



# THE Groton Independent

South Dakota

Growing Families & Opportunities

Vol. 136 No. 39 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, May 22, 2019 ♦ Established in 1889



## GHS Class of 2019

In the front row, left to right, are Sam Geffre, Taylor Holm, Devan Howard, Payton Maine, Portia Kettering, Tylan Glover, Megan Crosby and AnneMarie Smith. In the second row, left to right, are Cassandra Townsend, Emily Thompson, Miranda Hanson, Caroline Graf, Claire Davidson, Alexis Simon, Kylie Kassube and Ashley Garduno. Third row, left to right, are Jillian Barton, Kaitlyn Anderson, Sam Menzia, Shannon Weidrick, Emerald Sturdevant, Josie LaMee, Alexa Hickenbotham. Fourth row, left to right, are James Cranford, Cole Larson, Lucas Hinman, Spencer Jacobs, Brandon Grackle, Wyatt Locke, Jeremy Johnson and Shyla Larson. In back, left to right, are Micah Poor, Mitchell Koens, Emily Blocker, Kaitlyn Kassube, Treyton Diegel, Clark Gibbs and Korbin Blackmun. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

**Class Motto: "I don't know where I am going from here, but I promise it won't be boring."  
- David Bowie.**

**Class Flowers: Fire and Ice Rose  
Class Colors: Black and Gold**

## Seniors on the move

<p><b>Northern State Univ.</b> Claire Davidson Alexa Hickenbotham Kylie Kassube Mitchell Koens Wyatt Locke</p> <p><b>SD School of Mines</b> Spencer Jacobs</p> <p><b>Black Hills University</b> Shannon Wiedrick</p> <p><b>U. of Mn. Twin Cities</b> Micah Poor Alexis Simon</p> <p><b>Grand Canyon University - Phoenix</b> Payton Maine</p> <p><b>NDSU - Fargo, ND</b> Portia Kettering</p> <p><b>U of Northwestern St. Paul</b> Ashley Garduno</p> <p><b>SDSU - Brookings</b> Kaitlyn Anderson Treyton Diegel AnneMarie Smith Emily Thompson Cassandra Townsend</p> <p><b>ND State College of Science</b> Shyla Larson</p>	<p><b>Lake Area Tech</b> Emily Blocker James Cranford Maggie Crosby Jennie Doeden Clark Gibbs Caroline Graf Miranda Hanson Devan Howard Jeremy Johnson Josie LaMee Cole Larson</p> <p><b>USD - Vermillion</b> Korbin Blackmun</p> <p><b>Southeast Tech. SF</b> Samantha Geffre</p> <p><b>Mn.StateUniv.Moorhead</b> Kaitlyn Kassube Emerald Sturdevant</p> <p><b>University of Sioux Falls</b> Taylor Holm</p> <p><b>Presentation College</b> Jillian Barton</p> <p><b>American Musical &amp; Dramatic Academy- NY</b> Tylan Glover</p> <p><b>Employment</b> Lucas Hinman Brandon Gackle</p> <p><b>St Cloud State University</b> Samantha Menzia</p>
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**AnneMarie Lyn Smith**  
With Highest Honors



**Parents:** Dr. Steve and Carol Smith  
**Hometown:** Groton  
**Brothers and Sisters:** Samuel (26), Marah (24), Luke (22), Erin (20), and Isaac (16)  
**Hobbies:** Playing piano, trumpet, and trap set, singing, acting, theatre tech, reading, spending time with family and friends

**School/Community Activities:** show choir, chamber choir, jazz band, marching band, all school play, one act play, cross country, oral Interp, destination imagination, robotics, student accompanist, aberdeen community theatre volunteer, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church volunteer, carnival of silver skates

**Favorite High School Memory:** Going to state one acts my sophomore year and earning a superior ensemble award

**Future Plans:** Music Education at SDSU

**Awards:** HOBY Representative, National Honor Society, Aberdeen American News Scholastic Star Gold Award, American Legion Citizenship Award 2019, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Associated School Boards Governor's Academic Excellence Recognition, James Valley Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, SDSU Stephen F. Briggs Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Priority Scholarship, SDSU Music Scholarship, PEO International Star Scholarship, Groton Kiwanis Community Service Scholarship, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Valedictorian Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**Emily Anne Thompson**  
With Highest Honors



**Parents:** Lee and Jennifer Thompson  
**Hometown:** Groton  
**Brother:** James Thompson (21)  
**Hobbies:** running, playing, piano, baking, gardening  
**School/Community Activities:** cross country, FCCLA, band, Jazz Band  
**Favorite High**

**School Memory:** Freshman initiation

**Future Plans:** attend SDSU for nursing

**Awards:** National Honor Society, DAR Good Citizen Award, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Aberdeen American News Scholastic Star Silver Award, Wendy's High School Heisman School Winner 2018, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, Dakota Bank Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Scottish Rite Book Grant, Susan Deanne Weismantel Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Trade/Technical/Science or Math Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



**A note to all the students at Groton Area. We need to realize and accept that a teacher's job is not to make your life easy while you are here. Their job is to make your life easier after you leave Groton Area. Only then will you understand why they challenge you to be your best.**

- Dr. Steve Smith

Groton Area Board of Education President

**Ashley Joy Garduño**  
With Highest Honors



**Parents:** Shannon and Alfredo Garduño  
**Hometown:** Webster.  
**Brother:** Kason Garduño (7)  
**Hobbies:** Hanging out with friends, watching Netflix, reading, and playing piano.

**School/Community Activities:**

Concert choir, show choir, chamber choir, concert band, pep band, marching, Jazz band, Drama Club, Sunday School Teacher, St. Johns Youth choir and Senior Bell choir, and participating in instrumental ensembles at my church for Easter & Christmas.

**Favorite High School Memory:** Winning 1st place at State Show Choir my freshman year of high school.

**Future Plans:** Attending University of Northwestern- St. Paul for a Bachelor of Music in Music Education for instrumental.

**Awards:** HOBY Representative, National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Susan Clawson Grace Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, University of Northwestern Music Grant, University of Northwestern Music Scholarship, University of Northwestern Leadership Program Award, University of Northwestern Grant, University of Northwestern Faculty Scholarship, Scottish Rite Book Grant, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Financial Need Scholarship.



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**Paepke Scholarships**

**Two Groton students were awarded the Tom and Barbara Paepke Scholarships**

**Micah Poor (Fine Arts Scholarship) and Treyton Diegel (Career in Agriculture)**



**Back - Emily Thompson, Cassandra Townsend, Alexis Simon, Jennie Doeden, Kaitlyn Anderson, AnneMarie Smith, Kylie Kassube; Front - Ashley Garduno, Tylan Glover, Taylor Holm, Samantha Menzia.**

**Principal's Honor Roll**

Eleven seniors in the Class of 2019 have been selected for the Principal's Honor Roll at Groton Area High School. To be eligible for this award, the seniors had to be on the honor roll at Groton Area High School every quarter for four years.

"This is a very special award," stated Jodi Sternhagen, School Counselor at Groton High School. "These students have worked very hard academically and should be commended." The seniors graduated on May 19, 2019.

**Cassandra Ann Townsend**  
With Highest Honors



**Parents:** Dean and Kellie Townsend  
**Hometown:** Andover  
**Brother:** Travis Townsend (15)  
**Hobbies:** Showing horses, working with animals, drawing, traveling  
**School/Community Activities:** FFA, FCCLA,

4-H, track, South Dakota Quarter Horse Association, North Central Reining Horse Association

**Favorite High School Memory:** When I had the privilege to win 2019 Sr. Snow Queen to represent Groton at the State Snow Queen Festival.

**Future Plans:** attend South Dakota State University majoring in human biology with a pre-medicine pathway.

**Awards:** National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SDSU Equestrian Team Commit, Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Beck Memorial Scholarship, James Valley Threshing Association Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Brown County 4H leaders Association Scholarship, Lazy Farmers 4-H Club Scholarship,



Wilfred N. and Lucille A. Heinz Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Athletic Scholarship.

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605/397-3333 (FEED)



**SDSU Scholarships**

These students received scholarships from SDSU

Cassandra Townsend, Emily Thompson, Kaitlyn Anderson, AnneMarie Smith

**Threshing and Waldorf Scholarships**

**Right Photo:** Cassandra Townsend (James Valley Threshing Association Scholarship), Josie LaMee (James Valley Threshing Association Scholarship), Miranda Hanson (Waldorf 5000 Scholarship)

**Alexis Paige Simon**  
With Highest Honors



**Parents:** Nick and Jamie Simon  
**Hometown:** Groton  
**Brothers:** Lucas (16), Cole (14), and Carter (12)  
**Hobbies:** traveling, shopping, spending time with friends and family, going to sporting events, babysitting  
**School/Community Activities:** Volleyball stats, boys basketball stats, track stats, football water girl, FFA member, FBLA member, FCLA member, SEAS church member, student council, 2016 Groton Jr. Snow Queen, 2018 Girls State Representative

**Favorite High School Memory:** beating Roncalli in football in 2016 to go to the Dome.

**Future Plans:** Attend University of Minnesota Twin Cities and major in International Business, pursue career in hospitality management after college graduation.

**Awards:** SD Girls State Representative 2018, National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Shawn Weismantel Kramer Memorial Scholarship, Groton Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Top Student Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



**Scottish Rite Book Grant Scholarships**

Ashley Garduno and Emily Thompson



**Tylan Jeffrey Glover**  
With Honors



**Parents:** Burt and Angela Glover  
**Hometown:** Groton  
**Sister:** Tadyn Glover (11)  
**Hobbies:** Acting, Singing and Dance  
**School/Community Activities:** Show Choir, Chamber Choir, Jazz band, FBLA, One Act Play, All-school

play

**Favorite High School Memory:** Performing at State One-Act. Winning at State Show Choir.

**Future Plans:** Attend the American Musical and Dramatic Academy with the intent of gaining a Bachelors in Fine Arts specializing in Musical Theatre.

**Awards:** National Honor Society, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship, AMDA Scholarship, Post 9-11 Montgomery GI Bill Military Tuition and Fees, book allowance, living expense allowance, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**Groton Chiropractic Clinic**

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



Back - Emily Thompson, AnneMarie Smith, Kaitlyn Anderson, Kylie Kassube  
Front - Cassandra Townsend, Taylor Holm, Jennie Doeden

**SD Opportunity Scholarship**

The South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship was established for Regents Scholar and CTE recipients with an ACT score of 24 or greater. The scholarship provides \$6500 over four years to a qualifying student who attends an eligible higher education institution in South Dakota. While in college, students must maintain certain criteria. This scholarship is non-competitive; all students who meet the requirements and complete the application can receive the scholarship.

Seven members of the Class of 2019 have qualified for the SD Opportunity Scholarship and are pictured above.

