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Vol. 134 No. 47 ♦ Groton, Brown County, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, July 26, 2017 ♦ Established in 1889

Oh! Oh!



All that hard work on Saturday with over 30 people working to get US12 done. Well, someone drove through the fresh concrete. John Shoemaker of Webster Scale said, "It's not good." When asked if it will have to be ripped out and repoured, he said, "We will evaluate the situation on Monday. Right now we are working on the criminal aspect of the situation."



Final pour for US Highway 12

It was an all out assault on tackling the US Highway 12 project Saturday morning. According to John Shoemaker of Webster Scale, the general contractor, the final put was suppose to happen on Monday and Tuesday, but rain forced the cancellation of the pours. "We had to stop because of the rain and then we lost our line for concrete," Shoemaker said. "There is a lot of demand for concrete right now with bean plant and the transmission line work starting in the area." There were over 30 people working Saturday morning from different companies in getting the work done today. "We wanted to get it done today (Saturday) instead of Monday," Shoemaker said. The plan for opening US12 through traffic remains for July 28. Shoemaker said there is about a six-day curing time right now. With the pour on Saturday, July 22, it will be cutting it close for opening on the 28th. In the above photo, Chad Menzia, Groton, is coordinating the concrete trucks for GCC of Aberdeen. The above crew is from Wright and Sudlow and the photo below features the crew from Reede Construction, both of Aberdeen. In addition, Webster Scale was working on getting the sidewalk and curb work ready in front of Ken's so that can be poured on Monday. The US12 entrance in the Red Horse was opened on Saturday, according to Shoemaker.



Justin Tiff of Wright & Sudlow of Aberdeen was drilling holes in the concrete for rebar that has to be installed. The crew cut the damaged area on Monday and then got it all ready and was poured by Tuesday afternoon.



Saw cuts were being made on the concrete road Saturday morning.

(Right photo) John Shoemaker of Webster Scale (right) along with two South Dakota Department of Transportation officials were reviewing the damage done to the new concrete on US12 in Groton. (Photo by Tina Kosel)



State Tournament in Groton

The Junior Legion State Tournament will be held in Groton on August 4-6. It is a single eliminate tournament with the tournament being played out to fifth place. This will be the first Junior Legion State Tournament in a very long time.

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Groton Area Elementary Renovations and Addition Progress Update

07-24-2017

Each week at our weekly construction progress meetings attended by Ken Anderson (FJJ), Joel Bornhoft (FJJ), and each contractor, we discuss jobsite safety, clean-up, critical items (security), change events, Field Work Orders*, Requests for Information (RFIs)***, Supplemental Instructions (ASis)***, schedule reviews, equipment deliveries, manpower updates, and anything else of importance.

*Field Work Orders: As of last week, there have been 17 approved field work orders, all of which have been completed.

These are minor work orders outside of the scope of a contract that need to be completed on the spot and will likely result in a change order being processed at some point.

**Requests for Information: As of last week, there had been 82 RFIs submitted to be responded to by the responsible party, typically the architect or an appropriate engineer.

***Supplemental Instructions: As of last week, five ASis have been issued.

Work Completed/In Progress:

Ventilation: A few returns need to be dropped in the 1992/Center areas and in the lower pod. Refrigeration lines were being run to the exterior condensing units late last week. Controls are being installed as progress is being made. As grid is being installed, final supply drops are being made to the diffusers. Insulators have fallen behind and have extra men on-site this week to catch up (also doing plumbing insulation).

Electrical: Data wiring is nearing completion. Main power has been re-established to the building. The roof-top units are wired. Devices are being installed in the 1992 addition and lower pod behind painters and ceiling grid. Lights are being installed in the upper pod.

Plumbing: Floors are re-poured in the girls restroom and work is taking place in there in conjunction with wall framing today. Boys' restroom is in progress and is scheduled to be re-poured later this week. This work is critical to allow the time necessary for tile installation. Boilers are being installed in the mechanical room. Insulators have fallen behind and have extra men on-site this week to catch up (also doing ventilation insulation).

General Construction: Roof decking on the addition is 95% complete. The upper pod has been taped, textured, and painted. Casework has been mostly installed in center area/1992 addition and has begun in the lower pod. Flooring protection has been pulled up in the 1992 addition/center areas. Window openings are ready for window/door installation, which is scheduled to be complete at the end of this week.

Roofing: The roofers were here on July 20 to complete roof penetrations above the boiler room. They are planning to be back on-site on August 14 to begin roofing the new addition area.

Site Work: Curb and sidewalk installation is complete in front of the new addition. Asphalt is scheduled for July 26th.

