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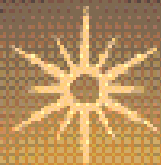


THE Groton Independent

South Dakota

Growing Families & Opportunities

Vol. 137 No. 17 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 25, 2019 ♦ Established in 1889



For
unto us

a Child is Born

unto us

a **Son** is given

and the government

shall be upon his shoulder

and his name

Shall be called

Wonderful Counsellor

THE MIGHTY GOD

The everlasting father

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

ISAIAH 9:6



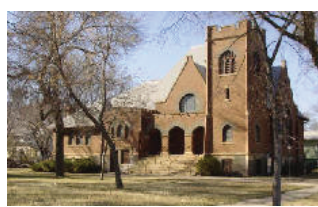
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Pastor Brandon Dunham



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Fr. Tom Hartman



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Member ELCA
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First Presbyterian Church
300 North Main Street
Rev. Terry Kenny



Christian & Missionary Alliance Church
706 North Main Street
Rev. Josh Jetto



St. John's Lutheran Church
Member Missouri Synod
308 North 2nd Street
Rev Andrew Wolfgram

Tuesday, Dec. 24
(Christmas Eve)

- 4:00 p.m.: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, Groton
- 5:00 p.m.: Groton Christian & Missionary Alliance Church
- 5:00 p.m.: United Methodist Church, Groton
- 5:00 p.m.: St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton
- 6:30 p.m.: First Presbyterian Church, Groton
- 7:00 p.m.: United Methodist Church, Conde
- 7:00 p.m.: Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton
- 7:30 pm.: St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Turton

Wednesday, Dec. 25
(Christmas Day)

- 9:00 a.m.: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
- 9:00 a.m.: Zion Lutheran Church, Andover

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PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR, Hill City, SD. Seeking a working Public Works Director experienced in team building & long-range planning. Staff of 6. Job description at www.hillcitysd.com.

The Groton Area School District is accepting applications for the position of Certified Sign Language Interpreter. Applicants should complete and submit the certified staff application form along with a current cover letter, resume, and three letters of recommendation. All materials should be submitted to Joe Schwan, Superintendent PO Box 410 Groton, SD 57445. EOE

CITY OF LEMMON is seeking a full-time Assistant Superintendent. Must be able to work independently and effectively with employees, contractors, and general public. Requires experience with equipment operations, CDL, water distribution and wastewater certificates. Pay DOE. Attractive benefit package. Deadline 1/2/2020. Pick up applications at City Hall. Contact Dave Huber at 604-374-5631 for information. City of Lemmon is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

RARE OPPORTUNITY in great place! Sheldon, Iowa (5,188+) now hiring Police Chief. Starting range to \$77,000 DOE. First review of applications January 3, 2020. www.Cityof-Sheldon.com

LAND AUCTIONS

SEALED BID LAND AUCTION- 418.5 acres Grant county crop land offered in 3 tracts. Visit www.totalaar.com for bid sheet and terms or call 605-274-6500 Andy Harr - Auctioneer/Broker Total Auctions and Real Estate

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Groton Area boys beat Redfield

Groton Area went on a 13-point run late in the second quarter into the third quarter to post a 68-47 Northeast Conference win over Redfield. The game was played Thursday in Groton and was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Allied Climate Professionals, Blocker Construction, Groton Dairy Queen, Jark Real Estate, John Sieh Agency, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc. and Tyson DeHoet Trucking.

Groton Area made it a clean sweep, winning the junior varsity game, 50-24, and the C game, 47-22.

Brodyn DeHoet scored 21 of his 24 points in the first half and he had six rebounds and six steals. He was also eight of 10 from the free throw line. Jonathan Doeden finished with 18 points, seven rebounds, two assists, two steals and two blocks. Kaden Kurtz scored all of his nine points in the second half and had two assists. Cade Guthmiller had nine points and three rebounds. Austin Jones finished with four points and two rebounds. Isaac Smith and Jayden Zak each had two points.

Groton Area made 19 of 33 two-pointers for 58 percent, five of 17 three-pointers for 29 percent, total field goals was 24 of 51 for 47 percent, 15 of 20 free throws for 75 percent, had 27 rebounds, seven turnovers, eight assists, 11 steals, 16 team fouls and two blocks.