**Kaitlyn Ann Anderson**  
With Honors



**Parents:** John and Stacey Anderson  
**Hometown:** Claremont  
**Sister:** Kennedy Anderson (14)  
**Hobbies:** Drawing, Camping, Skating, Watching movies & hanging out with friends  
**School/Community Activities:** FC-CLA, Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4H group, Carnival of Silver Skates & Yearbook Committee

**Favorite High School Memory:** Dressing up with my friends for our last homecoming dress up days.

**Future Plans:** I plan on attending South Dakota State University this fall to major in architecture.

**Awards:** SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, National Honor Society, SD Girls State Representative 2018, Vicki Strom Memorial Scholarship, SD Opportunity Scholarship, SDSU Yellow and Blue Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton PAC Community Service Scholarship, Brown County 4H Leaders Association Scholarship, Brown County Community and Family Extension Leaders Scholarship, Groton Irvin and Janice Flihs Family Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

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**Jillian Lee Barton**  
With Honors



**Parents:** Brian and Kris Barton  
**Hometown:** Aberdeen  
**Brothers:** Jordan (27) and Joshua  
**Hobbies:** My hobbies are watching netflix, playing with my dog, Belle, and working as a nurse assistant at Mother Joseph Manor in Aberdeen.

**School/Community Activities:** I am in FFA at school. I volunteer with the Brown County Pet Rescue League in Aberdeen.

**Favorite High School Memory:** My favorite high school memory is when I became an FFA officer my senior year.

**Future Plans:** I plan to attend Presentation College to receive a Bachelors in Nursing.

**Awards:** Presentation College Saints Merit Scholarship, Presentation College Needs Based Scholarship, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**MIDWEST MASONRY & CONCRETE PUMPING**  
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**Kylie McKenzie**  
Kassube  
With Honors



**Parents:** Chris and Nicole Kassube  
**Hometown:** Groton  
**Brother and Sisters:** Taylor Loken (21), Kaitlyn Kassube (17), Hunter Kassube (16)  
**Hobbies:** hanging out with friends, shopping, watching netflix

**School/Community Activities:** FC-CLA, FBLA, Youth Group, Groton Band

**Favorite High School Memory:** Homecoming of my senior year.

**Future Plans:** Attend Northern State University and major in Banking and Finance.

**Awards:** Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, SD Opportunity Scholarship, Northern State University Wolf-PACT Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship



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**Back - Kylie Kassube, Cassandra Townsend, Kaitlyn Anderson, Alexis Simon, AnneMarie Smith; Front - Ashley Garduno, Tylan Glover, Taylor Holm, Micah Poor.**



**Back - Kaitlyn Kassube, Emily Thompson, Cassandra Townsend, Kaitlyn Anderson, Ashley Garduno, Payton Maine, AnneMarie Smith, Samantha Geffre, Kylie Kassube  
Front - Jennie Doeden, Taylor Holm, Tylan Glover, Micah Poor, Alexis Simon**

**President's Education Awards Program**

Nine students in the Class of 2019 have qualified for the President's Education Awards Program. The awards are an effort by the U.S. Department of Education to recognize outstanding educational achievement and effort. The criteria have been developed to reflect changes occurring in the schools and to provide schools with both clear guidelines and flexibility. They are meant to reflect the state, local and national efforts to raise academic standards as embodied in the National Education goals.

"It is really nice to be able to recognize these seniors. They have worked hard for four years, have exceptional grade point averages, and have performed well on standardized testing," stated Jodi Sternhagen, Groton Area High School Counselor. The President's Award for Educational Excellence is signed by the President, Secretary of Education, and the school principal. Criteria include a grade point average of 3.5 or above and standardized test achievement at the 85th percentile or higher in math or reading.

**Regents Scholar Diploma**

Fourteen seniors from Groton Area High School are recipients of a Regents' Scholar Diploma awarded by the South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs and the South Dakota Board of Regents.

The diplomas recognize students for academic achievement over the course of their high school career. Students earning the award automatically qualify for entry into any of South Dakota's six state-supported universities.

To earn a Regents' Scholar Diploma, students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average, no final grade below a C (2.0) and must complete four units each of English, mathematics and science, three units of social studies, two units of one modern or classical language and one-half unit each of fine arts and computer science.

The diplomas are signed by Governor Dennis Daugaard, the Secretary of State, the Department of Education Secretary, the South Dakota Board of Education President, and the Board of Regents President.

**DVD of the 2019 Graduation Service can be purchased by calling the Groton Daily Independent at 605/397-6397.**

## Taylor Renee Holm

With Honors



**Parents:** Jason and Kathy Holm

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brother:** Tyler (24)

**Hobbies:** Participating in sports, hanging out with friends and family and watching netflix

**School/Community Activities:** Track, Volleyball, FCCLA, Carnival of Silver Skates, and National Honor Society.

**Favorite High School Memory:** Winning Carnival of Silver Skates Queen

**Future Plans:** I plan on attending the University of Sioux Falls and majoring in Radiologic Technology.

**Awards:** SD Girls State Representative 2018, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, National Honor Society, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Opportunity Scholarship, University of Sioux Falls Presidential Scholarship, Groton Area Hopps Dow Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship, Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarship.



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## Samantha Lynn Geffre

With Honors



**Parents:** Cory and Tammi Geffre

**Hometown:** Aberdeen

**Brother and Sister:** Parker Geffre (19) Alexis Geffre (12)

**Hobbies:** Soccer  
**School/Community Activities:** FCCLA

**Favorite High**

**School Memory:** watching the Community of Groton come together for families in time of need.

**Future Plans:** Attend SouthEast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls for nursing.

**Awards:**

SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**MIDWEST MASONRY & CONCRETE PUMPING**

605/397-8383

## Samantha Jo Menzia

With Honors



**Parents:** Eric and Ann Menzia

**Hometown:** Conde

**Brother and Sisters:** Sara (13), Nick (19), and Sanjay (24)

**Hobbies:** Kayaking, ice Skating, hanging out with friends and family, netflix, napping

**School/Community Activities:** FCCLA, Carnival of Silver Skates, Volleyball Stats

**Favorite High School Memory:** late night adventures with my girls

**Future Plans:** Attend St. Cloud State University to major in social work

**Awards:** Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, Principal's Student Service Award 2019, SD Girls State Representative 2018, Conde Civic Department Scholarship, St. Cloud State Presidential Scholarship, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Credit Union Foundation of the Dakotas, Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

*Cheri's on Main*

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### Beck and Schuring Scholarships

Cassandra Townsend (Beck Memorial) and Treyton Diegel (Barry Schuring Memorial)



### Luecke and Duerre Scholarships

Taylor Holm received the Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship and Wyatt Locke received the Richard Duerre Memorial Scholarship



### Peterson Scholarships

Portia Kettering and Miranda Hanson were awarded the Jerald W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship



### Kay and David Donovan Memorial Scholarship

Treyton Diegel with Richard Donovan



### McKiver and Strom Scholarships

Tylan Glover received the Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship and Kaitlyn Anderson received the Vicki Strom Memorial Scholarship



### Montgomery GI Awards

Tylan Glover and Micah Poor received Montgomery GI Bill Military Tuition and Fees Awards

## Micah David Poor

With Honors



**Parents:** David and Anissa Poor

**Hometown:** Stratford

**Brother and Sister:** Noah (17) and Rebecca (12)

**School/Community Activities:** cross country, show choir, one act plays, hockey, chamber choir, jazz band

**Favorite High School Memory:** Florida Band/Show choir trip

**Future Plans:** Go to U of M Minneapolis for Chemistry, National Guard

**Awards:** American Legion Citizenship Award 2019, President's Award in Education 2019, SD Boys State Representative 2018, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Tom and Barbara Paepke Fine Arts Scholarship, Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship, Roger Hendrickson Memorial Scholarship, Stratford Community Theatre Scholarship, Montgomery GI Bill and Kicker, Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

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(605) 395-6581 ~ ggm@nvc.net



## Jennie Anne Doeden

With Honors



**Parents:** Toby and Liz Doeden

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sister:** Jackson Doeden (22) Josie Doeden (20) Jonathan Doeden (17)

**Hobbies:** hair & makeup, baking, shopping, hanging out with friends and family, traveling

**School/Community Activities:** volleyball, basketball, track, FFA, FBLA, band, Luther League

**Favorite High School Memory:** Playing sports with all of my teammates and hanging out with my friends.

**Future Plans:** Attend LATI in Watertown, SD, for cosmetology and continue on with future schooling to become a registered nurse.

**Awards:** Principal's 4 year Honor Roll 2019, SD Regents Scholar Diploma, SD Opportunity Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

### Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

## Korbin Clark Blackmun



**Parents:** Dave and Marcy Blackmun

**Hometown:** Groton, SD

**Sister:** Rachel Blackmun (22)

**Hobbies:** Hunting, fishing, playing video games, hanging out with friends.

**School/Community Activities:** Football, Baseball, Show Choir, helping with the Thanksgiving Dinner at the Community Center

**Favorite High School Memory:** Being a part of the 2016 football team that went to the dome.

**Future Plans:** USD for Criminal Justice.

**Award:** St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Knights of Columbus Scholarship



Best Wishes From



## Kaitlyn Nicole Kassube

With Honors



**Parents:** Chris and Nicole Kassube

**Hometown:** Bath

**Brother and Sisters:** Taylor Loken (21), Kylie Kassube (17), Hunter Kassube (16)

**Hobbies:** Hunting and Hanging out with friends.

**School/Community Activities:** Basketball stats, FBLA, FCCLA, Cheerleading, and youth group.

**Favorite High School Memory:** When the Seniors did the smash the van for Becky Diegel.

**Future Plans:** I plan to go to Minnesota State University Moorhead and major in social work.

**Awards:** SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship, Minnesota State University Moorhead Scholarship, Groton Community Foundation Scholarship.



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## Payton Nicole Maine

With Honors



**Parents:** Connie and Steve O'Neill, Tracy Maine

**Hometown:** Aberdeen

**Sister:** Taylor Maine Spellman (25)

**Hobbies:** Playing Sports, listening to music, hanging out with friends and cats.

**School/Community Activities:** Volleyball, basketball, track, dance team, FCCLA, FFA, elementary volleyball coach

**Favorite High School Memory:** Playing in big volleyball games (sweet 16) and making memories with my teammates.

**Future Plans:** Attend Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona and major in Nursing to eventually become an emergency room nurse.

**Awards:** SD Regents Scholar Diploma, Grand Canyon University Faculty Scholarship, Grand Canyon University Priority Registration scholarship, Groton Don Bartz Memorial Scholarship.



Best Wishes From

**Groton American Legion Post #39**  
Lounge: 397-2603 • Downtown Groton

## Emily Kathryn Blocker



**Parents:** Perry and Rebecca Blocker

**Hometown:** Bath

**Brother:** Austin Blocker (25)

**Hobbies:** hanging with friends & family, shopping, traveling, dance, going to concerts.

**School/Community Activities:** FCCLA, FBLA, FFA, Boys Basketball Stats, Dance

ball Stats, Dance

**Favorite High School Memory:**

Class trip to Deadwood, SD

**Future Plans:** Going to Lake Area Tech to major in Accounting.



Congrats Emily! So proud of you!

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The awards and scholarship photos appearing in this week's edition are courtesy of School Counselor Jodi Sternhagen. Thank you Jodi for your many years of providing these photos.

## James Cranford



**Parents:** Heather Jacobs

**Hometown:** Aberdeen

**Brother and Sister:** Thomas Cranford (17) Halley Cranford (20)

**Hobbies:** Reading, Writing, anything to do with art (drawing, painting; etc), video

games, hanging out with friends.

**School/Community Activities:** Groton High School

**Favorite High School Memory:** Meeting my best friend Bailey at Aberdeen Central High School and getting Honor Roll like 8 times.

