignment \$187.66; Leidholt Electric \$206.63; Liebelt RV \$131.41; Northern Safety \$37.05; O'Reilly Auto Parts \$75.99; Pro Ag Supply \$21.78; Quality Welding \$212.00; Ringgenberg Electric \$170.91; Running's \$4.73; Steve Lust Automotive \$96.34; Thee Glass Doktor \$63.00; Walth Safety Service \$63.00.

Supplies: A & B Business \$258.01; Advance Auto \$15.02; Crescent Electric Supply \$227.28; Ferguson Enterprises \$192.68; GovConnection \$185.15; Great Western Tire \$2,727.60; House of Glass \$67.99; Jebro \$94,624.20; Leidholt Tool Sales \$36.82; Lien Transportation \$43,922.45; Mac's \$101.72; Mick's Scuba \$696.76; Midstates Printing \$62.45; NCFE - Warner \$1,660.45; Network Services \$97.50; Northern Safety \$138.84; Quality Welding \$127.92; Running's \$52.52; Share Corp. \$380.00; Janet Schile \$347.72; Thee Glass Doktor \$72.03; Western Detention Products \$334.50; WISP Services \$59.80.

Travel & Conference: Mary Baird \$109.98; Cindy Eppard \$28.00; Melody Flinn \$172.96; Sarah Hartje \$45.59; Mark Milbrandt \$324.59; Roberta Nichols \$158.86; SD Veteran's Service Officers \$150.00; Teresa Visser \$109.04; Tonya Walth \$149.46. Utilities: AT&T \$301.83; BDM Rural Water \$35.00; CenturyLink \$231.04; Midcontinent \$484.94; Montana-Dakota \$26.67; North Star Energy \$433.70; NWPS \$2,735.71. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Fischbach, seconded by Sutton to approve the Commission Assistant/HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Approve hiring Gale Buchanan, effective July 10, 2017 as part-time Building Maintenance @ \$10.17 per hour.

Approve hiring Jeannette McClain, effective July 17, 2017 as full-time Deputy Auditor @ \$14.84 per hour.

Approve hiring Gavin Wright, effective July 31, 2017 and Mike Hill, effective August 7, 2017 as full-time Sheriff Deputies @ \$19.93 per hour.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following contracts for the 2017 Brown County Fair: Wrangler Team Roping @ advertising (roping event); KIDSIGHT SD Lions Foundation @ advertising (vision screening); Judy Guleson @ \$40.00 (judge). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ELECTRIC UTILITY EASEMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to approve and authorize the Chair sign an Electric Utility Easement, as grantor to Northwestern Corporation, as grantee on the following described property: The S 15' of the E 15' of th W 105'

of Outlot 3 of Railroad Outlots 1-4, a part of the SW ¼ of Sec 13-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (2 Main Street N). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

INTEREST STATEMENT: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Hansen to accept for filing the April - June 2017 Interest Statement in amount of \$10,705.53, submitted by County Treasurer Sheila Enderson. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR SECURITY: Moved by Hansen, seconded by Sutton to approve salary of \$25.00 per hour for Certified external Law Enforcement Officers and \$18.00 per hour for Non-Certified external Law Enforcement Officers for the 2017 Brown County Fair. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BURN BAN DISCUSSED: At the recommendation of Scott Meints, EM Director the Burn Ban will remain in place to be reviewed at the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fischbach to go into executive session to consult with counsel, per SDCL 1-25-2(3) with Larry Lovrien and Gary Vetter in attendance. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed, with no action taken as a result of the discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Fischbach to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:10 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Maxine Fischer, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$49.65. 14339

Groton City July 10, 2017

Meeting Minutes July 10, 2017

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at the Groton Community Center for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Opp, McGannon, Peterson, Babcock, Blackmun and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Members absent were Glover. Also present were: Finance Officer Hope Block, Attorney Drew Johnson, Justin Olson, Kathy Sundermeyer, and Police Officer Jerry Bjerke.

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

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

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

BILLS - July 10, 2017

PREPAID: Payroll, \$89,495.04, emp salaries; Consolidated Fed Credit Union, \$1,125.00, emp savings; City of Groton, \$495.95, postage, deposit refunds, transit utilities; Dakota Electronics, \$570.00, two way port for police radio; Employers Mutual Ins, \$94.10, life insurance; Erik Gruby, \$102.82, deposit refund; First State Bank, \$13,027.90, ss & wh; First State Bank, \$20.00, NSF fees; Hamlin Baseball Association, \$150.00, Hamlin U8 tournament fee; Jacobson Agency, \$50.00, notary bond for Hope; Karen Soto, \$158.85, deposit refund; Kayla Johnson, \$240.18, deposit refund; Lois Pasch, \$0.34, deposit refund; Milbank Baseball Assoc, \$175.00, jr teener tournament; Olive Grove Golf Course, \$240.00, gold prize donation; Redfield Baseball, \$150.00, legion tourn fee; Running's, \$270.43, shop weed eater repairs, grease gun; SD Department of Revenue, \$100.00, Dollar General malt beverage license; SD Sec of State, \$30.00, notary filing fee for Hope; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$400.00, June emp retirement; US Post Office, \$202.20, util bill postage; Total Prepaid: \$107,097.81.

PAYABLE: 1st National Bank, \$6,975.69, West sewer loan payment; 1st National Bank, \$4,344.69, RR sewer crossing loan payment; A&B Business, Inc, \$177.87, copier rent; Alan Strom, \$200.00, heating and cooling rebate; April Abeln, \$157.75, med flex; Associated Supply Co, enzyme pump-pool; Border States, \$895.32, staples, head bolt, enter sleeves; Car-Quest Auto Parts, \$414.78, oil filters, air filters, oil, brake cleaner, lube; Chase Visa, \$5,854.97, pool bouys, labels, pens, paper, aqua jogger, lifeguard backboards, safety equipment, umpire counters, softballs, desk chair, binders, teeballs, books, 100' roll