Redfield was 18 of 50 from the field for 36 percent, five of 10 from the line for 50 percent, had 24 rebounds with Thomas Shantz having nine, 15 turnovers, four steals, 12 assists and 18 team fouls with Kolton Haider fouling out with 7:36 left in the game.

Jaxson Frankenstein led the Pheasants with 11 points followed by Isaac Suchor and Leyton Rohlf with nine each and Dylan Stephens, Kolton Haider and Thomas Shantz each having six.

Those making three-pointers were Guthmiller with two, Doeden with one, DeHoet with two, Stephens with two, Haider with one, and Rohlf with three.

Redfield is playing without three of their starters. That includes Max Baloun, an all-state player, who is out for the season due to a torn ACL. He is a senior.

Groton scorers in the C game were Jackson Cogley 2, Cole Simon 2, Wyatt Hearnen 12, Jordan Bjerke 3, Tate Larson 14, Kaleb Hanten 3, Jackson Bahr 4, Cade Larson 5, Jacob Zak 2.

Groton scorers in the junior varsity game were Lane Tietz 11, Jayden Zak 16, Isaac Smith 6, Tristan Traphagen 6, Wyatt Hearnen 4, Lucas Simon 4, Kannon Coats 2, Jackson Bahr 1.

- Paul Kosel

Pheasants slip past Lady Tigers

The Lady Tigers lost a hard fought game Friday night in Redfield with the home town Pheasants getting a 33-28 win. The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Locke Electric. The game is archived at 397news.com.

Groton Area jumped out to an 8-1 lead early in the game and held an 11-7 first quarter advantage. The Tigers were four of eight in shooting while the Pheasants were one of 11. Groton Area had six turnovers and the Pheasants were four of six from the free throw off of Groton Area's seven team fouls.

Groton Area took a 15-9 lead in the second quarter, but then, the Pheasants scored 10 straight points to take a 19-15 lead at half time. In the second quarter, Groton Area was two of eight in shooting for 25 percent and Redfield was four of 13 for 31 percent. Groton Area had six turnovers and had five more team fouls as the Pheasants were three of nine from the line for 33 percent.

Redfield opened up a five-point lead in the third quarter and led, 29-26, going into the fourth quarter. In the third quarter, Groton Area was four of 11 in shooting for 36 percent and Redfield was five of nine for 55 percent. The Tigers had five turnovers and just two team fouls while the Pheasants had seven turnovers.

Only six total points were scored in the fourth quarter. Groton Area closed to within one, 29-28, and had chances to take the lead. Both teams were one of nine in shooting in the fourth quarter for 11 percent. The Tigers had four turnovers and Redfield had three.

Groton Area committed 21 team fouls with Allyssa Locke fouling out and Trista Keith and Alyssa Thaler each played with four fouls. Redfield made nine of 19 free throws for 47 percent. Groton Area was three for four from the line for 75 percent off of Redfield's 10 team fouls.

Gracie Traphagen led the Tigers with eight points and 11 rebounds. Alyssa Thaler had eight points and six rebounds. Kaycie Hawkins added six points and had six rebounds. Allyssa Locke had two points, one rebound, two assists and two steals. Tricia Keith had two points, five rebounds, two assists and two steals. Brooke Gengerke had two points, two rebounds, one assist and two steals.

The Tigers made eight of 23 two-pointers for 34 percent, was three of 17 in three-pointers for 18 percent, had 31 rebounds, 22 turnovers, five assists and six steals.

Leading the way for Redfield was Kailee Clausen with 11 points followed by Hannah Kuehn with 10, Georgia Kuehn had seven, Katelyn Nelson and Alison Larson each had two points and Faith Jandel added a free throw. For the game, the Pheasants made 26 percent of their field goals, making 11 of 42 shots.

Groton Area is now 1-2 on the season while Redfield is 1-1.

Redfield won the junior varsity game, 27-13. Brooke Gengerke had four points followed by Shallyn Foertsch with three and adding two points apiece were Marlee Tollifson, Trista Keith and Ashton Bahr.

Groton Area won the junior high combined game, 44-21.