**Future Plans:** Graduate High School, Start working as a CNA and then go to tech school to become an RN.



Best Wishes From

**LW Sales, Inc.**  
Groton ~ 397-8111

## Claire Dawn Davidson



**Parents:** Russell and Karla Davidson

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sisters:** Kris Oleson (26) Michaela Oleson (25) Alec Oleson (23) Andrea Davidson (15)

**Hobbies:** Dance, shopping, traveling, hangout with friends, go to lake, watch

movies.

**School/Community Activities:** FC-CLA, FBLA, Basketball stats, youth group

**Favorite High School Memory:** beating Roncalli to go to the Dome

**Future Plans:** Northern State University for Pre-Mortuary



Congratulations, Claire!

**PAETZ-NICK-GARNESS FUNERAL CHAPEL**  
605-397-2341  
Groton

## Brandon Dean Gackle



**Parents:** Chad and Tiffany Gackle

**Hometown:** Columbia

**Brother and Sister:** Chase Gackle (13) Abby Gackle (11) Kandon Gackle (3)

**Hobbies:** Biking, Drawing, playing video games, participating in the furry fandom

**School/Community Activities:** Bowling

**Favorite High School Memory:** The entirety of Forensics class

**Future Plans:** Moving in with a couple of friends and working



Best Wishes From

**Doug Abeln Seed Company**

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Latham BECK'S Limagrain ROB-SEE-CO

## Megan Montana Lea Crosby



**Parents:** Robin and Russell Crosby

**Hometown:** Claremont

**Sister:** Emilie Crosby (19)

**Hobbies:** shopping, reading, being with friends

**School/Community Activities:** Show choir, Chamber choir

**Favorite High School Memory:** going to Florida for show choir

**Future Plans:** get a business degree from Lake Area Tech

**Award:** Groton Sammuli-Rix Scholarship



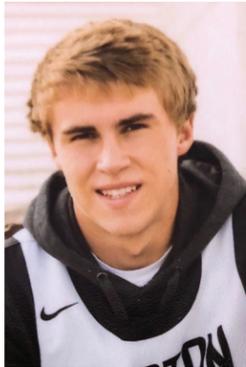
Best Wishes From

**Doug Abeln Seed Company**

Call Doug at 605/380-0200

Latham BECK'S Limagrain ROB-SEE-CO

## Treyton Glenn Diegel



**Parents:** Steve and Becky Diegel

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brother:** Teylor (12)

**Hobbies:** Hunting, fishing, Basketball, riding jet ski and hanging with friends.

**School/Community Activities:** Basketball, 2 years of track, Coaching

**Favorite High School Memory:** Senior year we played Warner and there was a fundraiser and Brody hit the game winner.

**Future Plans:** SDSU for Ag Business

**Awards:** Kay and David Donovan Memorial Scholarship, Full Circle Ag Scholarship, Tom and Barbara Paepke Career in Agriculture Scholarship, Barry Schuring Memorial Scholarship, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Sammuli-Rix Scholarship.



**FULL CIRCLE AG**  
Congratulations Treyton!  
From Full Circle Ag

## Clark Steven Gibbs



**Parents:** Steve and Ann Gibbs

**Hometown:** Groton

**Sisters:** Abby Gibbs (24) and Ashley Gibbs (22)

**Hobbies:** Feeding cows, driving semi, haying, loading cows, calving, hanging out with friends, snow

skiing

**School/Community Activities:** Luther League, FFA Farm Safety, Tractor Day, Ag Fair in Aberdeen

**Favorite High School Memory:** Shop class with Mr. Donley

**Future Plans:** Attend Lake Area in Wattertown and major in Precision Ag.

**Award:** Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship



Best Wishes From

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

I would like to share some recent academic statistics with you. Groton Area scored 94% for College Coursework Readiness (for comparison State Average was 64%) and our college and career readiness score was 87%. (State Avg. was 46%). Graduates, whether your choice is a 4-year university, 2-year tech school or working after graduation, you are prepared.

- Dr. Steve Smith

Groton Area Board of Education President



## Community Service Scholarships

Left Photo: Kaitlyn Anderson (Groton Parent Advisory Committee) and AnneMarie Smith (Groton Kiwanis)

## Caroline Ruth Graf



**Parents:** Pernell Graf and Margaret Deitz

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers:** Brady 22, Alex 20, Dylan 17. **Hobbies:** Sewing, listening to music, play with my son.

**School/Community Activities:** Cheerleading, oral interp, cross country, FCCLA

**Favorite High School Memory:** Freshman Initiation

**Future Plans:** Attend Lake Area for law enforcement



**Congratulations, Caroline!**  
May God's love light your pathway to a wonderful future!



US 12, Groton

## Alexa Hickenbotham



**Parents:** Christa Hickenbotham

**Hometown:** Groton

**Hobbies:** art, reading, listening to oldies music, watching movies, photography (especially nature), playing with animals, writing

**School/Community Activities:** art, church

**Favorite High School Activities:** being in art class, spending time with family and my boyfriend

**Future Plans:** go to college, get married, go to work and make the world a better place

**Award:** Roger Hendrickson Memorial Scholarship



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## Miranda Beth Hanson



**Parents:** Vince and Chris Hanson

**Hometown:** Bristol, SD

**Hobbies:** Rodeo, Sports, Hunting, Fishing, Showing Live Stock, and Agricultural involvement

**School/Community Activities:** Basketball, Volleyball, FFA, Jills & Jeans 4H Club, High School Rodeo, 4H Rodeo, Bergen Luther League

**Favorite High School Memory:** Winning the team state dairy judging in FFA and getting the opportunity to go to nationals.

**Future Plans:** Attend Lake Area Technical Institute and Major in Ag- Business, Large Animal Tech, and Agri-Finance.

**Awards:** Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Jerald W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship, Anthony O'Brokaw Memorial Scholarship, Day County Conservation District, Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, Waldorf 5000 Scholarship, Ruden Family Ag Scholarship.



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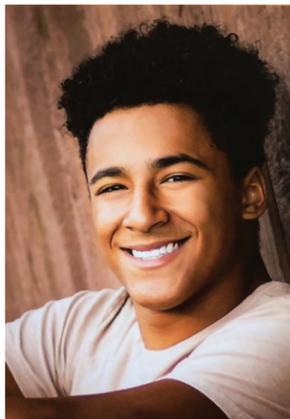
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## Lucas "Hinny" Rocky Hinman



**Parents:** Rocky and Cindy Hinman

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sisters:** Keanu (22), Gabby, Jodi, Renae, Jazzmine, Matt

**Hobbies:** toss the pig skin, chillin with the dawgs

**School/Community Activities:** Choir, Football, track

**Favorite High School Memory:** beating Roncalli for the second time this season to head to the Dome.

**Future Plans:** Im take a break from school to save enough money to pay for college with cash. Head to Minnesota state to get my dental hygiene degree.



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Groton ~ 397-8111

## Devan Amelia Ann Howard



**Parents:** Jesse Howard and Lauri Harry

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brother and Sister:** Cameron Howard (29) and Maddie Howard (24)

**Hobbies:** Soccer, watching netflix, hanging with friends

**School/Community Activities:** High School soccer, FBLA, FCCLA, 4-H

**Favorite High School Memory:** Playing starting varsity goalie my entire high school soccer career

**Future Plans:** Lake Area Technical Institute for entrepreneurship, Alexandria Technical and Community College for interior design.



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## Spencer Noah Jacobs



**Parents:** Henry and Debbie Jacobs

**Hometown:** Groton

**Sister:** Sarah Jacobs 14

**Hobbies:** Airsoft, Paintball, Biking, Skateboarding

**School/Community Activities:** Cross Country, Band, Groton

Christian and Missonary Alliance Church youth group, Rushmore Music Camp.

**Favorite High School Memory:** Trip to Florida for marching band.

**Future Plans:** National Guard and SDSMT to major in paleontology



Best Wishes From

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This was never clearer to me than at a recent school board meeting. Our special ed staff was giving a program presentation. Special ed, they don't get much recognition, but where would we be without them? During their presentation, they were excited to show board members a classroom they were converting a classroom into a special room for their students. A project they weren't asked or told to do. But it was something they wanted to do as it would benefit their students. Staff going above and beyond expectations for our students. We get to witness that often. Do we realize how fortunate we are at Groton Area?

- Dr. Steve Smith

Groton Area Board of Education President

## Jeremy Ryan Johnson



**Parents:** Alan Johnson and Kristi Eckrich

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sister:** Nick Johnson (24), Landon Johnson (21), Kayla Willis (27)

**Hobbies:** Hunting, Fishing, and Shooting

**Favorite High School Memory:**

Reading Macbeth with Mrs. Hanten

**Future Plans:** Go to LATI for Precision Ag.

**Awards:** Health Care Plus Federal Credit Union Scholarship, Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship.



Congrats Jeremy!

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## Mitchell William Koens



**Parents:** Brian & Kristal Koens, Shannon Hill

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sisters:** Heather Koens (24), Amanda Koens (23), Bailey Bieglar (19), Sierra Bieglar (17), Jayden Bieglar (13), and Chelsea Pfaff (7)

**Hobbies:** Running, Singing, Video Games, Listening to work.

**School/Community Activities:** Show choir, Cross Country, Track, All State Choir, honor choir, soccer, chamber choir

**Favorite High School Memory:** Florida trip with Mrs. Hanten

**Future Plans:** go to NSU with a Biology Education Degree.



Congratulations, Mitchell!  
May God's love light your pathway to a wonderful future!



## Cole Davis Larson



**Parents:** Jamie and Jeff Larson

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers:** Trevor (24) and Landon (22)

**Hobbies:** Hunting, Fishing, Snowmobiling, Four wheeling, hanging out with friends.

**School/Community Activities:** weight lifting, track, basketball

**Favorite High School Memory:** Hanging with the Boys

**Future Plans:** Attending Lake Area Tech.



Best Wishes From

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## Portia Ranae Kettering



**Parents:** Kevin & Kara Pharis and Scott Kettering

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sisters:** Pierce (16), Elise (5), Henry (4), and Kale (17)

**Hobbies:** Being with my friends and family, art, doing my

hair and make-up

**School/Community Activities:** FBLA, FFA, FCCLA, Volleyball, Basketball Stats, Golf, Emanuel Luthern Luther League

**Favorite High School Memory:** State FBLA

**Future Plans:** Attend NDSU and receive a 4- year degree in Interior Design

**Awards:** Jerald W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship, Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarship.



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## Josie Emma LaMee



**Parents:** David and Glenda LaMee

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers:** Dustin (26) and Mathieu (24)

**Hobbies:** working on the farm with our livestock, most of the time i am in the barn working with my pigs. I enjoy being with my family and friends.

**School/Community Activities:** 4-H and FFA

**Favorite High School Memory:** FFA National trip to Indianapolis, going to the Ned LeDoux and Garth Brooks Concert.

**Future Plans:** Attending Lake Area Technical Institute for Swine Management and Large Animal Tech.

**Awards:** Groton FFA Alumni Scholarship, James Valley Threshing Association Scholarship, Brown County 4H Leaders Association Scholarship.



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## Shyla Kaye Larson



**Parents:** David and Joy Larson

**Hometown:** Groton, SD

**Brothers:** Tate (14) and Cade (14)twins

**Hobbies:** Dancing, Skating, Reading and Drawing

**School/Community Activities:** Cheerleading, Dance, Choir, and FCCLA

**Favorite High School Memory:** when we won the football game against Roncalli to go to the Dome my sophomore year.

**Future Plans:** I plan to go to NDSCS, in Wahpeton, ND. I plan to go into the Dental Assistant program and then go back for my Dental Hygiene also.