Acoustical Ceilings: The ceiling grid has been installed in the 1992 Addition and the center area along with some of the cut tiles. Ceiling grid has been installed lower pod along with some cut tiles. Above-ceiling work is being completed in the upper pod to accommodate grid (scheduled to begin July 26).

Flooring: Tile has been installed in the lower pod bathrooms/sink area and in the SPED bathroom. Tiling has begun in the upper pod bathrooms/sink areas. Carpeting in the 1992 and center additions began today to be followed by the lower pod toward the end of this week.

Aluminum Storefronts and Glass: Window replacements in the 1992 Addition are completed. Windows in the lower pod are mostly installed (finish work remains) and progress is being made in the upper pod (scheduled for completion this week). Openings remain for exits/sidelight windows in the lower pod.

Fire Protection: Sprinkler heads are installed in the 1992/Center areas and progress is being made in the lower and upper pods as grid is being installed.

Change orders take contingency used to 68%

The new change orders approved by the school board Monday night took the usage of the contingency fund to 68 percent. Superintendent Joe Schwan said that most of the change orders should be done by now with no big ticket items expected.

Tara Arntsen was hired as the new math teacher. Jenna Strom was hired as the new assistant volleyball coach. Jone Groeblichhoff was reassigned from SPED to kindergarten paraprofessional.

No new boys head soccer coach is on the horizon. Schwan said that Corey Harder and Chris Kucker, the girls coaches, will do both if no one steps forward. Also still missing is a junior high football coach. All other positions should be filled soon after interviews are done. "We should be in pretty good shape," Schwan said, "with six weeks out for our staff."

Chamber looking to hire a community communications director

John Wheating, president of the Groton Area Chamber of Commerce, came before the city council to talk about the Chamber's plans for a new part-time position. "It would start out at an hourly rate," Wheating said. He said that the person's responsibility would be to contact people through social media, attend Lions and Kiwanis meetings, coordinate a community calendar, manage the community Facebook page and the community sign. "We have to step up and help with various projects," Wheating said. There is a possibility of using some space at the Groton Community Transit for an office space. "We need to network with the community groups, the Aberdeen Chamber and Aberdeen Development," Wheating said.

"I think you have our blessings," said Mayor Scott Hanlon. Finance Officer Hope Block said that she would put it into the budget for consideration.

Police Chief Stacy Mayou said that they made personal contact with people who had yards that needed to be cleaned up. The cutoff date was July 3. Another letter will be sent out stating they will have until August 2, 2017, to get the work done or the city will come in and take care of it with the cost being passed on through a special assessment to the property.

All seasonal passes to the pool will be cut in half on August 1.

The council approved for pool employees to work at the State Junior Legion Baseball Tournament in Groton, if asked to work at it, as coordinated by Matt Locke.

Ruby Donovan made a request that a Hazel McKittrick memorial be used to buy and plant a Quaking Aspen outside by the community on the boulevard.

Karyn Babcock talked about restriping Main Street for parking. Councilman David McGannon said that the school has a striping machine that the city could borrow. The council decided to get a plan put together for restriping Main Street from Railroad Ave. to City Hall and to do the cross walks on Main Street. "I think its a great idea, said Councilman Jay Peterson. "Everything would be neat and tidy."



1940 Groton Jr. Legion Team

Back row left to right coach Perry Doney, Tom Saunders, Jack Stewart, Dean Hinrichs, Doc Louis Eske and George Potter. Front row: Marvin Graves, Lyle Potter, Allen Miller, Wayne Cleveland, Keith Cutler, Richard Meison and Louis Eske Jr.-batboy.

Also on the team Jack Stewart, Bud Nygard, Ted Heinz, Klein Conanough, Dombrowe, and Voight

Groton Garden Club

The Groton Garden Club met at the home of Linda Gengerke on July 17, at 5:30 p.m. Arlis Kluess assisted. Following supper the pledges were recited in unison and twelve members answered roll call with whether they read the "the Green Sheet". President Bev Sombke read the biography of the new state Garden Club president, Virginia Sandier of Mobridge. Yard of the week schedule is as follows July 23- Marg Overreacher , July 30, Elda Stange, August 6-Linda Anderson, August 13-Pat Larson, August 20, Eunice McColister. Unfinished business included a motion by Pam Rix to use our "Jimmies for Pines" money to plant a plot of Pinis in the SD National Forest in the Black Hills. The motion passed. The Andover Garden Club will be hosting the Northern District meeting at Pizza Ranch in Aberdeen, July 22, at 11:30am. Next meeting will be at the home of Pam Rix with Laurie Mitchell assisting. Linda Gengerke giving the program. Following the meeting Arlys Kluess gave the program on dealing with drought stress tips for lawn and gardens.