to be repaid by foundation, lodging for FO school for Hope and Anita, ice machine, bearings; Clark Engineering, \$90.00, updated sewer map and printed revised copies; CocaCola Bottling Co, \$1,783.50, soda for bb and pool concessions; Colonial Life, \$461.86, employee insurance; CWD, \$27.00, bb concession sour cream and lettuce; Dakota Supply Group, \$109.96, bends; Dollar General, \$41.50, gloves, trash bags, toilet paper, fly swatters, vinegar, water, paper towels; Drew Johnson, \$600.00, attorney fees; DSS Image Apparel, \$126.00, dare shirts Frederick; Duane Flihs, \$200.00, heating and cooling rebate; Fred Johnson, \$200.00, heating and cooling rebate; Galls, \$19.99, garrison belt supplies; Groton Independent, \$131.91, publishing, water report, mins, alcohol notice; HD Supply, \$475.72, bends, star bond grip, gasket; Heartland Waste, \$6,779.90, garbage hauling; Hope Block, \$191.81, travel expense for debit/credit workshop in Pierre; Jessica Loeschke, \$161.18, overpayment refund curb and gutter; Lien Trans, \$600.88, hot mix - 10.36 ton; Locators & Supplies, \$268.09, paint, rollers; Lyle Signs, Inc, \$279.80, hand-capped signs for parking lot; NW Energy, \$1,033.17, natural gas; Paul Kosel, \$330.00, commercial lighting rebate; Performance Dust Control, \$2,197.65, dust guard magnesium chloride liquid 2093 gals; RDO-John Deere, \$58.56, tooth for road grader; S & S Lumber, \$1,788.70, rollers, paint, spray foam, siding, lath, hose, filter, rubber caster hose, cords, zip ties, cable ties, chain, hooks, tape, stanley bar, can foam, brass hose, hinges, chains, drain, couplers, tee, valve, grid marker, hanger, lights, lumber, sprinker; Scott Althoff, \$193.42, overpayment refund curb and gutter; SD Dept of Env & Nat Resource, \$600.00, annual drinking water fee; SD Dept of Health, \$75.00, water testing for pool; SD Retirement, \$10,879.92, retirement; SD State Treasurer, \$10,044.21, sales tax - 6/17; Shaun Wanner, \$400.00, water heater rebate; Shirlee Briggs, \$1,642.20, community center paint; Spencer Locke, \$107.45, overpayment refund curb and gutter; Terry Herron, \$76.17, med flex; Tom Mahan, \$400.00, water heater rebate; US Postal Service, \$116.00, annual box rent; Verizon Wireless, \$41.81, dump gate communications; Total Payables: \$61,554.43; Total Bills: \$168,652.24.

Terry Herron entered at 7:15 and spoke about street projects, cemetery trees, and he will get prices for curb and gutter for next meeting. Herron left after he spoke.

Shawn Lambertz entered at 7:20 and spoke about turning up the voltage and his upcoming training in Madison, SD. Blackmun suggested more home inspections for load management. Lambertz left after he spoke.

Jerry Bjerke spoke at 7:40 about speed complaints, trucks crossing town, and followed up with clean-up notices. He also mentioned there had been a rock chip in the police vehicle that had been repaired.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Opp to hire Chuck Padfield for an alternative gate keeper at the baseball field at nine dollars per hour. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Babcock to appoint Groton Independent and Dakota Press at \$.20/legal line, \$.3/column inch for display ads, and \$.3 for classified ads. All members present voted aye.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Opp to appoint Wells Fargo and First State Bank as official banks. All members present voted aye.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Blackmun to move contingency. All members present voted aye.

Moved by McGannon and seconded by Opp to allow Hope Block to attend Flood Zone Re-

mapping in Aberdeen Sept. 26 & 27 2017. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Opp and seconded by McGannon to sell pool prints for \$25. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Blackmun to rescind the motion to tear down the jail, and for it to be considered surplus under the conditions that whoever buys it has to clean it up, is responsible for all liabilities, have it moved by November 30, 2017, leave the property cleaned, and valued the property at \$1. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Opp and seconded by Babcock to adjourn into executive session for personnel items 1-25-2 (3) at 8:28 pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:53 pm.

Meeting adjourned.
Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$34.98. 14338

Henry Township Weed Notice

HENRY TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

Henry Township owners and tenants of Henry Township are hereby notified and required according to law, to cut all weeds in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within said township on or before July 15, 2017 or someone will be hired by the township board and \$250 per half mile charged to the abutting property.

By order of the township board.

Darlene Sass, Township Clerk (0705.0712)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$12.08. 14315

Groton Fire & Rescue Surplus Equipment

NOTICE OF SURPLUS EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given, that pursuant to SDCL 6-13 et al, the following described property will be offered for sale by auction at the Groton Fire Station, 305 E. Railroad Avenue, Groton, SD 57445 on July 17, 2017 at 6:00 o'clock P.M.

This property has been approved for public sale by the Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District. Purchase price of the property shall be paid in full on the day of sale and a bill of sale will be issued to the successful bidders on the following described property. Property offered for sale is as follows:

Holland Fifth Wheel;
45000 lb DP Truck Winch and Hydraulic Pump with controls and 150 7/8 cable;
20" X 24" Truck Tool Box;
32" X 36" Truck Tool Box;
2 11R225 Steer Tires on Dayton Rims;
8 foot Fiberglass Utility Box;
Snowcat Model DMC 1450;
1993 Maxey 8 X 20 Tilt Bed Trailer, Serial # MM9TA448PIKEZ818, New Tires & Rims;

1 Wildland Fire Unit Kappa Pump, 5HP Honda Motor, Cox Hose Reel with 1"High Pressure Rubber Hose;
3 Light Bars.

Viewing of the items will occur one hour prior to the time of sale or the items can be viewed by appointment by calling John Wheating at (605) 228-3309. Items are sold as is with no guarantee of description, accuracy, running order, or condition. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Sale shall be conducted and clerked by the Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District Board.

Bruce Sippel
Secretary, Groton Area Fire Protection and Rescue District (0705.0712)

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$32.58. 14316

Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright



The Minnesota Vikings have many of their positions set (barring an injury, knock on wood). We all know Sam Bradford will be the quarterback when the season starts, we know Kyle Rudolph will be the team's starting tight end, we know Harrison Smith will be one of the starters at safety... and so on. However, just like every team around the league, the Vikings enter the 2017 season with some positional battles, many of which will be hard-fought and will last through the preseason. For the next few weeks, I'll be breaking down the biggest positional battles entering training camp.

After covering the two biggest position battles on offense, it's time to switch to the other side of the ball. Unlike the offense, the Vikings' defense doesn't have many question marks. However, there are a couple positions that are vital to the team's success and are still unsettled.

One of those positions is defensive tackle.

The Vikings have one of the deepest defensive lines in the NFL. Everson Griffin is a stud who is finally getting the recognition he deserves, Danielle Hunter is one of the best young defensive ends in the league, and Linval Joseph is a monster in the middle. The Vikings thought they were set at defensive tackle a couple years ago, when the drafted Sharrif Floyd in the first round of the 2013 draft. Unfortunately, Floyd has been dealing with a severe knee injury that has limited him to only 24 starts over his four seasons in the league. With uncertainty surrounding Floyd and whether or not he will ever return to the playing field, the Vikings will be looking for a defensive tackle to play next to Linval Joseph.

One of the players who is vying for the position is newly-acquired Datone Jones, who was released by the Green Bay Packers this offseason. Jones was often miscast in Green Bay's 3-4 defense and was asked to play all over the front seven. In Minnesota, Jones will be asked to add a few pounds and focus solely on the defensive tackle spot, which should prove to be a better fit for his skillset. He can anchor well and has great agility, which allows him to rush the passer as well as hold his ground against the run.