- Paul Kosel

Groton Angel Tree Thanks You All

I would really really like to thank everybody very much this year. It has just warmed my heart with the donations and lots of gifts for the children to have a great Christmas. I have never been called the Angel lady for the children before, but that just melts my heart. I am so overwhelmed with my heart so full of love for these children that will have the best Christmas that they will have. And to the lady that gave me the biggest hug and thanked be for doing this every year. This is my 14th year doing it and it is the best time of the year for me giving back. I have also gotten my daughters involved with buying gifts also and they love helping me out. And I would like to thank my two friends that helped me with little things here and there. And the two businesses that host my trees every year. I love living in a little community like this.

Thanks a lot!

The Angel lady with a big heart for Children
Tina Kosel



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Why Are Rural Nursing Homes Closing?

During one of our weekly hospice meetings, the discussion turned to the burden of finding an opening in a facility for one of our patients. Mr. A belongs to the working-poor segment of our society, just above official levels of poverty and yet he cannot afford health insurance and primary care, let alone the private cost of an assisted living center or nursing home.

Our patient is still living at home, has no family support and is in trouble. His progressive cancer has caused an inability even to do activities of daily living such as bowel and bladder care. He now only has Medicaid and his hospice nurse and social worker is not able to find an assisted living center or a nursing home that will take him in.

It's no surprise that care facilities in South Dakota find it financially difficult to accept Medicaid patients like Mr. A. Without Medicaid expansion, facilities lose money when caring for them. If a nursing home has too many Medicaid patients, it simply can't stay afloat. This explains why nursing homes, especially in rural areas, are closing.

The national solution was to expand Medicaid coverage to increase payments for services using federal dollars. Some states initially elected not to expand Medicaid, for fear they would become dependent on this money. However, many states have changed their position, and to date, 36 states now accept the national funding from expanded Medicaid, including North Dakota as of 2014, and Nebraska in 2018. So far, 14 states have not expanded Medicaid, including, South Dakota, Kansas and Wyoming.

If Medicaid was expanded in South Dakota, more than two billion dollars of federal health care funding would come into the state, helping healthcare coverage to 55,000 South Dakotans, in turn, helping to prevent rural nursing homes from closing. This would help Mr. A, and people like him, get comfort care during their dying days.

Medicaid expansion passed last year in some majority Republican states indicating that this is a bipartisan issue. A recent poll revealed that approximately 80 percent of South Dakotans want Medicaid expansion. In my opinion, fearing dependence on federal money does not justify letting our rural nursing homes close or letting the working-poor go without care.

Bottom Line: It is time for those within the political arena to expand Medicaid.

Richard P. Holm, MD is founder of The Prairie Doc® and author of "Life's Final Season, A Guide for Aging and Dying with Grace" available on Amazon. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www.prairiedoc.org and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



By Richard P. Holm, MD ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

UPSTART Waterford

Free At-Home Kindergarten Readiness Program

Kindergarten Readiness Program

by Joe Schwan

Families in the Groton Area School District are eligible to participate in a no-cost Kindergarten Readiness program. This unique opportunity for South Dakota families allows for participation in the Waterford UPSTART program to support home-based kindergarten readiness delivered via technology.

This program, sponsored by a US Department of Education grant, is free of charge to families. This grant is focused on providing services to 250 children in the 2020-2021 school year.

To be eligible, children must have a birth date between 9/16/2015 and 9/15/2016. Families can register for Waterford UPSTART directly by completing the pre-registration form online at www.waterfordupstart.org or by calling 1-888-982-9898.

Through involvement in the program, families will receive Research-based, award-winning instruction delivered to each child for 15-20 minutes daily Weekly family support through a family education liaison to encourage the family through literacy knowledge, preparation for supporting a school-age child, and usage tracking.

All necessary hardware, software, and infrastructure for each family (including a laptop computer for each family, software, and internet when needed).

Software licenses for all children in the home, including those who are not participating in the program directly, but may require additional reading, math, and science support.

Click on the following link for more information: https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/544095/EIR-upstart-Flyer_rev-2019_-_Copy.pdf

Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings: Cheetahs 14, Shih Tzus 13, Foxes 12, Chipmunks 8, Jackelopes 7, Coyotes 6

Men's High Games: Brad Waage 212, Tony Waage 200, Ron Beldon 191

Women's High Games: Darci Spanier 186, Dar Larson 178, Vicki Walter 174

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 557, Tony Waage 521, Roger Colestock 515

Women's High Series: Karen Spanier 469, Nicole Kassube 463, Darci Spanier 455

Groton Kindergarten Students



Arther Eichler, son of Collin and Emily Eichler, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Presents, kids being good.