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7/29 to 7/31 Meagan Leavey pg 13
8/5 to 8/7 Spiderman PG 13
8/12 to 8/14 Despicable Me 3

Storybook Land Theatre heads out on the road



Mark your calendars! On Monday, August 7, 2-3pm. the Storybook Land Theater troupe will be performing at the Granary Rural Cultural Center located in rural Brown County at 40161 128th St, Groton, SD. The Granary provides a unique prairie setting for this special outdoor performance. Bring a lawn chair or blanket to sit among the sheltering trees and enjoy free popcorn! Beverages will be for sale and modern restrooms onsite.

Groton Area OST is hosting a performance at 10 am on Tuesday, August 8, at the Groton High School stage in the old gym. Come at 9:30 for some fun singing prior to the play. Groton's own, Tylan Glover, is a member of the theater's cast. Dairy Queen Dilly Bars will be sold at the Groton gym event.

Aberdeen's Storybook Land Theatre is hitting the road with their new musical, "Junie B. Jones the Musical," based on the popular book series by Barbara Park. The spunky and precocious Junie B.

Jones sings and dances her way through a new set of first grade adventures, all documented in her "Top Secret Personal Beeswax Journal." Audiences all over northeastern South Dakota are invited to take a peek for themselves. "Junie B. Jones the Musical" is free to the public and is suitable for all ages.

Junie B. Jones first appeared in "Junie B. Jones and the Stupid Smelly Bus" in 1992, written by author and creator Barbara Park with illustrations by Denise Brunkus. Since her creation, Junie has gone on to appear in twenty-seven books from 1992-2013 and sell more than fifty-five million copies in North America alone.

Music Theatre International calls this show "a delightful adaptation of four of Barbara Park's best-selling books, brought to life in a genuinely comical (and not strictly-for-kids) musical developed by TheatreworksUSA. Awaken a young person's desire to read with the sassy little diva, Junie B. Jones, and her adventures in first grade."

This production features scenes from the Junie B. First Grader series: "Junie B. Jones is a Graduation Girl," "Junie B. Jones is a First Grader At Last!," "Junie B. First Grader Boss of Lunch," "Junie B. First Grader Toothless Wonder," and "Top Secret Personal Beeswax, a Journal by Junie B. (And Me)."

The cast of "Junie B. Jones the Musical" is made up entirely of the Storybook Land Theatre summer cast: Julia Friedrichsen, Tylan Glover, Max Langbehn, Rachel Morrison, Isaac Seaton, Brian T. Schultz, Briggs Tople and Claire Vetter, who plays the title role of Junie B.

Storybook Land Theatre, a program of Aberdeen Parks, Recreation and Forestry, is in its 29th season of free, family-friendly performances. Partnering with Aberdeen Community Theatre's Young People's Theatre, under the direction of ACT Associate Artistic/Managing Director Brian T. Schultz, SBLT performs eight different shows in eight weeks in the Storybook Land Castle in Aberdeen's Wylie Park. Performances are typically held Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, June through August.

New this year is the touring element of SBLT's programming. Through funding from 3Mgives, SBLT is able to bring "Junie B. Jones the Musical" to rural communities surrounding Aberdeen at no cost.

"This has been on my bucket list for years," explained Schultz. "I know it can sometimes be a challenge to get the whole family to Aberdeen to see a show, so what better than to bring the show directly to them? So we posted on SBLT's Facebook page that any community interested in hosting us to get in contact. They provide the venue and the audience, we provide the fun.

"None of this would be possible without the support of 3M," Schultz added. "We appreciate so much the opportunity to partner with a forward-thinking local corporation that is committed to youth and the arts. This will be a tremendous experience not only for the communities we visit, but the actors that are part of the SBLT company. This is invaluable professional experience for them, too."

Schultz hopes the touring element of SBLT's programming is something that will be able to continue for several years to come.

3Mgives' purpose is to promote stronger and more sustainable communities through donations, investments and through their 3M volunteers. Since its inception, 3Mgives has invested \$1.45 billion in cash and in-kind support globally, according to the 3Mgives 2016 annual report.

For more information about this performance, contact the Dacotah Prairie Museum at 605.626.7117. For more information about SBLT, contact Schultz via SBLT's Facebook page or brian.act@nvc.net.

Death Notice Donald Bartz

Donald E. Bartz, 78, of Groton passed away July 21, 2017 at his residence. Per his wishes, no services will be held.

The Life of Glenn Johnson



Services for Glenn Johnson, 77, of Groton were held Wednesday, July 26th at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney. The Rev. Lloyd Redhage officiated. Burial with military honors will follow in St. Paul's Cemetery.