Another player who the Vikings brought in this offseason to compete at defensive tackle is Will Sutton. A former third round pick of the Chicago Bears in 2014, Sutton comes to Minnesota with 18 starts in his 3-year career. He is 6'1", 303 pounds, and should be a perfect fit for the position next to Linval Joseph. Sutton's strength is his quickness and athleticism, showing a burst off the line of scrimmage and the ability to shed blocks quickly and disrupt the backfield. His weakness is his motor, as he was known to disappear for stretches of games. If he gives consistent effort, it won't surprise me at all to see him starting week 1.

A dark horse in the position battle is Jaleel Johnson, a rookie who was drafted in the fourth round. Like Jones and Sutton, Jaleel Johnson is very athletic and has a quick burst when the ball is snapped. In college, Johnson rarely took plays off. His athleticism and relentless motor is a combination that will create nightmares for opposing offensive linemen. It will likely take him a year or two until he's comfortable at the NFL level, but it's always possible that he shows his maturity right off the bat and forces the coaching staff to give him a long look.

What do you think? Let me know by reaching out to me on Facebook (facebook.com/SkolJWright) or on Twitter (@SkolJWright)!

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By Richard P. Holm M.D.

Sports Injuries

As a gung-ho football guard for the De Smet Bulldogs back in the '60s, I had the "do or die" mentality for my team. That type of attitude can make winning teams, but can also be a formula for serious injury. Now, as a physician with over 32 years of experience, I have a better understanding of how while some sports activities can be helpful, others

can be extremely harmful.

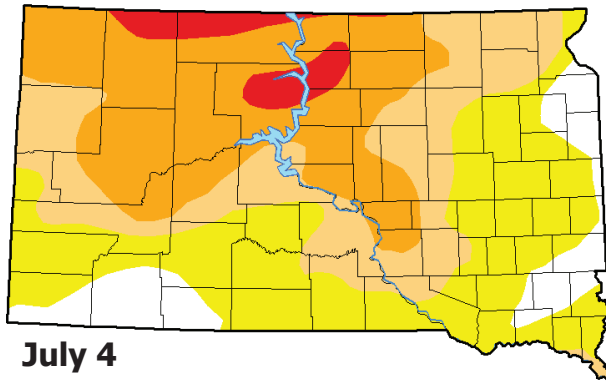
Let us look at concussions, for example, or really any type of head injuries that often occur in football or other contact sports. These players need to avoid further head trauma for a defined period of time or it can cause permanent brain damage. They must also avoid repeated head injury, as that can also lead to serious long-term consequences. The 2015 film Concussion, starring Will Smith, is based on a true story and highlights the dangerous results of repeated head injuries in professional football players.

However, it is not just head injuries that can cause serious or permanent damage. In wrestling or dance, athletes are under pressure to "make weight", often taking extreme measures to do so. This results in the promotion of malnutrition and even life-threatening eating disorders like anorexia and bulimia. Problems can also arise from trauma to young immature bones, like knee injuries in soccer players and ankle injuries in basketball players. Also, running around outside on a hot day can bring on problems from overheating and under hydrating. There can be wounds to the psyche of little leaguers being pressured by over-competitive parents; head and back injuries from dropped cheerleaders; neck trauma from gymnastics; and any kind of injury from the worst of all injury makers: college rodeo.

This is not to deny all the good that comes from learning how great it is to be in condition, or the value that comes from friendships and camaraderie associated with team sports. Hey, ask me anytime about the fabulous football team DeSmet had in '66, and you will know how important that was to me. With proper training, coaching, and a healthy respect for the dangers of any sport, most injuries can be avoided. Also, correctly identifying, addressing, and treating injuries that do occur can significantly reduce the risk of permanent disabilities later in life.

I believe the emphasis in sports should be to start children on a lifetime plan of exercise, taken with every safety precaution, so that sports and good health can be enjoyed throughout their life.

Drought Monitor



July 4

On this week's map, areas of Severe Drought (D2) and Extreme Drought (D3) expanded across eastern Montana, south-central North Dakota, and northwestern South Dakota where hot and dry conditions persisted. In northwestern South Dakota, South Dakota State University Extension staff reported poor pasture and range conditions as well as deteriorating crop conditions (corn). In eastern Montana, hot and dry weather continued to deteriorate pasture, rangeland, and crop conditions as temperatures soared above 90 degrees. On July 1st, the National Weather Service Office in Glasgow, Montana reported several dry precipitation records were broken for Glasgow including: the driest May and June (0.72 inches) since 1918; the driest April, May, and June (1.24 inches) since 1918; and the driest January through June (2.75 inches) since 1983. According to the USDA for the week ending June 25th, topsoil moisture (percent short to very short) is as follows: Montana - 69%, Nebraska - 56%, North Dakota - 53%, and South Dakota - 63%. In the southern Plains, areas of Abnormally Dry (D0) and Moderate Drought (D1) were reduced in eastern and southern portions of Oklahoma where heavy rainfall accumulations were observed with some localized accumulations in south-central Oklahoma ranging from 8 to 10 inches. Across most of the region with exception of western portions of the Dakotas, average temperatures were slightly below normal (1 to 4 degrees).



Tyler Hollinsworth was the acting superintendent for JDH Construction on the day GDILIVE.COM was filmed last week. He is reviewing the set of plans at the headquarters on the Groton Area Elementary School grounds. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The dad Manikin is holding his daughter manikin at the Terry Kenny yard on Main Street. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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Lee Schinkel was program leader for last week's Kiwanis Club. Lee introduced Ron and Kathryn Rehfluss, who gave a great travelogue on several countries they have visited.