**Awards:** SD Girls State Representative 2018, Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton Lions Club Scholarship, Groton Don Bartz Memorial Scholarship.



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## Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Scholarship

Left Photo: Micah Poor (left) is pictured with Leonard Broman. Poor was selected for the Groton Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Scholarship in 2019. The scholarship is awarded yearly to a Groton student with a minimum GPA of 3.5 who is planning a major in mathematics, engineering or science. Micah is planning to major in chemistry at the University of MN, Twin Cities and is the son of Anissa and David Poor of Stratford.



## Wyatt Anthony Locke



**Parents:** Lisa and Darren Locke

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brother and Sister:** Dalton Locke (24) and Emily Locke (20)

**Hobbies:** Hunting, Fishing, Playing Baseball, Listening to music

**School/Community Activities:** Director of Stations of the Cross, football, Wrestling

**Favorite High School Memory:** Placing 3rd at the 2019 State B High School Wrestling Tournament.

**Future Plans:** Receive an education in Elementary Education undecided college.

**Award:** Richard Duerre Memorial Scholarship



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## Shannon Lee Wiedrick



**Parents:** Lee-Ann Harrell and Mike Wiedrick

**Hometown:** Groton

**Brothers and Sisters:** Ashlee Beaner (37), Audum Beidler (35), Garrett Wiedrick (22), Kayde Wiedrick (21), Grace Wiedrick (16)

**Hobbies:** Reading, Writing, riding bike, ice skating, hanging out with friends and family.

**School/Community Activities:** member of FCCLA, Participates in Carnival of Silver Skates

**Favorite High School Memory:** Many nights of hanging out with friends.

**Future Plans:** Plan on attending Black Hills State University to get a degree in Early Childhood Education.

**Awards:** Groton FCCLA Service Award, Groton Area School Employee Teaching Scholarship.



Best Wishes From



**Roger Hendrickson Memorial Scholarships**  
Recipients Micah Poor and Alexa Hickbotham presented by Gatlin Johnson



**Hopps Dow Scholarships**  
Taylor Holm and AnneMarie Smith

## Emerald Rae Sturdevant



**Parents:** Jamie Sturdevant; Crystal and Polin Joseph

**Brothers and Sisters:** Diamond Sturdevant (24), Jayde Sturdevant (21), Jazmyn Sturdevant (9), Arayia Sturdevant (8), Polin Joseph Jr, (10), Kendrick Joseph (2), TaMaya Joseph (13), Jordan Joseph (7), Azure Joseph (due in May)

**Hobbies:** Knitting, hanging out with friends, shopping, going to movies

**Favorite High School Memory:** Switching to Groton High School and getting to meet so many new people.

**Future Plans:** Attend college at Minnesota State University Moorhead, majoring in Psychology.



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**Kiwanis Scholarship**  
Larry Schelle, Groton Kiwanis, with AnneMarie Smith



**Full Circle Ag Scholarship**  
Lance Frohling presents the Full Circle Ag Scholarship to Treyton Diegel



**Grace Scholarship**  
Lee Schinkel presents the 2019 Susan Clawson Grace Scholarship to Ashley Garduno



**James Valley Telecommunications**  
**Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship**  
AnneMarie Smith



**Anthony O'Brokaw Scholarship**  
Miranda Hanson



**Cassandra Townsend, Samantha Menzia, Tylan Glover, AnneMarie Smith, Kaitlyn Anderson, Alexis Simon.**

### Principal's Student Service Award

Six seniors at Groton Area High School, have been nominated for the Principal's Student Service Award. To be eligible for this award the students had to document exemplary community service during high school and complete an application and essay. The award winners in 2019 are pictured above.

"These students have made significant contributions to our community," stated School Counselor Jodi Sternhagen. "They have always been willing to volunteer when help is needed. When we've needed someone to help with a project, these students have stepped forward. Community service is extremely important in today's world and they have shown that they can make a difference."

The students' service areas included: peer tutoring, participating in the Food Drive, tutoring, helping youth, organizing events, and helping with youth activities such as coaching and refereeing. Each student received a pin from the National Association of Secondary School Principals for service.



### Lions Scholarships

The Groton Lions Club awards several scholarships to Groton seniors.

**Back - Dave Pigors, Steve Gebur, Karyn Babcock, Nancy Larsen, Topper Tastad**

**Front Cassandra Townsend, Samantha Geffre, Taylor Holm, Shyla Larson, Jillian Barton, Treyton Diegel**



### Outside Scholarships

These four Groton students received scholarships from organizations

**Emily Thompson (Dakotah Bank), Miranda Hanson (Day County Conservation District), AnneMarie Smith (PEO International Star), Jeremy Johnson (Healthcare Plus Federal Credit Union)**



### Harms Memorial- The Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarships

**Recipient Alexis Simon, Sarah Harms, Recipient Ashley Garduno, Mike Harms**



### FCCLA scholarships

**Kylie Kassube, Kaitlyn Anderson, Samantha Menzia, Taylor Holm, Shyla Larson, Shannon Wiedrick**



### College Scholarships

These students received college scholarships

**Back - Ashley Garduno (University of Northwestern, St. Paul), Samantha Menzia (St. Cloud State University), Taylor Holm (University of Sioux Falls), Tylan Glover (American Musical and Dramatic Academy - AMDA), Jillian Barton (Presentation College)**

**Front - Kyle Kassube (Northern State University), Payton Maine (Grand Canyon University Phoenix), Kaitlyn Kassube (Minnesota State University Moorhead)**



### FFA Alumni Scholarships

**Cassandra Townsend, Josie LaMee, Alexis Simon, Jillian Barton, Miranda Hanson**



### Girls and Boys State

These 2019 graduates from Groton attended Boys and Girls State 2018

**Shyla Larson, Samantha Menzia, Micah Poor, Taylor Holm, Alexis Simon, Kaitlyn Anderson**

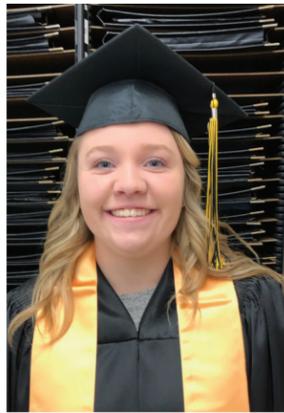


The Groton Area High School Band played the pre-commencement music, the processional and the recessional, under the direction of Austin Fordham. (Photo by Paul Kosef)



**Emmanuel Lutheran Faith Forever Scholarships**

Kylie Kassube, Portia Kettering, Clark Gibbs, Cassandra Townsend, Kaitlyn Kassube



**Ruden**  
Miranda Hanson received the Ruden Family Ag Scholarship



AnneMarie Smith, American Legion representative Bob Wegner, Micah Poor

**American Legion Citizenship Award**

AnneMarie Smith and Micah Poor, seniors at Groton Area High School, have been selected to receive the 2019 American Legion Citizenship Award. The basis for the award is honor, courage, scholarship, leadership, and service. AnneMarie and Micah received medals from the Groton American Legion Post #39.

AnneMarie plans to attend South Dakota State University in Brookings and is the daughter of Steve and Carol Smith of Groton. Micah plans to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and is the son of David and Anissa Poor of Stratford.



**Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarships**

Micah Poor, American Legion Auxiliary representative Cara Dennert, Jeremy Johnson)



**Bartz Scholarship**  
Payton Maine and Shyla Larson were selected to receive the Groton Don Bartz Memorial Scholarships



**Brown County 4H Leaders Association Scholarships**

Cassandra Townsend, Kaitlyn Anderson, Josie LaMee



**Sammuli Rix Scholarship**

Treyton Diegel and Megan Crosby were selected to receive the Groton Sammuli-Rix Scholarships



**Kramer & Weismantel**  
Emily Thompson was awarded the Susan Deanne Weismantel Memorial Scholarship and Alexis Simon was awarded the Shawn Weismantel Kramer Memorial Scholarship



**Chamber and Civic Department Scholarships**

Samantha Menzia (Conde Civic Department) and Miranda Hanson (Groton Chamber of Commerce)



**Class of 69**

Jillian Barton and Tylan Glover were awarded the Groton Class of 69 Scholarships



**Heinz & Fliehs**

Cassandra Townsend was awarded the Wilfred N. and Lucille A. Heinz Memorial Scholarship and Kaitlyn Anderson was awarded the Irvin and Janice Fliehs Family Scholarship



### Groton Community and Teaching

Kaitlyn Kassube was awarded the Groton Community Foundation Scholarship and Shannon Wiedrick was awarded the Groton Area School Employee Teaching Scholarship



### Kuehnert

Five seniors were awarded the Cortland and Lois Kuehnert Memorial Scholarships: Cassandra Townsend (Athletic), Emily Thompson (Trade, Technical, Science, Math, or Computers), AnneMarie Smith (Valedictorian), Ashley Garduno (Financial Need), Alexis Simon (Top Student)



### Raap

Kylie Kassube and Taylor Holm were awarded the Groton Darlene Raap Memorial Scholarships



Back - Blake Dennert, Alexis Geffre, Jeslyn Kosel, Axel Warrington, Payton Mitchell  
 Front - Ashlyn Feser, Elizabeth Flihs, Gretchen Dinger, Blake Pauli

### Principal's 6th grade Middle School Honor Roll

Nine sixth graders in the Class of 2025 have been selected for the Principal's Middle School 6th Grade Honor Roll at Groton Area High School. To be eligible for this award, the sixth graders had to be on the honor roll at Groton Area High School every quarter for one year.



### Bugner

Samantha Menzia and Samantha Geffre were awarded the Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarships



Back - Carter Barse, Elliana Weismantel, Gracie Traphagen, Cade Larson, Ethan Clark, Andrew Marzahn, Kaleb Antonsen  
 Front - Jackson Dinger, Cadance Tullis, Brooke Gengerke, Shallyn Foertsch, Aspen Johnson, Porter Johnson, Caleb Hanten, Jacob Lewandowski, Cole Bisbee  
 Missing: Cole Simon

### Principal's Middle School Honor Roll

Seventeen eighth graders in the Class of 2023 have been selected for the Principal's Middle School 8th Grade Honor Roll at Groton Area High School. To be eligible for this award, the eighth graders had to be on the honor roll at Groton Area High School every quarter for two years.