Glenn passed away July 22, 2017 at Avera St. Lukes Hospital, Aberdeen surrounded by his family.

Glenn Harold was born on August 9, 1939 in Aberdeen to Chester and Vernita (Sombke) Johnson. He was baptized, confirmed and a lifelong member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Ferney. Glenn attended school in Ferney and began helping with his family's farm operations. In 1963, he was drafted into the US Army and served as a fuel specialist in France and Germany. Following his honorable discharge in 1965, he returned home to the family farm and took over operations with his brother, Jim in 1968. On July 8, 1971, he was united in marriage with Alvina Fleck in Watertown.

After his "retirement" due to rheumatoid arthritis, he enjoyed driving around in the Ranger checking on the cows and crops, going to movies, and attending farm shows. He was proud of his children and grandchildren for whom he would do anything. The grandkids always brought a smile to his face. Many memories were made at the farm kitchen table playing cards and eating meals with family, and discussing the farm business with his brother and son. Glenn appreciated all of nature and loved site seeing as he traveled the country with his family.

Celebrating his life is his wife of 47 years, Alvina Johnson of Groton, his children, Chad (Michelle) Johnson of Groton, Lyncee (Nick) Monson of Groton, two step-daughters, Pam Wiseman of Springfield, Missouri, Kathy (Dale) Zambo-Lesmeister of Eagle Butte, grandchildren: Brenna & Porter Johnson, Hailey & Hannah Monson, step-grandchildren, Tonica, RYanne, Karla and Dustin, several step great-grandchildren, his siblings; Jim Johnson of Groton, Kenny Johnson of Yankton, Charlie (Sheila) Johnson of Conde, Sheila (Jim) Anderson of Winfred, Donna Gunderson of Parker and many nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents, his sister, Arlys Ehrenberg and brother, Richard "Herbie" Johnson.

Honorary Casketbearers will be all of Glenn's grandchildren.

Casketbearers will be Jeff Harry, Greg Bonn, Kevin Krueger, Dustin Wiseman, Jim Leidholt and Roni Dobberpuhl.

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Groton School 2017-18 School Salaries