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2017-18 Groton Area Tigers



Football

Fri., Aug. 18	Roncalli	7:00
Fri., Aug. 25	vs. EEK at Kulm	7:00
Fri., Sept. 1	Sisseton	7:00
Fri., Sept. 8	at Beresford	7:00
Fri., Sept. 15	Chamberlain	7:00
Fri., Sept. 22	Mobridge/Pollock (HC)	7:00
Fri., Sept. 29	at Milbank	7:00
Fri., Oct. 13	at Redfield	7:00
Thurs., Oct. 19	1st Rnd. Playoffs	
Thurs., Oct. 26	2nd Rnd. Playoffs	
Fri., Nov. 3	Semifinals	
Fri., Nov. 10	11B at Vermillion	

School Calendar

July 31	First allowable day for soccer practice
August 7	First allowable day for FB/Golf practice
August 10	First allowable day for C-C/VB practice
Aug. 16	Faculty In-Service at NSU
Aug. 31	Faculty In-Service
Sept. 5	First Day of School
Sept. 7	Welcome Back Picnic - 5:00
Sept. 18	Homecoming Coronation - 7:30
Sept. 22	Homecoming vs. Mob-Pol 7:00
Oct. 5	Lifetouch Pictures
Oct. 13	Lake Region Marching Festival
Oct. 24	P-T Conferences 1:30-8:30
Oct. 27	Faculty In-Service - NO SCHOOL
Nov. 3	End of First Quarter
Nov. 10	Veteran's Day Program
Nov. 15	Youth Rally at GHS Gym - 7:00
Nov. 22-24	Globetrotter Melvin Adams
Dec. 7	THANKSGIVING Vacation
Dec. 22	MS/HS Concert - 7:00
Dec. 22	Elementary Concert - 1:00
Dec. 22	School Dismisses for break - 2:00
Jan. 3	NCSEE Faculty In-Service - NO SCHOOL
Jan. 4	School Resumes
Jan. 17	End of 1st Semester
Feb. 16	Faculty In-Service - NO SCHOOL
Feb. 19	President's Day - NO SCHOOL
March 3	Region DI Tourney in Groton
March 9	SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL
March 23	End of 3rd Quarter
March 30	Good Friday - NO SCHOOL
April 2	Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL
April 7	State DI in Pierre
April 8	POPS Concert
April 14	Prom
April 17	Elementary Concert - 7:00
April 18	NSU Math Contest
April 26	FCCLA Style Show
April 27	FFA Banquet
April 30	Kiwanis Athletic Banquet
May 1	Middle School Concert - 7:00
May 3	HS Concert/Awards Night - 7:00
May 20	Graduation - 2:00
May 23	Final Day in Session (End 4th Qt)
May 24	(if no make-up days are needed)
May 24	Faculty In-Service - NO SCHOOL
**	All make-up days will be added on to the end of the school year.

Girls Golf

Mon., Apr. 16	at Milbank	10:00
Thurs., Apr. 26	at Redfield	10:00
Tues., May 1	at Dell Rapids	9:00
Thurs., May 3	at Roncalli (Lee)	10:00
Mon., May 7	Groton Invite	10:00
Thurs., May 10	at Madison	10:00
Mon., May 14	NEC at Redfield	10:00
Thurs., May 17	at Sisseton	10:00
Thurs., May 24	Region at Dell Rapids	10:00
June 4-5	State at Dell Rapids	

Calendar Composed by
Groton Daily
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Your Main Source for Community News, Sports and Important Announcements
397-NEWS (6397)

Boys Golf

Thurs., Aug. 17	at Milbank	10:00
Mon., Aug. 21	at Dell Rapids	9:00
Thurs., Aug. 24	NEC at Redfield	10:00
Tues., Aug. 29	at Ab. Central	10:00
Tues., Sept. 5	at Madison	10:00
Sat., Sept. 9	Groton Invite	10:00
Tues., Sept. 12	at Redfield	10:00
Thurs., Sept. 21	at Sisseton	10:00
Mon., Sept. 25	Region at Dell Rapids	10:00
Oct. 2-3	State at Dakota Valley	

Track

Tues. Apr. 3	at Ipswich	12:30
Thurs., Apr. 5	at Oakes	4:00
Tues., Apr. 10	Groton Invite	11:30
Tues., Apr. 17	at Webster	1:30
Sat., Apr. 21	at Ipswich	10:00
Tues., Apr. 24	Groton Invite	11:30
Fri., Apr. 27	at Sisseton	3:00
Tues., May 1	at Milbank	2:00
Fri., May 4	at Sisseton	4:00
Tues., May 8	at Britton	2:00
Fri., May 11	NEC at Webster	11:00
Thurs., May 17	Region at Webster	12:00
Fri., May 25	State at Spearfish	
Sat., May 26	State at Rapid City	

Basketball

Fri., Dec. 8	at Deuel	8:00	Boys	8:00	Girls	6:30
Sat., Dec. 9	Leola/Frederick	8:00		6:00		4:30
Tues., Dec. 12	Hitchcock/Tulare	8:00		8:00		
Thurs., Dec. 14	Redfield-Doland	8:00				
Fri., Dec. 15	at Redfield-Doland				8:00	8:00
Mon., Dec. 18	Britton-Hecla					8:00
Tues., Dec. 19	at Britton-Hecla	8:00				
Thurs., Dec. 21	Ipswich				8:00	8:00
Tues., Jan. 2	Webster Area	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 5	Hamlin	8:00			6:30	
Sat., Jan. 6	Classic at Redfield					
Tues., Jan. 9	Waubay-Summit				8:00	8:00
Thurs., Jan. 11	Sisseton					
Fri., Jan. 12	at Sisseton	7:30				
Sat., Jan. 13	Classic at Redfield					
Mon., Jan. 15	Langford Area				8:00	8:00
Tues., Jan. 16	Ipswich	8:00				
Thurs., Jan. 18	Roncalli	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 19	at Roncalli				8:00	8:00
Mon., Jan. 22	at Northwestern Area	8:00				
Tues., Jan. 23	Clark/Willow Lake	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 26	Clark/Willow Lake	8:00				
Sat., Jan. 27	Dak. 12 Classic at Madison					
Mon., Jan. 29	at Northwestern Area	8:00				
Tues., Jan. 30	Langford Area	8:00				
Thurs., Feb. 1	at Tiospa Zina					
Fri., Feb. 2	Tiospa Zina					
Sat., Feb. 3	Dak. 12 Classic at Madison					
Tues., Feb. 6	Roncalli				8:00	8:00
Fri., Feb. 9	at Warner	8:00				
Sat., Feb. 10	Mobridge-Pollock	6:00				
Mon., Feb. 12	at Roncalli	8:00				
Tues., Feb. 13	at Webster Area				8:00	8:00
Thurs., Feb. 15	Milbank Area					
Fri., Feb. 16	at Milbank Area	8:00				
Tues., Feb. 20	Region at highest seed				7:00	7:00
Thurs., Feb. 22	Region at highest seed					
Tues., Feb. 27	Region at highest seed	7:00				
Thurs., March 1	Sweet "16" Finals					
Fri., March 2	Region at highest seed	7:00				
Tues., March 6	Sweet "16" Finals					
March 8-10	State at Watertown					
March 15-17	State at Rapid City					