**Jodi Sternhagen was recognized for her 30 years of service to the Groton Area School District. She received a standing ovation (right) photo upon her recognition. Board President Steve Smith presented the award. Also recognized but not present was Bonnie Schimmel.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**Tylan Glover and Jennie Doeden were the senior speakers.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**Clint Fjelstad was recognized for his three years of service on the Groton Area School District Board of Education. Board President Steve Smith presented the plaque. Also recognized but not present was Merle Harder for his six years of service.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**The High School Choir sang, "Here's Where I Stand," with the seniors have solo parts.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**The hats went flying at the end of the commencement program.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**Board President Dr. Steve Smith presented the staff and school board recognition awards and also presented the diplomas.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**Superintendent Joe Schwan gave the welcome.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



**Josie LaMee led the student-led prayer.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)



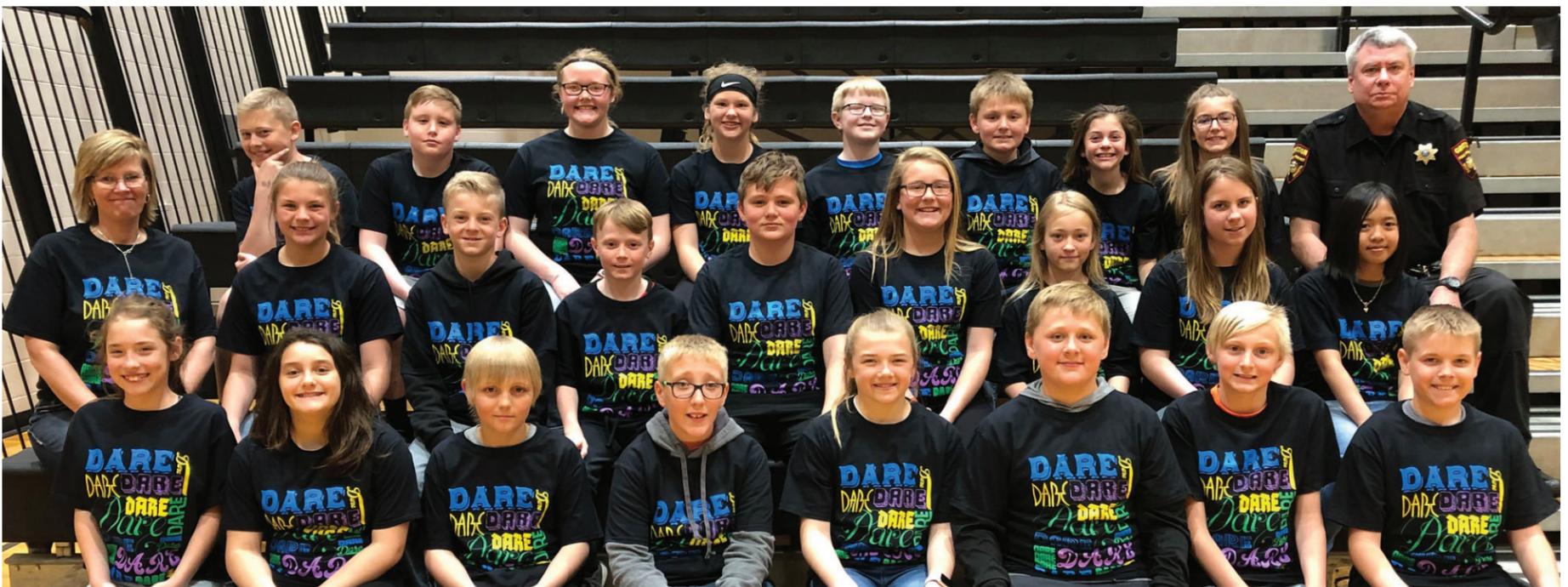
**Right: Joann Donley will be doing her final year book as yearbook advisor after four years.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

**Left: Kiersten Sombke, MS/HS Principal, announced the special senior awards.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM Video)





The fifth grade class of Shelby Hendrickson graduated from the D.A.R.E. program on Tuesday. Pictured in front, left to right, are London Bahr, Cambria Bonn, Mia Crank, Emma Davies, Dreston Dennert, Jarrett Erdmann, Kyson Fayant and Karsten Flihs; in the middle row, left to right, are Charlie Frost, Carly Gilbert, Nicholas Groeblichhoff, Hailey Hermanson, Delayne Jones, Gavin Khali, Raelee Lilly and Jerica Locke; in back, left to right, are Teacher Shelby Hendrickson, Drake Peterson, Hannah Sandness, Garrett Schultz, Jayden Schwan, Jacob Tewksbury, Keegan Tracy and Groton Police Chief and D.A.R.E. Instructor Stacy Mayou; not pictured is Paisley Mitchell. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The fifth grade class of Janel Lone graduated from the D.A.R.E. program on Tuesday. Pictured in front, left to right, are Sierra Bohlmann, Nevaeh Brooks, Lucas Carda, Kolton Dockter, Rylee Dunker, Gavin Englund, Keegan Harry and Benjamin Hoeft; in the middle row, left to right, are Teacher Janel Lone, Breslyn Jeschke, Ryder Johnson, Lincoln Krause, Karter Moody, Jaedyn Penning, Hailey Pray, Kaitlin Raab and De Eh Tha Say; in back, left to right, are Gage Sippel, Landon Smith, Olivia Stiegelmeier, Cali Tollifson, Nathan Unzen, Logan Warrington, Natalia Warrington, Talli Wright and Groton Police Chief and D.A.R.E. Instructor Stacy Mayou. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The Essay winners are pictured above, left to right: Talli Wright, third place; Ryder Johnson, second place; Natalia Warrington, first place; Carly Gilbert, second place; and Jerica Locke, third place. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Groton Area held its D.A.R.E. graduation on Tuesday in the GHS Arena. The photo on the left features the parents grouping together to take pictures. The guest speaker was Aberdeen Police Officer Tom Barstad, who brought his drug dog, Neko. Barstad has been with the police department for 10.5 years and Neko has been with him for about five years. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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**GREGORY SCHOOL DISTRICT** hiring for the 2019-20 school year: HS Social Science, MS Science, and Elementary classroom with/without coaching. Contact Sara.klein@k12.sd.us or call (605) 835-9672.

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## Brown County May 14, 2019

### Meeting Minutes

MAY 14, 2019 – GENERAL MEETING

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

**MINUTES:**  
Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve the General County Commission meeting minutes from May 7, 2019. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CLAIMS/PAYROLL:**  
Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims:

Payroll # 10 Commission \$5,528.71; Auditor \$8,544.99; Treasurer \$14,289.04; States Attorney \$30,336.98; SVA-WA \$1,389.40; Maintenance \$8,030.38; Assessor \$13,862.92; Registrar of Deeds \$8,771.39; Veterans Service Office \$4,404.32; GIS \$2,367.50; Information Technology \$8,378.04; Human Resources \$3,397.45; Sheriff \$36,026.98; Jail \$53,924.83; Coroner \$0.00; Court Security \$6,679.77; JDC \$22,613.51; Welfare \$1,884.62; Museum \$8,552.73; Fairgrounds \$5,857.44; Fair Board \$3,884.20; 4H \$628.94; Weed \$1,472.62; Planning and Zoning \$2,507.34; Highway \$46,352.43; Communications \$24,067.20; Emergency \$4,079.58; Teen Court \$600.48; 24/7 \$3,167.88; Landfill \$14,811.80. Matching benefits: FICA \$20,536.63, Medicare \$4,802.94, Health Spending Acct \$150.00.

**Claims: Professional Fees:**  
Avera St. Lukes \$59.79; Bantz, Gosch & Cremer LLC \$1,488.85; Carlsen Funeral Home \$1,511.53; Certified Languages International \$138.60; Denise M. Cody \$15.00; Dohrer Law Office \$1,918.20; Christopher A. Haar \$20.00; Michelle Galkowski \$81.60; Mark Katterhagen \$18.00; Lucy Lewno \$330.00; Lexisnexis Risk Data Mgmt \$417.95; Lincoln County Treasurer \$481.40; Darcy Lockwood \$33.00; PRCA \$1,600.00; Sanford Health Occupational \$129.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$2,082.99; SD Retailers Assoc \$125.00; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$799.00; Sanford \$692.70; Siegel Barnett & Schutz \$917.85; Jennifer Stoddard \$6,181.78; Taliaferro Law Firm \$2,646.90; Yankton County Sheriff Office \$50.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$129.50; Sara Zahn \$146.00.

**Publishing:** Aberdeen American News \$820.68; Dakota Broadcasting \$1,400.00; Friends of South Dakota Public \$222.75; Groton Independent \$179.24; Hub City Radio \$600.00; TDS Media Direct Inc \$420.00.

**Repairs & Maintenance:** Aberdeen Clean All \$319.00; Clark Engineering \$2,897.39; Regency Midwest Ventures \$2.00; Dakota Pump Inc \$1,510.21; Diesel Machinery \$7,950.00; Timothy C. Gardner \$74.00; Graham Tire Inc \$33.41; House of Glass \$827.25; Hoven Auto Repair \$675.79; Leidholt Electric LLC \$179.10; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$55.00; Powerplan \$58,233.89; Steven Lust Automotive \$61.95; Transource Truck & Equipment \$19,383.56. **Supplies:** Aberdeen American News \$227.00; Agtegra Cooperative \$1,970.91; American Business Forms \$57.30; Ameripride Services Inc \$224.40; Cash-Wa Distributing \$8,194.00; Certified Languages International \$1,191.30; Custom Sheet Metal \$190.00; Dakota Oil \$366.25; Dakota Supply Group \$12.47; Diesel Machinery \$157.14; Ecolab Pest Elimination \$218.99; Farnams Genuine Parts Inc \$64.41; Galls \$76.00; Govconnection Inc \$726.36; Interstate Battery System \$257.60; J Gross Equipment \$126.37; Ken's Superfair Foods \$111.91; Kesslers \$21.49; Marianne Martila Klippel \$8.64; L.G. Everist Inc \$1,232.25; Lucy Lewno \$11.50; Menards \$791.75; Midstates Printing \$190.11; National 4-H Council \$107.81; Pharmchem \$28.55; Powerplan \$4,557.93; Mark Gramm \$352.00; Christine Rawstern \$200.00; Rixstine Trophy Company \$839.23; Sander's Sew N Vac \$231.92; Satellite Tracking of People \$438.75; Tractor Supply Co. \$65.98; Transource Truck & Equipment \$8,160.99; Tri State Water \$58.50; Walth Safety Service \$69.90; Web Water Bottling Company \$19.50; Travel

& Conference: Regency Midwest Ventures \$94.00; Sarah Hartje \$23.97; Patricia Kendall \$64.00; Marianne Martila Klippel \$64.00. **Utilities:** City of Aberdeen \$1,819.47; Qwest Corporation \$63.81; City of Hecla \$226.78; Economy Propane LLC \$871.20; Northern Electric Coop Inc \$152.32; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$3,049.12; Northern Valley Communication \$26.02; Town of Frederick \$61.00; Verizon Wireless Services \$200.05; Web Water Development Assoc \$93.82.