Groton Area School District 06-6			
2017-18 Administrator Salaries		2017-18 Auxilliary Staff Salaries	
Schwan, Brett ^ *	65,500.00	Bahr, Loren ^	36,770.00
Schwan, Joseph ^	97,000.00	Bartell, Karin	16,603.13
Sombkee, Kiersten ^	62,500.00	Bisbee, Amanda	14,210.00
Weber, Michael ^	71,500.00	Bury, Kathryn ^ (.5)	21,090.00
2017-18 Certified Teacher Salaries		Clocksene, Brandon ^	29,000.00
Anderson, Kristi	51,230.00	Cox, Lena	21,731.30
Arntsen, Tara	41,450.00	Dix, Ryan	16,721.25
Dennert Cara	47,630.00	Donley, Don (bus driving)	11,990.00
Donley, Don *	62,750.00	Donley, Joann ^ *	22,858.75
Eichler, Emily	46,530.00	Duncan, William	16,603.13
Erdmann, Julie	49,830.00	Farmen, Clayton Jr. ^	33,238.40
Erickson, Meri *	52,575.00	Farmen, Clayton Jr. (.5 bus driving)	5,995.00
Erickson, Rebecca *	53,900.00	Fliehs, Duane ^	12,152.40
Fjeldheim, Susan	42,880.00	Foertsch, Teri	14,026.25
Fordham, Austin *	40,150.00	Franken, Adam (.5 bus driving)	5,520.00
Franken, Adam ^ *	53,563.89	Graf, Purnell ^	25,792.00
Gibbs, Ann	46,980.00	Groeblinghoff, Joni ^	15,050.00
Gonsoir, Kristen *	59,185.00	Gustafson, Beth ^	31,593.00
Grieve, Lynette *	55,410.00	Guthmiller, Joel (bus driving)	11,075.00
Guthmiller, Joel *	50,630.00	Harry, Kathy	19,964.00
Hanten, Sarah	45,330.00	Hjermstad, Randy	19,325.00
Harry, Janene	52,440.00	Hoffman, Jan	17,995.25
Hawkins, Lance *	53,755.00	Krueger, Heidi ^	20,828.00
Helvig, Aaron ^ *	55,035.00	Krueger, Jill ^	15,351.26
Helvig, Jill	43,630.00	Krueger, Lois ^	20,279.44
Hendrickson, Shelby	39,580.00	Lewandowski, Rebecca	15,067.51
Johnson, Darlyne	46,430.00	Lipp, Kami	16,062.82
Johnson, Mary	45,880.00	Madsen, Brenda ^	16,726.50
Johnson, Nicole	43,230.00	Mitchell, Jamie	14,210.00
Kjellsen, Jordan *	40,875.00	Morehouse, Amanda ^	24,128.00
Kroll, Jane	51,830.00	Morton, Darlene	6,510.00
Kurth, Travis *	52,535.00	Nehls, Mike ^	43,530.00
Kurtz, Diane	52,230.00	Padfield, Chuck	7,905.75
Lingbeck, Brooke *	40,355.00	Pigors, Tom ^	33,238.40
Lone, Janel	49,530.00	Raap, LaVonne	7,609.88
Milbrandt, Julie ^ *	47,422.50	Reder, Dorothy ^	13,312.00
Peterson, Todd	43,400.00	Riggenberg, Molly	14,210.00
Schimmel, Bondell	55,630.00	Tietz, Deb	15,840.00
Schuring, Alexa *	38,325.00	Tollifson, Deb	16,143.76
Schuring, Brian *	59,065.00	Wattier, Sue ^	24,662.40
Seeklander, Ashley	45,430.00	Weber, Kim ^	22,963.50
Seibel, Jan *	47,645.00	Weismantel, Kandi	14,210.00
Sternhagen, Jodi ^	56,588.00	Wattier, Sue ^	24,662.40
Swanson, Cody *	42,890.00	Weber, Kim ^	22,963.50
Swisher, Renee	52,230.00	Weismantel, Kandi	14,210.00
Thorson, Scott *	49,485.00	Wimmer, Bertha ^	25,168.00
Tietz, Lindsey *	46,755.00	2017-18 Off Staff Salaries	
Vogel, Dustin	42,000.00	Activity Bus Drivers	10.00/hr
Wanner, Shaun *	57,600.00	Auxiliary Adult Subs	11.40/hr
Weisenberger, Carrie	45,650.00	Auxiliary Student Subs	9.25/hr
Winburn, Debra	52,680.00	Bus Driver Subs	65.00/day
Yeigh, Desiree *	44,370.00	Certified Teacher Subs	100.00/day
Zoellner, Anne ^	48,060.00	Hanson, Chelsea *	4,015.00
		Hanson, Justin *	4,380.00
		Harder, Cory *	2,555.00
Certified Staff-180 days, unless noted		Harry, Aubray *	410.63
^ Indicates additional contract days		Miller, Joellen *	821.25
* Indicates additional extra-curricular		Scepaniak, Ryan *	2,920.00
		Schwan, Anna *	1,825.00
		Sippel, Sandi *	2,053.13
Auxiliary Staff-175 days, unless noted		Strom, Jenna *	2,555.00
^ Indicates additional contract days		Strom, Nicholas *	2,920.00
* Indicates additional extra-curricular		Zoellner, Darin *	4,380.00

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No Tubes (On End-Of-Life-Dare and Hospice)



By Richard P. Holm M.D.

Twenty-five years ago or so, my 96-year-old Grandma refused to eat after her hip fracture surgery. Multiple strokes had lessened her mental function, but she knew enough to realize she was dying. Despite my dad and aunt's objections, the nursing home doctor put the feeding tube down her nose and then Grandma pulled it out. It went back in, then out again. The horrible truth is that some three or four weeks later she died, arms restrained, feeding tube in place.

There is no question that hydrating a sick patient who has a reasonable chance of recovery can sometimes bring them back to life. But the paradox of fluid replacement is that when a person is certainly dying, it only prolongs pain and suffering.

This point is clarified with the famous nationwide 1995 SUPPORT study which showed, time and time again, patients who had absolutely no chance of recovery were too often kept on fluids and in the ICU for many more days than appropriate, prolonging their suffering for naught. What's more, 50% of the conscious dying patients were later reported by family to be in moderate-to-severe pain at least half of the time.

Artificial hydration is defined as IV fluids or fluids given by feeding tube to someone who cannot or will not drink. Families and even some doctors struggle with the idea that not giving artificial hydration to a dying patient causes thirst and discomfort. But just the opposite is true.

During the dying process, as dehydration occurs, the body produces natural endorphins that numb the pain and bring comfort. If a person cannot drink or swallow and is not artificially hydrated, then that human being will slip away from this earth gently over an 8-10-day period, just like nature has done it for as long as humans have walked this earth. That is, until we interrupted the natural process less than a century ago with artificial fluids.

Bottom line: there is great value in providing IV fluids in saving lives that can be saved. But when a person is certainly dying, and especially with a living will that so advises, we should let go, and provide love, not fluids. I for one have clearly instructed my doctor and my family on the matter. If I do not recognize my children and cannot or will not swallow fluid, and if there is no reasonable chance of recovery, then let nature take its course. No tubes.