Boys

Fri., Dec. 8	at Deuel	8:00	Boys	8:00	Girls	6:30
Sat., Dec. 9	Leola/Frederick	8:00		6:00		4:30
Tues., Dec. 12	Hitchcock/Tulare	8:00		8:00		
Thurs., Dec. 14	Redfield-Doland	8:00				
Fri., Dec. 15	at Redfield-Doland				8:00	8:00
Mon., Dec. 18	Britton-Hecla					8:00
Tues., Dec. 19	at Britton-Hecla	8:00				
Thurs., Dec. 21	Ipswich				8:00	8:00
Tues., Jan. 2	Webster Area	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 5	Hamlin	8:00			6:30	
Sat., Jan. 6	Classic at Redfield					
Tues., Jan. 9	Waubay-Summit				8:00	8:00
Thurs., Jan. 11	Sisseton					
Fri., Jan. 12	at Sisseton	7:30				
Sat., Jan. 13	Classic at Redfield					
Mon., Jan. 15	Langford Area				8:00	8:00
Tues., Jan. 16	Ipswich	8:00				
Thurs., Jan. 18	Roncalli	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 19	at Roncalli				8:00	8:00
Mon., Jan. 22	at Northwestern Area	8:00				
Tues., Jan. 23	Clark/Willow Lake	8:00				
Fri., Jan. 26	Clark/Willow Lake	8:00				
Sat., Jan. 27	Dak. 12 Classic at Madison					
Mon., Jan. 29	at Northwestern Area	8:00				
Tues., Jan. 30	Langford Area	8:00				
Thurs., Feb. 1	at Tiospa Zina					
Fri., Feb. 2	Tiospa Zina					
Sat., Feb. 3	Dak. 12 Classic at Madison					
Tues., Feb. 6	Roncalli				8:00	8:00
Fri., Feb. 9	at Warner	8:00				
Sat., Feb. 10	Mobridge-Pollock	6:00				
Mon., Feb. 12	at Roncalli	8:00				
Tues., Feb. 13	at Webster Area				8:00	8:00
Thurs., Feb. 15	Milbank Area					
Fri., Feb. 16	at Milbank Area	8:00				
Tues., Feb. 20	Region at highest seed				7:00	7:00
Thurs., Feb. 22	Region at highest seed					
Tues., Feb. 27	Region at highest seed	7:00				
Thurs., March 1	Sweet "16" Finals					
Fri., March 2	Region at highest seed	7:00				
Tues., March 6	Sweet "16" Finals					
March 8-10	State at Watertown					
March 15-17	State at Rapid City					

Cross-Country

Thurs., Aug. 31	at Redfield	4:00
Tues., Sept. 5	at Britton	4:00
Sat., Sept. 9	at Milbank	9:30
Mon., Sept. 11	at Webster	4:00
Thurs., Sept. 14	at Roncalli (Lee Park)	4:00
Mon., Sept. 18	at Deuel (Clear Lake)	4:00
Mon., Sept. 25	GROTON (OGGC)	4:00
Thurs., Sept. 28	at Sisseton	4:00
Thurs., Oct. 5	NEC at Webster	2:00
Thurs., Oct. 12	Region at Webster	3:30
Sat., Oct. 21	State at Rapid City	

Soccer

Sat., Aug. 12	Garretson	4:00	Boys	4:00	Girls	4:00
Fri., Aug. 18	Belle Fourche	3:00		5:00		
Sat., Aug. 19	St. Thomas More	3:00		1:00		
Sat., Aug. 26	at Vermillion	3:00		1:00		
Sat., Sept. 2	at Tea Area	3:00		1:00		
Thurs., Sept. 7	JV Christian	4:00				
Fri., Sept. 8	West Central	4:00		4:00		
Sat., Sept. 9	at S.F. Christian	3:00		1:00		
Tues., Sept. 12	Mitchell Christian	5:00				
Sat., Sept. 16	Freeman Academy	3:00				
Sat., Sept. 16	at Garretson			1:00		
Thurs., Sept. 21	at JV Christian	4:00				
Sat., Sept. 23	Tea Area	3:00		1:00		
Tues., Sept. 26	1st Round Playoffs					
Sat., Sept. 30	Semi-Final Playoffs					
Sat., Oct. 7	State at Aberdeen					

Volleyball

Thurs., Aug. 24	Deuel	JV/C 6:00
Tues., Aug. 29	at Ipswich	JV 6:30
Thurs., Aug. 31	at Redfield-Doland	JV/C 6:00
Tues., Sept. 5	at Webster Area	JV/C 6:00
Thurs., Sept. 7	Britton-Hecla	JV/C 6:00
Tues., Sept. 12	Mobridge-Pollock	JV/C 5:00
Thurs., Sept. 14	Hamlin	JV/C 6:00
Tues., Sept. 19	at Warner 7th/C	4:30 8th/JV 6:30
Thurs., Sept. 21	Sisseton	JV/C 6:00
Thurs., Sept. 28	at Roncalli	JV/C 6:00
Mon., Oct. 2	at Florence/Henry	JV 6:00
Tues., Oct. 3	Leola/Frederick	JV 6:00
Thurs., Oct. 5	at Clark/Willow Lake	JV/C 6:00
Sat., Oct. 7	at Redfield Tourney	9:00
Tues., Oct. 10	at Hitchcock/Tulare	JV 6:00
Thurs., Oct. 12	at Tiospa Zina	JV 6:00
Mon., Oct. 16	at Langford Area	JV 6:00
Tues., Oct. 17	Northwestern	7th/C 4:30 8th/JV 6:00
Mon., Oct. 23	Milbank Area	JV/C 6:00
Tues., Oct. 31	Region at Groton	4:30
Thurs., Nov. 2	Region at Groton	6:00
Thurs., Nov. 9	Sweet 16	
Nov. 16-18	State at Rapid City	

Wrestling

Sat., Dec. 2

Service Notice: John Pulfrey

Services for John Pulfrey, 98, of Claremont will be 10:30 a.m., Saturday, July 15th at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Rev. Bill Duncan will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the chapel on Saturday for one hour prior to services.

John passed away July 11, 2017 at Wheatcrest Hills in Britton.

The Groton Independent

605/397-NEWS (6397)

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Groton, SD 57445

South Dakota Farmers Union Applauds USDA Decision to Allow for Emergency Haying in Upper Great Plains

HURON, S.D. - U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, Sonny Perdue authorized the release of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) land in Montana, North Dakota and South Dakota for emergency haying. The announcement follows urgent requests from National Farmers Union (NFU), state Farmers Union divisions, agriculture groups and legislators for the USDA to address severe drought conditions in the Upper Great Plains.

South Dakota Farmers Union President, Doug Sombke, was among a group of state Farmers Union presidents who sent a letter to Perdue June 20, 2017, urging him to release CRP acres.

In response to the decision, Sombke a fourth-generation crop and livestock producer from Conde, issues the following statement:

"We are grateful for the grace that this action shows. It brings some relief to a natural disaster which has left many of South Dakota's livestock producers in need of grass and other forages to feed their animals," Sombke said.

Sombke emphasizes that although releasing CRP offers some relief, the situation remains dire.