Aryanna Lilly, daughter of Katie Lilly and Derek Pfitzer, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? I like presents and I love Santa.



Brody Zimmerman, son of Jarrett and Amands Zimmerman, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Jesus birth and Santa comes with toys.



Calvin Locken, son of Chad and Britt Locken, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? It is a holiday. People get to take a day off. Even grown ups get a day off and you get presents.



Colton Pullan, son of Jason and Danielle Pullan, Columbia. What Christmas means to me: Get candy and presents, see grandma and grandpa at Christmas.



Dane Kampa, son of Chad and Katie Kampa, Groton. What Christmas means to me: Presents and you get candy in your stockings, but if your naughty you might get coal- So you really want to be good!

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Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
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B:	WARMEST WINTER WISHES	
DATE:	ARCHITECT:	SCALE:
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207 N Washington St., Groton ~ 605/397-2633

There may be beauty in the season, but the reason reaches deep into our hearts!



DAKOTA RISK MANAGEMENT

Michelle and Craig



Deylon Johnson, son of Matt and Tanya Johnson, Groton. What Christmas means to me: Presents and Christmas Tree.



Elise Pharis, daughter of Kevin and Kara Pharis, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Grandpa getting better, Santa comes down the Chimney.

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Christ the Saviour was born for us

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Drew C. Johnson

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Aberdeen
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drewjohnsonlaw@gmail.com



Greyson Warrington, son of Jason and Robyn Warrington, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Snow, Santa, reindeer and a sleigh.



Gunner Osterman, son of Loren and Katie Osterman, Conde. What does Christmas mean to me? Having presents, spending time with my family.

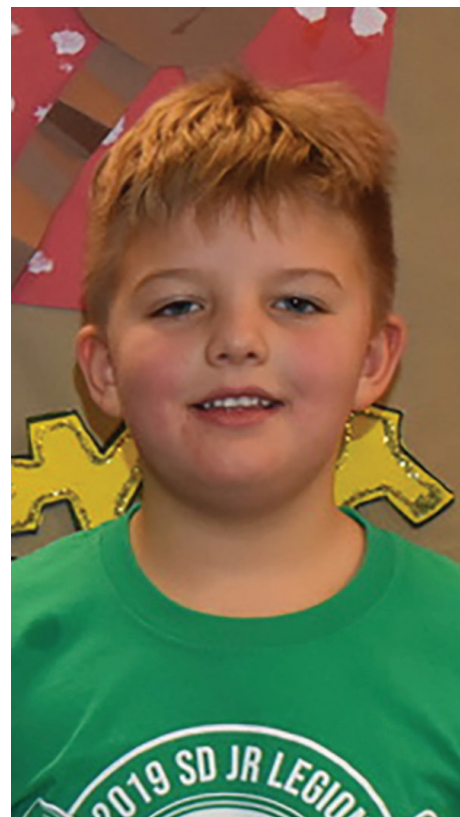


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Hank Flihs, son of Tigh and Adrienne Flihs, Claremont. What does Christmas mean to me? Get presents, family invites you to their house, we get to have Santa come over.



Huntley Overacker, son of Jesse and Jaymie Overacker, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? I get presents and to eat candy canes and you go outside to play in the snow.



Jack Schuelke, son of Austin and Deb Schuelke, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Get presents, Santa comes and brings presents.



Jernie Weig, daughter of Jade and Julie Weig, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Being proud, we get presents, Santa gets cookies.



Kacie McComsey, daughter of Jason and Christina McComsey, Conde. What does Christmas mean to me? It snows outside and you get presents from Santa.



Kaelee Morehouse, daughter of Justin and Amanda Morehouse, Andover. What does Christmas mean to me? I get presents and put up Christmas trees.



Matias DeLoera, son of Joel and Marilu DeLoera, Andover. What does Christmas mean to me? Celebrate and eat.