Gas Prices Expected to Climb into the Fall

July 24, 2017 - Across the country, 39 states saw prices increase on average by three cents - a major swing from last week when only nine states posted more expensive gas prices on the week. At \$2.28, the national gas price is three cents more than a week ago, which is the largest seven-day increase since before Memorial Day. South Dakota's statewide average stands at \$2.26 today, up just one cent from a week ago.

"Demand has remained strong as gasoline stocks dip for a fifth consecutive week, driving up prices at the pump," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson. "For much of the summer, gas prices have been fairly cheap. Those days are in the rearview mirror."

Check today's city, state and U.S. gasoline prices, visit www.GasPrices.AAA.com.

Current Price Averages per Gallon of Regular Gasoline

Sioux Falls - \$2.19, up 7 cents from one month ago ... up 23 cents from 7/24/16

Rapid City - \$2.25, down 10 cents from one month ago ... down 16 cents from 7/24/16

South Dakota - \$2.26, down 4 cents from one month ago ... up 2 cents from 7/24/16

U.S. - \$2.28, up 1 cent from one month ago ... up 12 cents from 7/24/16

According to the Energy Information Administration (EIA), gasoline stocks took their largest dip - 4.4 million bbl - for the first time in five weeks, bringing levels down to 231 million bbl. That is a 10 million bbl deficit year-on-year and a factor in prices at the pump increasing.

Quick Stats

The nation's top ten markets with the largest weekly increases are: Indiana (+8 cents), Florida (+7 cents), Ohio (+7 cents), Michigan (+6 cents), Delaware (+6 cents), New Jersey (+6 cents), Texas (+5 cents), Pennsylvania (+5 cents), Virginia (+5 cents) and Kentucky (+4 cents).

The nation's top ten markets with the cheapest gas are: South Carolina (\$1.99), Alabama (\$2.00), Mississippi (\$2.01), Oklahoma (\$2.04), Arkansas (\$2.04), Tennessee (\$2.05), Virginia (\$2.07), Missouri (\$2.07), Louisiana (\$2.08) and Texas (\$2.09).

Great Lakes and Central States

Gas prices are more expensive on the week in all Great Lakes and Central States, except for Kansas where prices remained flat. Four states land on the weekly biggest increase list: Indiana (+8 cents), Ohio (+7 cents), Michigan (+6 cents) and Kentucky (+4 cents).

Gasoline stocks in the region increased by 1.3 million bbl, bringing regional levels to nearly 55 million bbl. While levels are above the year-ago figure by a more than 1 million bbl, they are down considerably from the 2017 high of 60 million bbl reported in February, according to the EIA.

Oil Market Dynamics

The price per barrel of crude oil kicked off the week climbing above \$46 for West Texas Intermediate. The positive climb, compared to Friday's close of \$45.77, follows the OPEC announcement this morning that Nigeria will join its production reduction agreement to cut oil output by a combined 1.8 million b/d from January 2017 until the end of March 2018. With today's announcement at the 4th OPEC & Non-OPEC Ministerial Monitoring Committee in St. Petersburg, Russia about Nigeria - along with other countries in the agreement pledging stricter adherence to the cuts - OPEC's efforts to rebalance the market may have found a new foothold. However, outliers, including rising exports from OPEC and Libya's growth in production, could stall OPEC's efforts. In fact, at today's meeting Saudi Arabia agreed to cut its exports by 600,000 b/d, suggesting that OPEC has its eyes on the role of exports in thwarting its efforts to increase the global price per barrel of oil.

Growth in U.S. oil production still plays a critical role in suppressing the price of crude per barrel. For example, the latest EIA report for the week ending on July 14 showed that although crude oil inventories declined by 4.4 million bbl, when being compared with the five-year average, the surplus still stands at well over 75 million bbl. The total number of U.S. oil rigs stands at 764, which is one less than last week according to Baker Hughes, Inc., and is up 393 from last year.

On both the inventory and rig count fronts, the weekly decreases only show incremental downward movement, while the overall numbers still remain very high when compared to historical data. Unless these numbers take a more pronounced nosedive, they will still depress crude prices. In the meantime, as the numbers get closer to this season's steady, strong demand for refined products, such as gasoline, drivers are likely to see prices continue to move up.