"More needs to be done. Family farmers and ranchers are being forced to sell their cattle at below profit prices because they simply do not have the feed supplies to care for them this winter. And, this fall, many will not be able to harvest the crops which they depend upon for their annual income," he explains. "For those working off the farm, this drought is equivalent to losing your job - only worse because, even though these farmers and ranchers will not have income, they still need to pay for inputs."

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Bob Schuring

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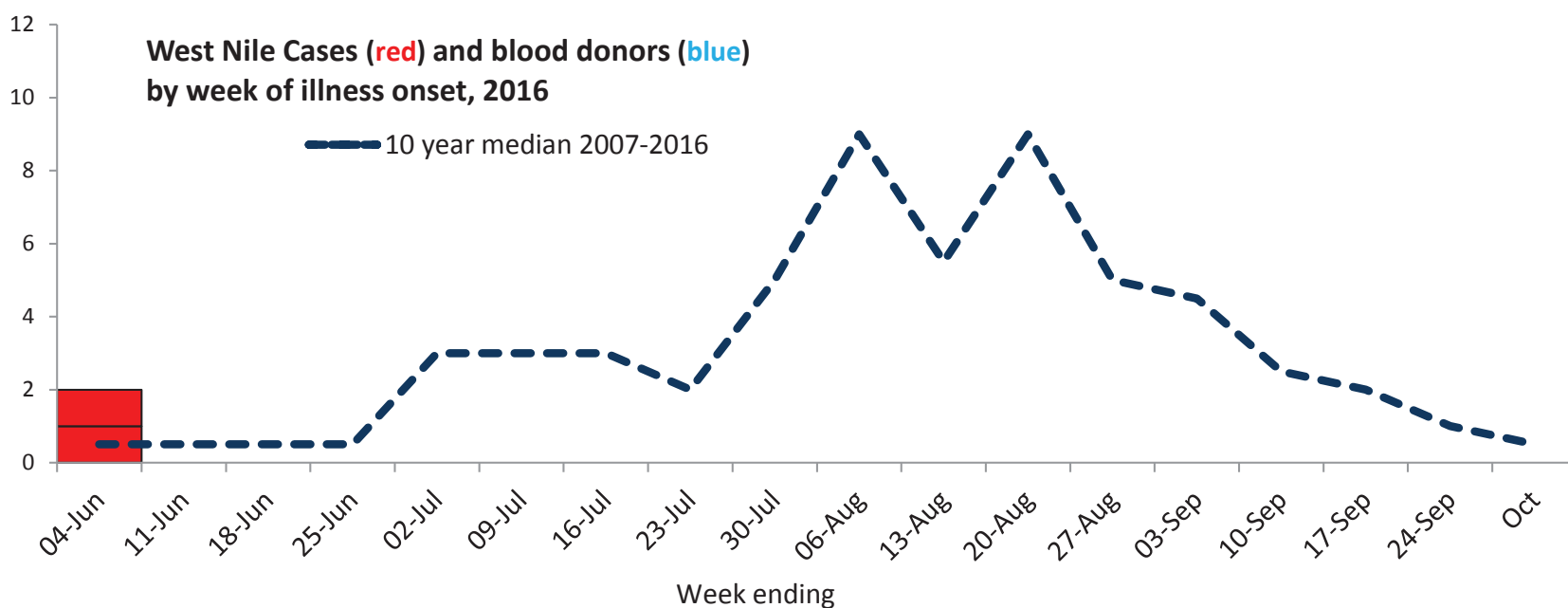
\$8.99 Per Lb. CUT, WRAPPED AND FROZEN FREE USDA Choice DEMOKOTA WHOLE BONELESS RIBEYE	2 for \$4 Dole HEARTS OF ROMAINE, ITALIAN, AMERICAN, BABY SPINACH, SPRING MIX, PREMIUM ROMAINE OR VERY VEGGIE 5-12 Oz. Pkg.	\$1.59 Per Lb. CUT, WRAPPED AND FROZEN FREE Whole BONELESS PORK LOIN	\$14.49 BUD, BUD LT. 18 Pack, 16 Oz.
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West Nile update: South Dakota, 7 July 2017

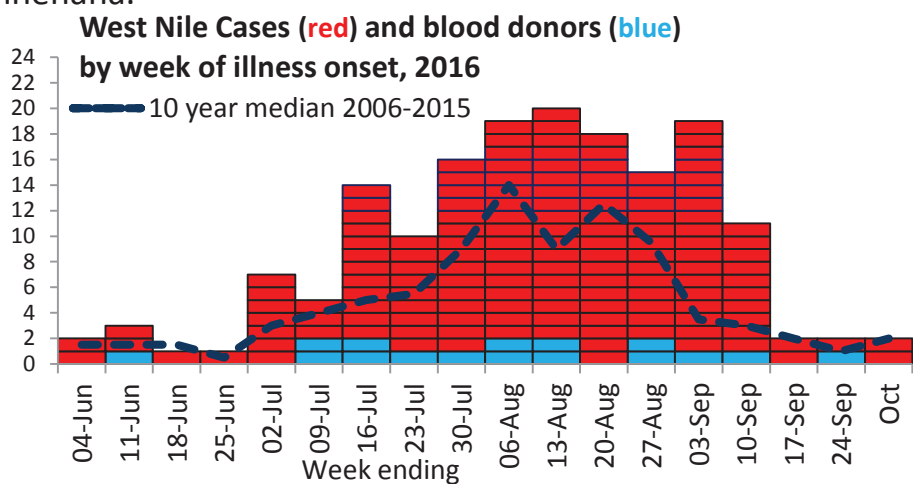
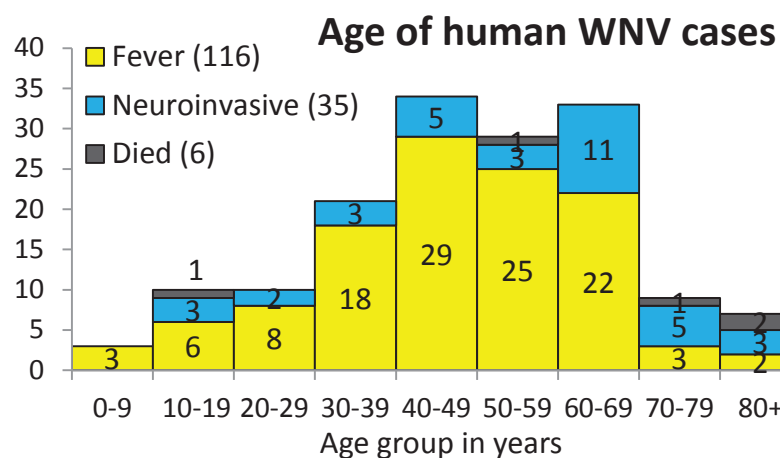
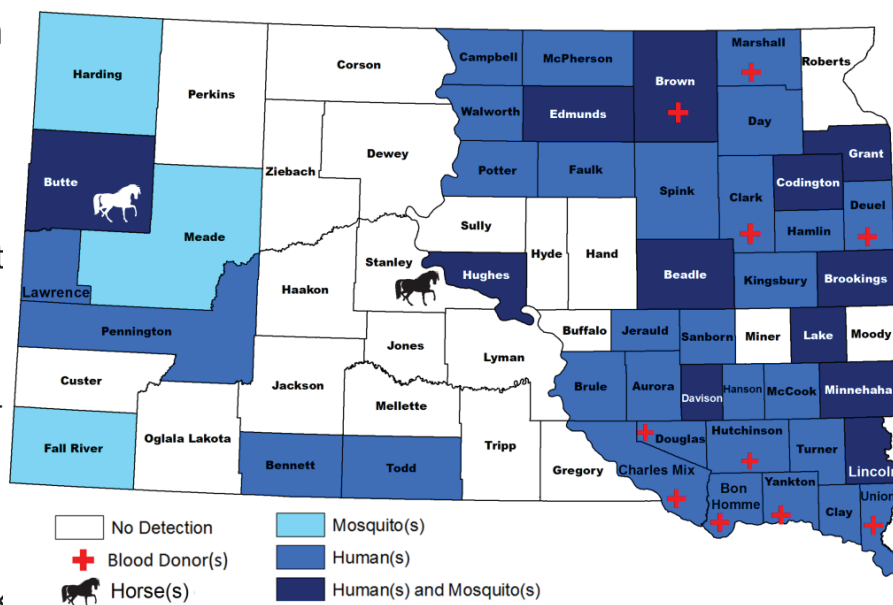
- **2 human cases of West Nile virus disease** have been reported to the South Dakota Department of Health.
- **Deaths: 0.**
- **Viremic blood donors: 3 pending.**
- **Counties with human WNV cases: Davison, Lincoln.**
- **Counties with WNV positive mosquito detections: Brown and Lincoln.**