Rowan Hanson, daughter of Justin and Chelsea Hanson, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? You get presents and candy in your stockings, and family gets to come over



Silent Night Holy Night

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God bless you during this wonderful season when we remember the birth of the Lord Jesus Christ. As the word says, "He is Lord."



Grill & Chill

Merry Christmas from Dale, Joyce and the rest of the crew at the Groton Dairy Queen!



Taylor Thompson, daughter of Mark and June Thompson, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Santa Claus brings us presents.



Willow Cowan, daughter of Joshua and Malerie Cowan, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Christmas tree of my own, gingerbread men and Santa.

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Weston Kettner, son of Alex and Kendra Kettner, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Opening presents.



TJ Feist, son of Tracy Feist, Aberdeen. What does Christmas mean to me? To get presents

The American Legion wishes you and your family a Very Merry Christmas!

Groton American Legion Post #39 Legion Lounge



Titan Johnson, son of TJ and Samantha Johnson, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? You visit family and get presents.



Taylor Fliehs, daughter of Trey and Becah Fliehs, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Having Christmas dinner with my family.

Sending Our Best At The Holidays

Hope the holiday delivers a bundle of glad tidings to your home.

WITH OUR THANKS for your business all year long.

Groton SD 57445
Mindy Vander Vorst
Postmaster





Tanner Frost, son of Chris and Samantha Frost, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? It's fun opening presents and I hope Santa gives me a dirt bike.



Shealee Gilchrist, daughter of Grant and Jen Gilchrist, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Spending the holiday with my family.



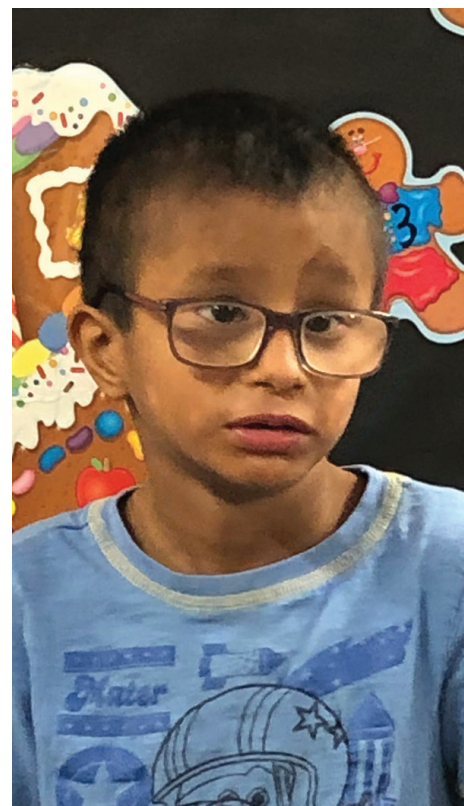
Ryan Hanson, daughter of Justin and Chelsea Hanson, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? It means family and playing with them.



Ruby Dosch, daughter of Kelsie and Ehresmann and Jeremy Dosch, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Opening presents with grandma and grandpa and my cousins.



Rosalyn Block, daughter of Hope Block, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Santa brings presents and we get to open them.



Riley Lufkins, son of Angela Odland, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? toys.

Christmas will always be as long as we stand heart to heart and hand in hand. Christmas is a season not only of rejoicing but of reflection. From everyone at the

Groton Vet Clinic,
Merry Christmas!



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MY
CHRISTMAS
:)**



Kolker Law Office
102 N Main St.
(605)397-8464



Micah Krause, son of Pat and Kayla Krause, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? You give presents, it's all about sharing and being on the "good list" and not on the "naughty list."