**Other:** James River Acct \$77,545.48; Safe Harbor \$682.50; SD Assoc of County Officials \$894.00; SD Dept of Environment & Natural Resources \$4,350.86; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$631,477.75.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**HR REPORT:**

Moved by Kippley seconded by Feickert to approve the following HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Acknowledged retirement of Sandra Mielke, Full-time Administrative Assistant for Brown County Jail, effective June 14, 2019 and approve request to fill vacancy. Approved request to hire Full-time Seasonal Sanitation worker for the Fairgrounds. Approved Jerry Bjerke to be hired "as needed" as Transport Guard for the Sheriff's office. Approved the following employee step increase effective May 19, 2019: David Bruckner @ \$21.38 per hour, Tracy Enquist @ \$17.42 per hour, Christeen Krahl @ \$18.13 per hour, Jonathan Waller @ \$18.73 per hour and Troy Grote @ \$18.78 per hour. Acknowledge the following miles driven and amount to be taxed for personal use of County vehicles during the month of April 2019: Kendell Titze - 102 @ \$55.59, Dirk Rogers - 646 @ \$352.07, Mike Scott - 200 @ \$109 and Gary Vetter - 128 @ \$69.76. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**FAIR CONTRACTS:** Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following contract for 2019 Brown County Fair: Linda Gengerke @ \$40 (4H Judge - declined payment), Kayla Tingle & Bryan Micheal @ \$600 (Performer), City Lights Bar & Event Center @ \$200, Jump Zone Inflatables @ \$5,100, Brown County Old Time Tractor Pullers Association @ \$1,200, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church @ \$3,500, Russ Maier @ \$150 + \$0.47 per mile driven (4H Judge), Courtney Wolff @ \$40 + \$0.47 per mile driven (4H Judge) and Marilyn Maloney @ \$40 (4H Judge). All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

**LEASE AGREEMENT:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following lease agreement: Aberdeen Regional Airport for lease of 150 chairs and 40 tables on June 8, 2019, Prairie Partners Master Gardener's for lease of the Home Arts Building on May 11, 2019, Nicole Deurmier for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge on June 1, 2019, 4H Horse Club for lease of the Akkerman Arena on June 19, 2019, 4H Livestock Show for lease of the Expo Addition, The Petting Zoo and Hog & Sheep Barn on June 9, 2019, and 4H for lease of the Akkerman Arena on July 5-7, 2019. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**CLAIM ASSIGNMENT:**  
Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to approve and authorize the Chair sign documentation to assign claim against three individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting a lien. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**PUBLICATION FOR STUTSMAN HARLEY DAVIDSON MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to authorize publication of hearing for Stutsman Harley Davidson Malt Beverage License Application. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**ORD 136- FIRST READING:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve First Reading of Ordinance #136, an Ordinance to amend Title 4 - Zoning, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, to rezone the following described property from its present zoning designation of Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Agricultural District (M-AG): Lot 1 & 2, Kirchgieser Second Subdivision in the NW ¼ of Section 13-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD (12618 & 12630 West Shore Dr). All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

**GROW SD UPDATE & FUNDING REQUEST:**

Patrick Gallagher of Grow SD, a non-profit community action agency, gave an update of its services and investment in Brown County for the last year. A request of \$5,000 funding from the county is pending for consideration for the upcoming 2020 budget review. No action taken.

**BROWN COUNTY SPEEDWAY - DEMO DERBY:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve requested Demo Derby schedule by Scott Neuendorf of Brown County Speedway on August 3, 2019. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**SURPLUS SALE:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to schedule a Surplus Sale June 7, 2019 at 10 a.m. at the Brown County Highway Shop. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**SUMMER HELP FOR HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to approve hiring seasonal full-time labor at the highway department with a tentative start date of May 28, 2019: Les Schaible @ \$13.23/hr and Jerry Bjerke @ \$12.29/hr. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

Highway Superintendent Dirk Rogers gave department update. No action taken.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss legal counsel on proposed or pending litigation and contacts per SDCL 1-25-2(3,4). All members present voting aye. Motion Carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:02 a.m.. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Jeannette McClain, Brown County Deputy Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$99.03. 17532

## Brown County Malt Beverage Hearing Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING  
MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE LICENSE APPLICATION

Notice is hereby given according to SDCL 35-2, a Public Hearing on the following applications is set for 8:45 A.M. on the 28th day of May, 2019 in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota, at which time any interested persons wishing to register a complaint on approval, may appear:

Retail (on-off sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License: B & G Motorsports DBA: Stutsmans Harley Davidson, 717 385th Ave. S, Aberdeen, SD 57401 - Lt 1 Browning 1st Add, NW 22-123-64, Brown County, SD.

**ATTEST:**  
Cathy McNickle  
Brown County Auditor  
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.80. 17533

## Frederick Town May 9, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Town of Frederick  
May 9, 2019 Minutes

Fredericks' Town Board meeting was held Thursday evening, May 9, 2019, in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman R. Scott Campbell, Board Members Troy Millard and Gary Schlosser, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Diane Bruns and Mariah Heine, Utility Manager and FDC President Rich Bakeberg, and citizen Ray Bower.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The April Minutes were read and approved along with the minutes of the Annual Report Special meeting held April 22, 2019. Motion to approve minutes was made by T. Millard/G. Schlosser. Motion Carried.

The Financial Statements were accepted with a motion by G. Schlosser/R.S. Campbell. Motion Carried.

Approval of the Accounts Payable for May holding back one check to One-Call was made with a motion by T. Millard/G. Schlosser. Motion Carried.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:**

A-1 Sanitation & Recycling, Inc. Rolloffs Day of Champions Gen'l \$1140; Aberdeen Asphalt Snow Removal Sts \$2802.50; Badger Meter fees Wtr \$115.70; Community Store Sup FO/Mun-Bldg/SP \$49.30; D. Bruns Wage/scheduling CC \$124.77; D. Bruns Expenses FO/Gen'l \$16.84; D. Bruns Wage+mtgs+OT FO \$1544.65; Farmers Union Oil Co Propane EBL \$151.18; FDC Econ Dev Econ Dev \$1200; Fred Area Fire Dept Reimburse diesel Swr \$1170.87; Fred Forward FYI \$1000, Finn Fest \$600 Gen'l; G. Schlosser Wage + 1 mtg Gen'l \$46.17; GDI legals Gen'l \$53.19; IRS Taxes 4th Qtr 2018 Gen'l \$27.63; JC Campbell, Inc. Refund elect charge Wtr \$38.58; JVT Phones/Internets/Services Gen'l/FO/Wtr/EBL \$333.95; M. Cox Wage EBL \$519.56; M. Heine Wage+mtg FO \$877.32; MDU Electricity Sts/MunBldg/EBL/BP/SP/Wtr/Swr \$1587.84; Menard's Supplies Sts \$69.50; R. Bakeberg Wage+mileage Sts/Wtr/Swr \$1856.10; R. Bakeberg Veh Allowance Sts/Wtr/Swr \$75; R. S. Campbell Wage+ 1 mtg Gen'l \$92.34; R.S. Campbell Reimburse freeze up supplies Swr \$897; SD Dept of Rev Sales Tax Garb \$72.60; SD Dept of Rev Lab Swr \$171; SDARWS, Inc Dues

Wtr \$345; Sumption Farms Tractor lease Swr \$1700; T. Millard Wage+ 1 mtg Gen'l \$46.17; True Value Supplies S Park \$50.35; USDA-RD AP Water Repair Loan Wtr Loan \$475; USPS stamps Wtr/Swr/Garb \$165; WEB Water 465,700 gallons Wtr \$2461.10. Total A/P \$21,876.19.

Utility Manager/Maintenance R. Bakeberg gave Utility Report.

No report from Frederick Forward.

No representation from the Historical Society.

President Bakeberg of the Frederick Development Corp said they are working on their Housing Project and wondering about increasing the monthly stipend from the city to FDC in the future?

Other Old Business included USDA-RD paperwork... A. passing of the Wastewater Project Loan Resolution with a motion by R.S. Campbell/T. Millard; 3 Aye, 0 Nay. Motion Carried. B. finding No Exceptions in the Right of Way Certificate C. Signed ACH Vendor/Misc. Payment Enrollment Form reviewed by City and 1st National Bank where draws will be deposited D. The Certificate of Compliance for throughout the loan was signed by Chairman Campbell E. Interim Financing paperwork was previously completed between USDA-RD and 1st National Bank of Frederick. A motion to approve authorized signature on paperwork for Wastewater Project was made by TM/GS. Campbell abstained. Motion Carried. Motion to approve Corporate Authorization Resolution to authorize Campbell, Bruns, and Heine to sign official documents regarding loans and bank accounts was made by G. Schlosser/T. Millard. R.S. Campbell sustained. Motion Carried. Two signatures will be needed on each check. F. Also to Loan Specialist Val Jensen at USDA-RD, were the Town of Frederick's Insurance Declarations and completed forms sent from Attorney Dana Frohling of Britton including Legal Opinion, Legal Services Agreement, and Opinion of Counsel Relative to Right of Way.

At this point meeting was recessed at 7:27 PM for board members' absence. Member returned and meeting continued at 7:38 PM.

Other Old Business was reviewed.

New Business included Gary Schlosser reading and accepting the Oath of Office for a 3-year term on the Frederick Town Board.

Drinking Water Certificate of Achievement Awards were presented to Utility Manager Richard Bakeberg and to the Town of Frederick's Board for maintaining safe drinking water.

A Frederick resident will be reimbursed for electricity used out of her residence during the city's water valve freeze up. It was agreed to refund \$187.63 for electricity used with a motion made by R.S. Campbell/G. Schlosser. All voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Ray Bower inquired about building a shop behind his residence by the alley. Chairman Campbell will look into a variance and set up a meeting.

A proposal from Dahme's Construction Co., Inc., for one block of 2nd Street Waterline installation was signed and approved with a motion to accept by T. Millard/G. Schlosser. Motion Carried. Gate valves in the proposal may not be needed.

Agreed to purchase 64 bales @ \$5/ea. of hay from Sumption Farms used this Winter to cover temporary waterlines to keep from freezing. Motion was made to accept by R.S. Campbell/T. Millard. Motion Carried.

Accepted a motion by G. Schlosser/T. Millard for the city to act as a conduit between a Cemetery Endowment Fund from Bertha Turnquist to the Wayside Cemetery. B. Turnquists' donation will come to the city (Municipality) from the SD Community Foundation and be paid to a Wayside Cemetery Fund. All voted Aye. Motion Carried.

Final piece of new business was setting the date for June's meeting to Thursday night, June 6th, 2019, 7 PM, in the Frederick Community Center.

Information was provided at the meeting from Midco Diving and Marine Services, Inc., for a water tower inspection in the near future.

There is a 2019 Budget Training Workshop in Pierre on June 25th or in Sioux Falls July 11th.

Grants for Mosquito Control Programs are available and a motion was made to apply. Motioned by R.S. Campbell/T. Millard. Motion Carried. Assist FO Heine will apply for grant.

A Public Notice from DENR for a renewal Permit in Rapid City for Air Quality Control Zone was sent as FYI.

The Lagoon Discharge Permit was Approved for April by the DENR. This was the final Correspondence.

Motion to Adjourn was made by T. Millard/G. Schlosser at 8:49 PM. Motion Carried.

D. Bruns  
Frederick Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$67.88. 17534

## Colestock places fifth at Sisseton

Payton Colestock placed fifth at the Sisseton Invitational golf meet held Thursday. Her score was a 95. Carly Guthmiller shot a 120 and Portia Kettering shot a 138 at the meet.

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**JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
63RD ANNUAL MEETING**

**Thursday, May 30 @ Groton Area HS Arena**  
**11:30am-12:30pm: Registration & Lunch**  
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**12:30pm: Business Meeting**

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**Groton Independent ♦ Wed., May 22, 2019 ♦ 17**

# Further spread of Chronic Wasting Disease alarms hunters, wildlife officials

By: Nick Lowrey

The discovery in March that a rocky mountain elk tested positive for Chronic Wasting Disease in Clark County — the easternmost case ever found in South Dakota — has provided scientists further evidence that the deadly disease is continuing to spread across the state.

The diagnosis comes as new research shows that CWD may be causing some North American deer and elk herds to shrink and has heightened concerns the disease could jump species and begin to kill other animals, including humans. So far, there is no evidence that the contagious disease can be spread to humans, though consuming meat from an infected deer is not advised.