SD Department of Health phone 800-592-1861
 SD Department of Health: <http://westnile.sd.gov>
 SDSU WNV risk assessment: <http://mosquito.sdstate.edu>
 CDC West Nile: www.cdc.gov/westnile

West Nile update: South Dakota, 2016 Final

- **151 human cases of West Nile virus disease** have been reported to the SD Department of Health.
- **Illness:** 23% neuroinvasive disease, 77% WNV fever, 33% hospitalized.
- **Deaths: 6.**
- **Viremic blood donors: 16.**
- **Counties with human WNV cases:** Aurora 3, Beadle 7, Bennett Bon Homme 3, Brookings 6, Brown 16, Brule, Butte 2, Campbell, Charles Mix 8, Clark 4, Clay, Codington 4, Davison 3, Day 2, Deuel, Douglas 3, Edmunds, Faulk 2, Grant, Hamlin 4, Hanson 2, Hughes, Hutchinson 5, Jerauld 2, Kingsbury 2, Lake 4 Lawrence 2, Lincoln 10, Marshall 3, McCook 3, McPherson, Minnehaha 20, Pennington 2, Potter 2, Sanborn, Spink 9, Todd, Turner 3, Union, Walworth, Yankton 2.
- **Counties with viremic blood donors:** Bon Homme 2, Brown 2, Charles Mix, Clark, Deuel, Douglas, Marshall, Minnehaha, Spink Union, Yankton 3.
- **Counties with WNV positive horses:** Stanley, Butte.
- **Counties with WNV positive mosquito detections:** Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Butte, Codington, Davison, Edmunds, Fall River, Grant, Harding, Hughes, Lake, Lincoln, Meade and Minnehaha.



SD Department of Health phone 800-592-1861
 SD Department of Health: <http://westnile.sd.gov>
 SDSU WNV risk assessment: <http://mosquito.sdstate.edu>
 CDC West Nile: www.cdc.gov/westnile



**SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT
OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Larry Zimmerman
Secretary**

DRAFT OR NO DRAFT, THE RED, WHITE AND BLUE SHINES ON!

For the past few weeks, there has been a lot of buzz about the NBA draft. Strategists and newscasters chattered about the likes of Markelle Fultz, Lonzo Ball, Josh Jackson and Jayson Tatum. Who would draft them and what package would be offered? Numerous sports venues use the draft process to allocate talented players to their teams.

As I listened to that buzz word "draft" used over and over, I couldn't help but think about our military draft. From 1940 until 1973, during both peacetime and periods of conflict, men were drafted to fill vacancies in the United States Armed Forces. At one time, 366 blue plastic capsules containing birth dates were placed in a large glass jar and drawn by hand to assign order-of-call numbers to all men within the 18-26 age range. This process was not quite as spicy as the sports draft used today, but the country was informed of the order of the numbers drawn just as today the media informs us of player drafts.

Wouldn't it be wonderful if our soldiers that were drafted would receive \$20 million for a four -five-year contract?

In our military realm, we live in a world where there is no bonus if you get to the front line (play offs). There's no superbowl ring when you win the war! There is no steak and wine after you complete your mission. No condos! No yachts! No endorsements! No audience/fans for their performance.

I wonder how many professional athletes would chow down on an MRE or live in the conditions our troops do?

For athletes it's the game, practice, team activities, summer leagues, and community involvement. They are performing in facilities that have controlled environments ---- perhaps worrying about a hotdog wrapper or two that gets on the field or water that gets spilled on the court. Much different than the environment our service members are exposed to - blasts, IED's, gas fumes, arm-to-arm combat, staring the enemy face-to-face at gunpoint, and deployments away from family for a year at a time or more.

Sports drafts take the best of the best and trickle down to the lesser known athletes as the draft process continues, but athletes still receive hundreds of thousands of dollars in their contract.

Today's service members go in on their own for a starting pay of \$24,000. Our men and women in uniform serve to serve! Duty, honor, and country drive the enlistees to defend their country!

Thank you to all the men and women who have proudly stepped up to serve this great country.

Larry Zimmerman, Secretary

South Dakota Department of Veterans Affairs



'Peace Through Strength'

Defending freedom and democracy around the world is no easy task. It requires strong leadership, a commitment to investing in our military and an unbreakable alliance among our allies.

While attending the G-20 summit with other global leaders in Germany this month, President Donald Trump is able to further promote 'Peace Through Strength,' a central idea to his America First foreign policy agenda. 'Peace Through Strength' is the notion that a strong military presence can preserve peace. It has been used successfully by leaders throughout history, most famously by President Ronald Reagan, who used this approach of deterring aggression to end the Cold War in the 1980s.