ProAm Amateur Gross Results

74- Gabe Kjellsen
 75- Ryan Hardy
 77- Tyler Sperry
 78- Luke Kraft
 79- Darren Duvall
 79- Brad Larson, Mark Herman.
 80- Ian Rose
 81- Austin Schuelke, Brad Waage, Randy Stanley, Bill Deutsch.
 82- TJ Sperry, Drew Amacher, Andrew Frankenstein.
 83- Gary Hagen, Samuel Toillion
 84- Drake Patterson, Craig Dunker, Jerry Johnson, Scott Kettering, Jake Unzen, Jan Gilchrist, Craig Grupe, Tanner Waage.
 85- Allen Heer, Jarod Flihs, Jay Waage.
 86- Blake Ronning, Tim Bergstrom.
 87- Henry Renville, Justin Monson, Jason Hill, Jeremy Smith.
 88- Larry Bohling, Tony Madsen, Justin Remily, Arden Gilbert, Lucas Pearson.
 89- Sam Heintzman, Mike Siegler, Lorin Flihs, Dave Carlson, Shawn Lambertz.
 90- Jonathan Flihs.
 92- Brian Carrells, Jesse Zak.
 93- Lance Frohling, Eric Mody, Roger Colestock, Tom Opsahl, Steve Dunker.
 94- Tom Mahan, Clinton Kann.
 95- Bob Walter
 96- Troy Dahme
 105- Matt Locke
 108- Connor Hanson

ProAm Amateur Net Results

63- Mark Herman
 67- Luke Kraft
 67- Gabe Kjellsen
 67- Bill Deutsch
 69- Gary Hagen
 70- Randy Stanley
 71- Ian Rose, Ryan Hardy, Arden Gilbert.
 72- Andrew Frankenstein, Jay Waage.
 73- TJ Sperry, Craig Dunker, Brad Waage, Brad Larson, Tyler Sperry, Lucas Pearson.
 74- Darren Duvall, Troy Dahme, Jake Unzen, Jan Gilchrist, Craig Grupe.
 75- Mike Siegler, Allen Heer, Jason Hill, Austin Schuelke, Justin Remily, Shawn Lambertz.
 76- Henry Renville, Jonathan Flihs, Drew Amacher, Jeremy Smith, Blake Ronning, Jerry Johnson, Jarod Flihs, Scott Kettering, Jesse Zak, Dave Carlson, Steve Dunker.
 77- Drake Patterson, Lorin Flihs, Justin Monson, Tony Madsen.
 78- Lance Frohling, Larry Bohling.
 79- Tom Opsahl, Clint Kann.
 80- Bob Walter, Tim Bergstrom.
 81- Sam Heintzman, Eric Moody, Tom Mahan, Brian Carrells, Tanner Waage.
 83- Sameul Toillion, Roger Colestock.
 86- Matt Locke
 102- Connor Hanson.

Team Scores

3 Best Ball Points - Net Score (used for placing), Player with their score, team score
 79- Jan Gilchrist 74, Dave Carlson 76, Mark Herman 63, Pro Jonathan Ledger 70, 192
 70- Lucas Pearson 73, Drew Amacher 76, Craig Grupe 74, Pro Tyler Pitlik 70, 201
 70- Tom Opsahl 79, Gary Hagen 69, Justin Monson 77, Pro Brad Marek 67, 200
 70- Luke Kraft 67, Justin Remily 75, Allen Heer 75, Pro Nic Noya 68, 200.
 68- Lance Frohling 78, TJ Sperry 73, Ryan Hardy 71, Pro Luke Schlicher 68, 202.
 67- Randy Stanley 70, Bob Walter 80, Mike Siegler 75, Pro Kyle Karazissis 68, 203
 67- Troy Dahme 74, Clinton Kann 79, Bill Deutsch 67, Pro Logan McCracken 73. 203
 66- Ian Rose, Andrew Frankenstein 79, Jesse Zak 67, Pro Craig Howard 73, 204.
 65- Connor Hanson 102, Gabe Kjellsen 67, Sam Heintzman 81, Pro Austin Truslow 65, 208.

65- Jake Unzen 74, Jarod Flihs 76, Shawn Lambertz 75, David Fink 66. 206.
 64- Lorin Flihs 77, Arden Gilbert 71, Jonathan Flihs 76, Pro Alex Romo 69, 206.
 64- Brad Larson 73, Tyler Sperry 73, Blake Ronning 68, Pro Tyler Maranville 68, 206.
 61- Larry Frohling 78, Henry Renville 76, Darren Duvall 74, Pro Mikey McGinn 70, 210.
 61- Jay Waage 72, Tanner Waage 81, Tony Madsen 77, Pro Tim Ailes 66, 209.
 60- Drake Patterson 77, Jerry Johnson 76, Austin Schuelke 75, Pro Justin Matthews 69, 210.
 57- Jason Hill 75, Brian Carrells 81, Eric Moody 81, Pro David Kostyal 74, 214.
 55- Tom Mahan 81, Tim Bergstrom 80, Steve Dunker 76, Pro Dominic DeCarlo 72, 215.
 54- Scott Kettering 76, Matt Locke 86, Jeremy Smith 76, Pro Andrew Farrand 76, 216.
 52- Brad Waage 73, Roger Colestock 83, Craig Dunker 73, Pro Samuel Toillion 83, 218.
 45- Pro John Tidenberg 65, Pro Brian Beach 70, 135.