CWD causes deer, elk, moose and caribou to literally waste away. The disease causes an infected animal's brain tissue to break down and become sponge-like. As the brain breaks down, the animal loses some survival instincts and eventually loses the ability to feed itself.

The Centers for Disease Control, National Institute for Health and the South Dakota GFP all recommend that people should not eat any animal that looked sick before it was killed or which tested positive for any disease.

"This is a scary disease," said Chad Switzer, wildlife program administrator for the South Dakota Game Fish & Parks Department. "Knowing what I know about the disease, if I harvested a deer from an endemic area, I would have it tested."

In addition to causing deer and elk to endure a slow death, CWD has a direct impact on hunting and could harm the state outdoors economy.

In South Dakota, deer hunters spent more than \$160 million in the state in 2016, according to an economic analysis by the state Game, Fish & Parks Department. About 70,000 South Dakotans hunt deer and drive an industry with about 3,900 jobs and \$125 million in wages across the state.

"Everyone in the state should have a stake in this," said GFP big-game Biologist Steve Griffin. "It's about our deer."

The new case in Clark County, located west of Watertown, was also the first time in more than 15 years that a deer or elk in one of the state's 70 captive deer facilities had tested positive for the disease. How the elk caught the disease is still a mystery, but an investigation is ongoing, said state Veterinarian Dustin Oedekoven.

Officials have not found any wild deer with CWD in Clark County. But the state has stepped up its monitoring for sick deer in the area and plans to notify deer hunters about the discovery before the next hunting season this fall.

Switzer has been leading a GFP effort to create a new plan for how to deal with the disease in the state wild deer and elk populations. South Dakota wildlife managers plan to get more aggressive

both in their monitoring of the disease and in efforts to control its spread. In early July, the state Game Fish & Parks Commission will be presented a new Chronic Wasting Disease Action Plan and consider a set of proposed regulations aimed at better monitoring and controlling the spread of CWD.

The proposals have not been released to the public, but Switzer said he expects them to include restrictions on movement of whole deer carcasses, heads and spinal columns from areas and states known to have CWD. Exceptions would be granted for people taking deer directly to a taxidermist or meat processor.

## Contagious and concerning

Obvious symptoms of CWD don't show up until the latest stages of the disease. Most hunters and wildlife watchers wouldn't be able to tell if a deer or elk was infected just by looking. Even in the later stages, CWD symptoms are similar to a variety of deer diseases.

If a hunter or anyone else sees a deer that looks sick, they should report it to GFP.

According to the CDC, a hunter's risk of contracting the disease is "extremely small, if it exists at all."

The CDC has also said that "it is extremely unlikely that CWD would be a food-borne hazard."

In South Dakota hunters can voluntarily submit a sample from their deer or elk for CWD testing by contacting the GFP. Switzer said test results are typically available within five to 10 days of submission and the hunter is notified of the results via mail.

Despite the minimal risk, public health officials recommend against eating a deer or elk that tests positive for CWD, while they continue to investigate potential health risks.

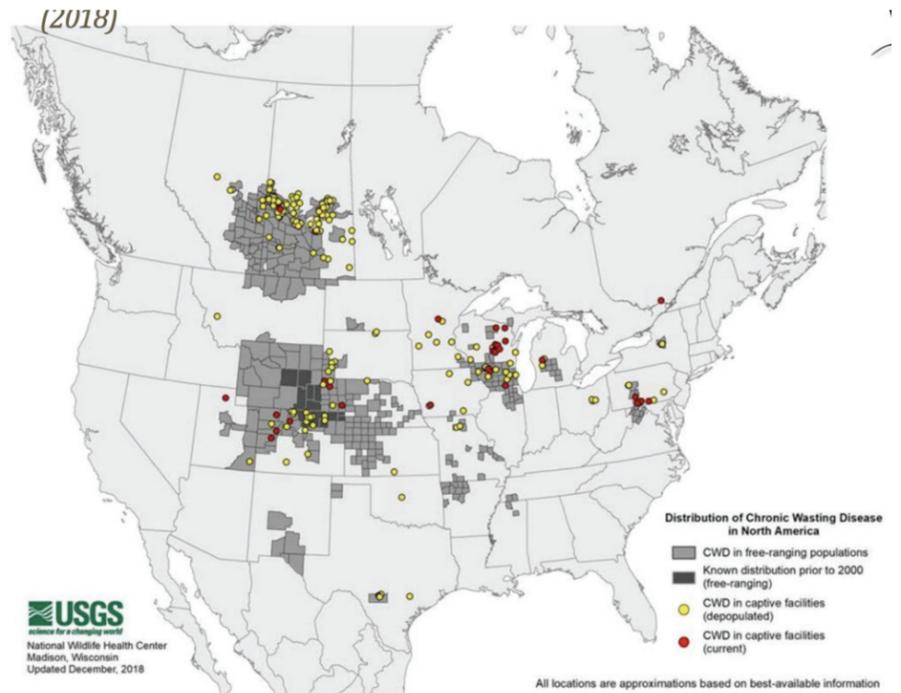
CWD is not caused by a bacteria or a virus; rather, it is known as a "prion disease" caused by a malformed protein that causes other proteins to deform. The disease group of TSE, or transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, includes scrapie, which affects sheep, as well as bovine spongiform encephalopathy, also known as Mad Cow Disease. Another TSE, Creutzfeldt Jakob's Disease, can affect humans.

All TSEs share a few key characteristics. They're all contagious and they all cause brain tissue to break down, which leads to behavioral changes. Scrapie, for example, got its name by causing sheep to scrape themselves until bloody.

Steve Griffin, a state big game biologist in Rapid City, has helped shape GFP efforts to monitor CWD. He said it can take years before the disease symptoms start to become obvious. Less obvious symptoms such as slower reaction times and being a little bit less aware opens a deer up to predation from coyotes and mountain lions. Most people who spend time watching or hunting deer would not be able to tell if a deer is infected.

"Most of the time, an animal won't die of CWD," Griffin said. "It'll get pneumonia or will be killed by a predator."

The long incubation period is one reason CWD is hard to track. Clinical research on the disease



**This map shows where in North America Chronic Wasting Disease had been found as of the end of 2018. South Dakota has not been as hard hit as some other states, but the recent eastward spread of the illness has caused new concerns.** Image: Courtesy South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks Department

can take years to get results.

"It's really hard to study," said Alan Young, an animal disease researcher at South Dakota State University.

The prions that cause CWD are hard to destroy. They can bind to clay particles in soil and stay there, absent a living host, for years. Prions also have been shown to resist heat up to 1,800 degrees Fahrenheit and are thought to resist most sterilizing chemicals.

Young studied the disease for almost a decade. The difficulty researchers have had in studying the disease, coupled with sometimes scant funding means there's still a lot that science doesn't know about CWD. "There's no clear answer on any of it," Young said.

The prevailing science surrounding CWD says that once a deer catches it, the deer dies. But unlike other deer diseases that can be fatal in days, CWD can take years to kill. That means the disease lingers in populations and often goes unnoticed without testing.

A 2016 study in Converse County, Wyoming found that at above a 20 percent infection rate, the county's mule deer herd started to shrink. A similar study on elk in Colorado found that at 13 percent prevalence rates, herds might become unsustainable.

"You basically lose all hunting in those areas," Griffin said.

Another important factor is that wildlife management in South Dakota, much like the rest of the United States, is largely supported by the sale of hunting licenses. More than half of the GFP Wildlife Division annual budget of \$56 million is funded by license sales. The rest came from federal excise taxes paid on guns, ammunition, archery equipment, fishing gear and boat fuel.

If deer numbers fall and hunting is restricted, less money would be available to manage wildlife populations and habitat.

While most of the concern lies with CWD's effect on deer, there is some worry the disease could jump the species barrier. So far, that hasn't happened in more than 50 years of study.

"We just don't have any evidence that CWD has jumped species," Oedekoven said.

Researchers have been watching for a species jump, however. In 2017, a group of Canadian researchers claimed to have infected macaque monkeys with CWD.

But in 2018, researchers from the U.S. National

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## Continued from previous page

Institutes of Health published a study in which they were unable to infect macaques with CWD, no matter what they tried, including injecting CWD prions into monkey brainstems.

Yet Mad Cow Disease is thought to have jumped the species barrier during the early 1990s in Great Britain. More than 200 people were diagnosed with a disease called variant Cruetzfeldt Jakob's Disease after eating beef that had tested positive for Mad Cow Disease.

The sheep prion disease, scrapie, has been known to infect sheep for about 200 years. To date, no human has been known to have been infected with the disease. Scrapie just isn't a human health concern, Oedekoven said.

## New action plan on the way

In 1997, a captive elk died and tested positive for CWD on a farm in the Black Hills. The South Dakota Animal Industry Board traced the animal's origin and eventually found seven other CWD-positive animals. Most were in or near the Black Hills but one was found in McPherson County, northwest of Aberdeen.

After the 1997 discovery, GFP aggressively tested wild elk and deer killed near the captive herds. There were no new cases discovered. In 2001, the first wild deer tested positive for CWD. Since then GFP has tested 27,549 deer, elk and moose for CWD. Of those, 425, or less than 2 percent, came back positive.

Most of that testing was done before 2012, when the U.S. Department of Agriculture cut funding for a program that helped states monitor and manage the disease both in captive and wild populations. Since then, the state has relied on hunters to voluntarily submit deer and elk for testing.

In light of new research and to catch up with national best practices, the GFP in June 2018 embarked on a year-long project to develop a CWD action plan.

Switzer said drafting the action plan has been



**Chad Switzer, wildlife program administrator for the South Dakota Game Fish & Parks Department, calls Chronic Wasting Disease "scary" and urges hunters to test any questionable deer before eating its meat.** Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

deliberately slow. It started with GFP big-game biologists reviewing the available science. Switzer then put together a group of hunters, taxidermists, and meat processors to help. Switzer also led a series of public meetings around the state to educate hunters or anyone else with an interest in CWD.

The plan hasn't been finalized but a draft is scheduled to be presented to the Game, Fish & Parks Commission at its July meeting in Fort Pierre. If the commission agrees to consider the plan for adoption, it will be opened up to public comments for about 60 days. The Commission would take a formal vote to adopt the plan during its September meeting in Spearfish.

In addition to carcass movement restrictions for hunters, the plan may also change how taxidermists and meat processors dispose of deer remains.

Taxidermists will be asked to get trained in gathering samples from deer for testing. Meat processors may also be asked to help gather samples.

"The key point is, we're looking at the human movement," Griffin said.

What likely won't get any attention is the well-intentioned feeding of wildlife, Switzer said. It's

a big problem, one that likely contributes to the spread of CWD but the backlash against banning or even severely limiting wildlife feeding could derail department efforts to build support for its work to slow the spread of CWD.

"Some would argue it's more appropriate to work with the legislature first," Switzer said of banning wildlife feeding.

The South Dakota Animal Industry Board regulates deer and elk farms through a permitting system. For about a decade, any time a captive deer or elk was diagnosed with CWD, the entire herd was destroyed. The USDA paid the owner for the loss under the program that ended in 2012.

Oedekoven said the fear surrounding Mad Cow Disease had started to wane, and funding for animal prion disease research and control began to dry up.

A 2012 partnership between the USDA, state agencies and the deer and elk farming industries implemented a national voluntary herd certification program requiring anyone who wants to move deer between states to have animals tested and certified as CWD-free.