In recent years, the drawdown of the U.S. military, largely due to sequestration, has threatened our military strength and global dominance. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC), I have been opposed to arbitrary constraints on our defense budget. In not spending enough on defense and neglecting the advances other nations are making, we are putting our nation's fighting ability and security at risk and weakening global alliances. I am glad to see President Trump and Defense Secretary James Mattis understand the need to wisely invest more in our defense and rebuild our armed forces.

When budget caps and the threat of sequestration went into effect in 2011, we had more than 560,000 active duty soldiers in the U.S. Army. By the end of this year, that number will shrink to approximately 480,000. Our Navy and Air Force are also vastly underequipped. Yet today, threats to our nation continue to increase at an alarming rate. Most recently, North Korea likely was successful in launching an intercontinental ballistic missile potentially capable of reaching U.S. soil. Meanwhile, Iran continues to develop ballistic missiles and support terrorism. In Syria, the ongoing civil war continues to escalate.

Russian aggression has intensified as well. Not only does Russia continue to violate the territorial integrity of Ukraine, after annexing Crimea, they also brazenly engage in cyberattacks against their neighbors as well as the U.S., as exemplified by their efforts during our 2016 election. As Chairman of the SASC Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, I am deeply troubled by the attempts by our adversaries to use cyber activities to delegitimize our democracy, influence our public discourse and ultimately undermine our national security. I am pleased that this year's National Defense Authorization Act, which recently passed SASC unanimously, takes important steps to rebuild our military and helps address the challenges our military leaders have laid out before us.

Prior to attending the G-20 summit in Germany, President Trump made a stop in Poland. During his speech in Warsaw, he declared that "Americans know that a strong alliance of free, sovereign and independent nations is the best defense for our freedoms and for our interests." The president also renewed America's pledge to confront and defeat the growing threats to the West through an unbreakable alliance with our allies. These principles, coupled with rebuilding our armed forces, will allow us to promote 'Peace Through Strength' and keep Americans safe.



Cracking Down on Illegal Immigration

Just over two years ago, while walking on a pier in San Francisco with her dad, Kate Steinle was shot and killed by an illegal immigrant with a criminal past and a record of deportations.

I firmly believe the federal government has limited constitutional responsibilities, but establishing justice and insuring domestic tranquility are among the few authorities that were engraved into our founding document's first sentence. In recent decades, however, the federal government has fallen through on these responsibilities when it comes to enforcing our immigration laws, and the loss of Kate is just one example of the consequences for that.

Kate's killer had already been deported five times when he opened fire on July 1, 2015. Certainly, more must be done to secure our border, including building a more robust wall and giving border patrol agents the resources and technologies needed to create a more impenetrable barrier. And without question, the laws already on the books need to be better enforced.

But I also believe our laws could be stronger too.

Shortly before the two-year anniversary of Kate's murder, I joined the House in passing Kate's Law, which would significantly toughen the punishment for illegal immigrants who re-enter the country. While I believe we could go even farther with these punishments, Kate's Law is a good first step.

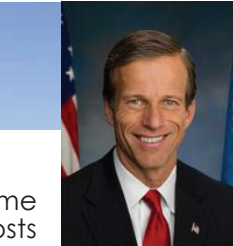
San Francisco, where Kate's murder took place, is also one of more than 300 so-called "sanctuary cities" that openly refuse to turn over criminal illegal immigrants to federal law enforcement.

Kate's killer had seven felony convictions at the time of the murder. Less than four months before Kate's death, he was turned over to San Francisco authorities for an outstanding drug warrant. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement asked that he be kept in custody until immigration agents could get there, but because San Francisco is a sanctuary city, he was released. This should never have happened. So, in addition to Kate's Law, I helped pass the No Sanctuary for Criminals Act, which cracks down on sanctuary cities like San Francisco by withholding valuable federal grants from them.

While the Senate will debate the legislation next, President Trump has already announced his support for both bills.

This is just the beginning. I've also cosponsored the SMART Act, which would authorize additional personnel and new technologies to help secure the border, and I've backed legislation to help stop the drug trafficking that's contributed to South Dakota's drug abuse and violent crime increases.

Kate should have never lost her life on that pier in 2015. Her killer should have never been in this country - let alone, running free within it. We have to be stronger when it comes to enforcing the laws on the books, but we also have a constitutional responsibility to make sure the laws on the books are strong enough to keep our families and communities safe.



Walk and Chew Gum

Earlier this year, the Senate dedicated a lot of its time to considering the president's nominees to various posts within the federal government, which is normal for the beginning of any new administration. As the administration continues to fill out, there will surely be more for us to consider. We've spent a lot of time on health care reform this year, too, and rightfully so. Obamacare is collapsing, and we're working hard to enact reforms that would reduce costs and increase access to care. Looking ahead, tax reform is on the horizon, and I've been laying the groundwork in several areas that would help South Dakota families and businesses.

One of the first pieces of legislation I introduced this Congress was my bill to repeal the death tax, which can hit family-run farms and ranches, in particular, at the worst possible time. According to the American Farm Bureau, thousands of South Dakota farms and ranches would be subject to the death tax today. Burying this onerous tax once and for all would give folks greater peace of mind as they continue the hard work of keeping their operations open and functioning.

In March, I reintroduced bipartisan legislation that would improve and modernize S corporations - a technical term for a popular type of business, usually a small business, which benefits from a simpler and more flexible structure under the tax code. There's more than 4 million S corporations in cities and towns around the country, including thousands in South Dakota. My bill would reform this part of the tax code so it does an even better job of working for small businesses and not against them.

America is home to some of the most generous people in the world, which is why I recently joined forces with a bipartisan group of senators to reintroduce a bill that would make it far easier for public charities, foundations, and other tax-exempt organizations to do the important work of serving those in need. The Charities Helping Americans Regularly Throughout the Year Act - or CHARITY Act - is a great example of common-sense, bipartisan legislation that would really help the American people.

I've perhaps spent the most time this year, though, working on a significant piece of legislation that would spur growth for new and existing businesses in South Dakota, including farms and ranches. My INVEST Act, short for the Investment in New Ventures and Economic Success Today Act, would help accelerate cost recovery on start-up and investment expenses for prospective business owners, as well as equipment, inventory, and certain other purchases for existing business owners. The faster we can get money back into folks' hands, the faster we can get the economy growing at a stronger rate, which means growing businesses in our communities, new jobs, and wage growth for hard-working South Dakotans.

Congress can walk and chew gum at the same time, which is why I've spent a lot of time getting a head-start on these bills. All of them would be prime measures to include in a comprehensive tax reform package. And there's more work under way right now to make sure tax reform results in a tax code that works for American businesses and consumers. My hope is that once we've wrapped up our debate on health care reform, we take up tax reform. I've been working with my colleagues on the Finance Committee all year as we've prepared to take it up. When we do, I'll be ready.