ProAm Gross Professional Results

65- Austin Truslow
 65- John Tidenberg
 66- David Fink, Tim Ailes
 67- Brad Marek
 68- Nic Noya, Luke Schlicher, Tyler Maranville, Kyle Karazissis.
 69- Justin Matthews, Alex Romo
 70- Jonathan Ledger, Mikey McGinn, Tyler Pitlik, Brian Beach.
 72- Dominic DeCarlo
 73- Logan McCracken, Craig Howard
 74- David Kostyal
 76- Andrew Farrand
 83- Samuel Toillion



John Tidenberg of North Canton, Ohio (right) and Austen Truslow (left) of New Smyrna Beach, Fla., were tied for first and had to play a sudden death playoff to determine the winner. Truslow won the sudden death and was the Pro-Am winner in Groton. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The winning team of the ProAm Golf tournament held at the Olive Grove Golf Course on July 20 was Jan Gilchrist and Mark Herman, and those not pictured are Dave Carlson and Pro Jonathan Ledger. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The third place team pictured above are Justin monson, Gary Hagen, Pro Brad Marek of San Francisco, Calif., and Tom Opsahl. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The second place team pictured above are Craig Grupe, Pro Tyler Pitlik of Illinois, Drew Amacher and Lucas Pearson. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Several golfers followed the two pros as they played for sudden death to determine the winner. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Summer Festival first event

The first Groton Lions Club Summer Festival and Car Show was held Sunday at the City Park. It was a perfect day with temperatures in the 70s, low humidity, partly cloudy sky and a slight northerly breeze. There was a good turnout for the first event, planned to be an annual event. There were lots of vendors, vehicles on display and people at the event. Organizers were pleased with the first event. Below are some photos lifted from the GDILIVE.COM video footage.

The following are some of the photos taken by Julianna Kosel.



Photo by Julianna Kosel



Photo by Julianna Kosel





The fog Wednesday morning, July 19, created streaks of light from this street light.

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<p>2 for \$4 RED-RIPE STRAWBERRIES 16 Oz. Ctn.</p>	<p>\$3⁹⁹ Each SEEDLESS WHOLE WATERMELON</p>	<p>39¢ Per Lb. GOLDEN RIPE BANANAS</p>
<p>\$2⁷⁹ Per Lb. Demkota USDA Choice BONELESS BREAD & BUTTER ROAST</p>	<p>\$5⁶⁹ Per Lb. Demkota USDA Choice BONELESS TOP SIRLOIN VALUE PACK</p>	<p>\$2⁹⁹ Per Lb. Smithfield PORK BABY BACK RIBS</p>
<p>\$1⁹⁹ Best Choice WHITE VINEGAR 1 Gallon Jug LIMIT 3 PLEASE</p>	<p>\$1⁸⁸ Crystal GRANULATED SUGAR 4 Lb. Bag</p>	<p>\$2⁸⁸ Best Choice GRADE AA BUTTER 1 Lb. Qtrs.</p>
<p>5 for \$10 PEPSI, DIET PEPSI OR MT. DEW 6 Pack, .5 Liter Bottles</p>	<p>2 for \$4 NIAGARA WATER 24 Pack, .5 Liter Bottles</p>	<p>\$16⁹⁹ COORS, COORS LT. 24 Pack, 12 Oz. Cans</p>

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAMBERLAIN IS HOSTING their Fall Festival on 09/30/17. Judged event for home brew, wine and distilled beverages. Contact Rebecca at 605-680-5349 or Kelli at 605-730-1967.

EMPLOYMENT

MANAGING EDITOR POSITION open at Todd County Tribune newspaper in Mission, SD. Send resume to timh@gwtc.net.

MANAGING EDITOR for a weekly community newspaper at Chamberlain, SD. Experienced writer preferred, future ownership opportunity. Send resume and writing samples to lucyh@lcherald.com.

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Legion Team eliminated from state tournament

The Groton American Legion Post #39 was eliminated in the first two games of the state tournament being played in Winner. Vermillion defeated Groton, 13-2, and Platte-Geddes defeated Groton, 12-4.

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