"No animal can come into the state that isn't from a certified herd," Oedekoven said.

The certification program is not foolproof. The elk that tested positive for CWD in March at the farm in Clark County was brought in from a certified herd, Oedekoven said.

There are about 70 captive deer operations in South Dakota, raising everything from reindeer to muntjac, a small Asian deer with fangs. Mostly, farmers are raising white-tailed deer and rocky mountain elk.

Many operations do not move animals out of state, so they are not subject to herd testing rules, Oedekoven said.

Nationally, deer farmers are working on breeding deer and elk that are genetically resistant to CWD, said Shawn Schafer, executive director of the North American Deer Farmers Association. A similar effort was made for sheep and scrapie, he said.

"If we can figure out the genetics," Schafer said, "If we can do that, it's a non-issue for us."

At the same time, the organization has been pushing for increased federal funding to study CWD and help control its spread.



**Whitetail deer are the most populous and widely hunted deer species in North America, but scientists worry that Chronic Wasting Disease may pose a long-term threat to deer herds. In South Dakota, deer hunters spent more than \$160 million during the 2015 hunting season.** Photo: Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

## Battling CWD at the ground level

Derick Wenk has a long love affair with deer.

He's a lifelong deer hunter and spent part of his childhood looking after captive deer and elk owned by his dad. He has also built a business around deer as a taxidermist.

While Wenk has a vested interest in South Dakota's deer population, he's not quite sure how to think about CWD.

"It's scary," Wenk said, "But if it was going to kill everything, I think we'd have seen something by now."

Still, as president of the South Dakota Taxidermists Association, he was a member of the GFP workgroup that helped shape the state CWD ac-

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tion plan. He said he's more than happy to help GFP monitor the disease, even if it means learning how to take tissue samples from deer his clients bring him.

"If you're smart, you realize you want to be proactive," Wenk said.

That kind of buy-in from hunters and the general public will be critical if the spread of CWD is to be slowed, Switzer said. One of the biggest things hunters can do to slow CWD's spread is to properly dispose of deer carcasses, he said. The easiest way to do that is to take them to permitted landfills, which can be found on the GFP website.



### ABOUT NICK LOWREY

Nick Lowrey, based in Pierre, S.D., is an investigative staff reporter for South Dakota News Watch. A South Dakotan for more than 20 years, he is a former editor of the Pierre Capital Journal.

### Frederick Town Bower Variance Notice

NOTICE OF HEARING  
Application has been made to the Frederick Town Board for a Variance Petition. A hearing will be held in the Frederick Community Center, 406 3rd Ave, Frederick, South Dakota on June 6, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. for the purpose of having a Variance to Permitted Uses and to Setbacks in a Residential District.

Petitioner: Ray Bower  
Description of property: Lots 11 & 12, Block 10, Original Plat, Town of Frederick, Brown County, South Dakota. 302 3rd Ave.

Reason: Petitioning for a Variance to build a 40' X 64' shop and Variance to front yard setback.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed ordinance amendment.

Dated this 9th day of May, 2019

Frederick Finance Officer

Diane Bruns

PO Box 546

Frederick, SD 57441

Office: (605) 329-2242

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$12.08. 17520

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# Region Track Meet Results

The regional track meet was held Thursday at Redfield. The following have qualified for the state track meet. In addition, the boys took second place in the team points.

- 400m Dash:** 2, Kenzie McInerney
- 110m Hurdles:** Finals: 1, Jonathan Doeden, 14.83
- 300m Hurdles:** 1, Jonathan Doeden, 42.04
- 200m Dash:** 2, Thomas Cranford, 23.93
- 1600m Run:** 2, Isaac Smith, 4:53.19;
- 3200m Run:** 1, Isaac Smith, 10:56.52.
- Shot Put:** 1, Jennie Doeden, 34-0.5
- Long Jump:** Kenzie McInerney: State Qualified at Sisseton

## Girls Division

- Team Points:** 1, Milbank 197.50; 2, Aberdeen Roncalli 195.50; 3, Webster Area 121; 4, Redfield/Doland 84; 5, Groton Area 79; 6, Sisseton 38; 7, Tiospa Zina 1.
- 100m Hurdles:** Prelims: 5, Payton Maine, 17.91; 6, Cassandra Townsend, 18.82; 10, Brooke Vogl, 38.09. Finals: 5, Payton Maine, 18.28; 6, Cassandra Townsend, 18.73.
- 300m Hurdles:** 6, Payton Maine, 54.94; 8, Cassandra Townsend, 58.05.
- 100m Dash:** 11, Emilie Thurston, 15.35; 12, Riley Leicht, 15.73; 13, Trista Keith, 16.03.
- 200m Dash:** 6, Payton Maine, 29.23; 14, Jayla Jones, 31.51; 19, Paloma Fernandez, 36.06.
- 400m Dash:** 2, Kenzie McInerney, 1:04.16; 10, Regan Leicht, 1:15.95.
- 800m Run:** 10, Anna Fjeldheim, 3:02.01; 12, Regan Leicht, 3:06.25.
- 4x100m Relay:** 5, Groton Area (Allyssa Locke, Trista Keith, Emilie Thurston, Riley Leicht), 1:01.39.
- 4x200m Relay:** 4, Groton Area (Payton Maine, Nicole Marzahn, Jayla Jones, Kenzie McInerney), 1:57.82.
- 4x400m Relay:** 5, Groton Area (Allyssa Locke, Cassandra Townsend, Aspen Johnson, Kenzie McInerney), 4:52.46.
- 4x800m Relay:** 5, Groton Area (Regan Leicht, Anna Fjeldheim, Emma Schinkel, Aspen Johnson), 12:26.75.

- 1600m Sprint Medley:** 6, Groton Area (Allyssa Locke, Riley Leicht, Emilie Thurston, Aspen Johnson), 5:27.03.
- High Jump:** 7, Nicole Marzahn, 4-4.
- Long Jump:** 6, Nicole Marzahn, 13-9.75; 12, Trista Keith, 11-10.50.
- Triple Jump:** 9, Nicole Marzahn, 29-1.
- Discus:** 3, Kaycie Hawkins, 104-01; 4, Taylor Holm, 103-06; 5, Jennie Doeden, 101-06.
- Shot Put:** 1, Jennie Doeden, 34-0.5; 5, Kaycie Hawkins, 31-00.25; 6, Maddie Bjerke, 29-11.

## Boys Division

- Team Points:** 1, Milbank 165; 2, Groton Area 127; 3, Redfield/Doland 125; 4, Aberdeen Roncalli 106; 5, Sisseton 105; 6, Webster Area 79; 7, Tiospa Zina 1.
- 110m Hurdles:** Prelims: 1, Jonathan Doeden, 14.88; 7, Paxton Bonn, 18.59. Finals: 1, Jonathan Doeden, 14.83; 4, Paxton Bonn, 17.59.
- 300m Hurdles:** 1, Jonathan Doeden, 42.04.
- 100m dash:** Prelims: 5, Darien Shabazz, 11.1; 8, Andrew Marzahn, 12.36; 14, Wyatt Hearnen, 13.31. Finals: 4, Darien Shabazz, 11.73; 7, Andrew Marzahn, 12.38.
- 200m Dash:** 2, Thomas Cranford, 23.93; 3, Darien Shabazz, 24.12; 14, Wyatt Hearnen, 27.61.
- 400m Dash:** 6, Mitchell Koens, 58.38; 9, Jackson Cogley, 1:00.15; 10, Andrew Marzahn, 1:00.95.
- 800m Run:** 8, Jamie Ruiz de Medina, 2:29.09; 13, Kannon Coats, 2:46.36; 14, Cyruss DeHoet, 2:49.80.
- 1600m Run:** 2, Isaac Smith, 4:53.19; 4, Jacob Lewandowski, 5:28.20.
- 3200m Run:** 1, Isaac Smith, 10:56.52.
- 4x100m Relay:** 4, Groton Area (Darien Shabazz, Kaden Kurtz, Austin Jones, Thomas Cranford), 52.01.
- 4x200m Relay:** 5, Groton Area (Jonathan Doeden, Kaden Kurtz, Austin Jones, Thomas Cranford), 1:36.48.
- 4x400m Relay:** 3, Groton Area (Jonathan Doeden, Kaden Kurtz, Austin Jones, Thomas Cranford), 3:46.36.
- 4x800m Relay:** 5, Groton Area (Anthony Schinkel, Jamie Ruiz de Medina, Cyruss DeHoet, Kannon Coats), 10:36.05.
- 1600m Sprint Medley:** 6, Groton Area (Jackson Cogley, Wyatt Hearnen, Jacob Lewandowski, Anthony Schinkel), 4:33.38.
- High Jump:** 4, Paxton Bonn, 5-4; 8, Jackson Cogley, 5-2.
- Long Jump:** 6, Darien Shabazz, 18-00.25; 12, Paxton Bonn, 15-06; 13, Mitchell Koens, 15-02.25.
- Triple Jump:** 8, Austin Jones, 35-11; 9, Jackson Cogley, 35-10.25; 12, Paxton Bonn, 30-01.50.
- Discus:** 3, Brodyn DeHoet, 123-02; 5, Grady O'Neill, 110-04; 10, Caleb Furney, 107-05.
- Shot Put:** 3, Cole Larson, 42-06.25; 5, Brodyn DeHoet, 38-07.25; 7, Grady O'Neill, 38-5.

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## City give first reading to \$11.50 water surcharge

Starting in July, you water bill could increase by \$11.50. The Groton City Council gave first reading to the rate ordinance that would add a separate line item on your utility bill for the water tower fund. Groton City residents would be paying \$53.43 for the first 5,000 gallons of water. City Finance Officer Hope Block said that all of the enterprise funds only made \$110,000 last year. If the \$11.50 would be absorbed, that would take away \$96,000. The rate increase will need to be passed at the June 4, 2019 meeting. The surcharge will be implemented for 30 years.

A change order for the street project was approved. A fillet will need to be replaced and the plan calls to revise the storm sewer at Washington St. and Sixth Ave. West. The cost of the change order will be \$11,638.25.

Ken Hier from Clark Engineering was present to discuss the contract with Soil Technologies. They will be drilling test holes for the foundation of the new tower just east of the ground reservoir.

An easement for WEB water was approved to allow for the construction of a building which will house the water valves that feed the Groton City. Currently those valves are underground.

Kami Lipp and Brenda Madsen were present to discuss the pool operations. They are looking at a June 1 opening date, but it could be earlier if the weather cooperates.

The council authorized two officers to attend the Safe Harbor's NESD Conference in Aberdeen, June 19-20.

Sealed bids were opened for the old sweeper. There was only one and that was from Sanitary Products, Inc. for \$8,000. The city is currently leasing the new sweeper from that same company. The new sweeper arrived this week and has been put into action.

**Groton Post #39 2019 Memorial Day Services**

The Groton Post #39 Legion will perform Military Rites on Memorial Day, May 27th 2019 as follows:

Huffton	7:30 am	The speaker at the Groton ceremony
James	8:15 am	will be Retired Air Force LTC Arden
Verdon	8:45 am	Dohman.
Bates/Scotland	9:15 am	A meal will be provided at the Groton
Ferney	10:00 am	Legion Post #39 immediately following
Groton	11:00 am	the cemetery ceremony.

In the case of inclement weather the rites will be performed by the honor Guard at the cemetery and the speaker will be at the Post building.