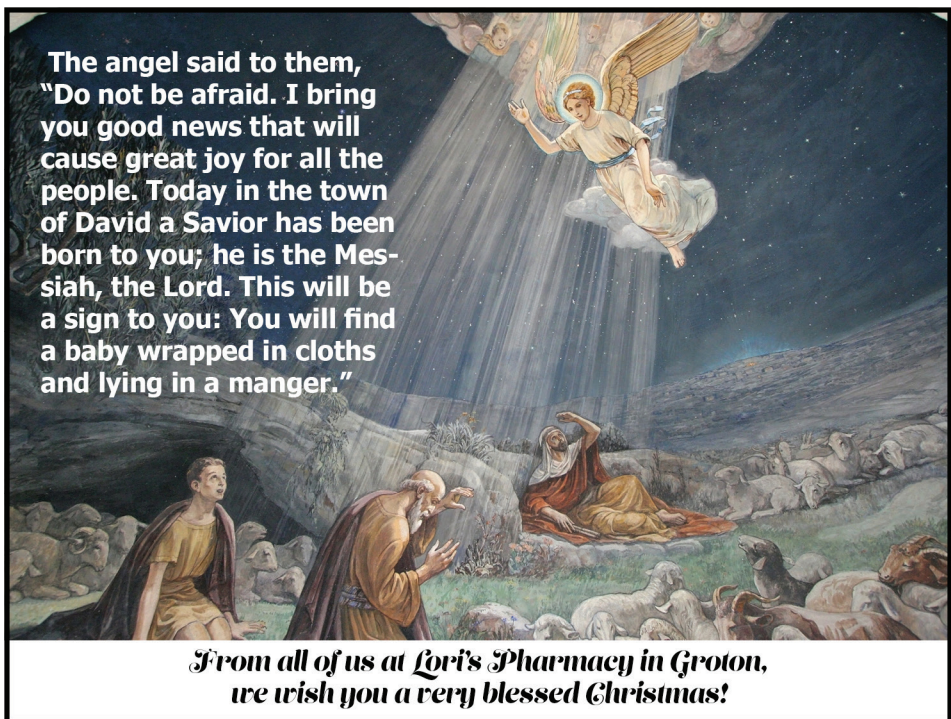
Lilianna Brunson, daughter of Joey and Andrea Brunson, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Presents, Santa and the elves.



Lennox Locke, daughter of Spencer and Kellie Locke and Victoria Locke, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Santa his reindeer and gingerbread houses.



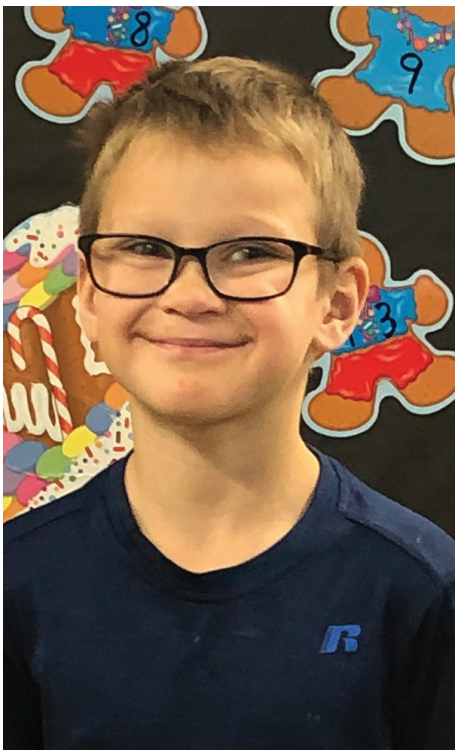
Kayson Hofer, son of Mark and Jen Hofer, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Is about sharing and caring and having good food.



Kaylee Sippel, daughter of John and Lisa Sippel, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Open presents and eat turkey



Jordy Frasier, daughter of Joran and Nikki Frasier, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? It makes my family feel good.



Jacob Morehouse, son of Jesse and Julie Morehouse, Andover. What does Christmas means to me? Is you have gifts and be nice. You have cookies out for Santa



Jackson Helvig, son of Aaron and Jill Helvig, Aberdeen. What does Christmas mean to me? Love and Santa loves me.



Hudson McGannon, son of Sarah Sigdestad and Travis McGannon, Bristol. What does Christmas mean to me? Is you celebrate a happy Christmas.



Gideon Rix, son of Grant and Tracy Rix, Groton. What does Christmas means to me? Is just happiness and spending time with your family.



Emma Woizeschke, daughter of Scott and Nicole Woizeschke, Bath. What does Christmas means to me? Is be nice to people and others and to celebrate the day Jesus was born.



Devon Locke, daughter of Mitchell and Heidi Locke, Groton. What does Christmas means to me? Happiness.

We have a solid foundation with the birth of Jesus.

Have a most joyous Christmas!

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Merry Christmas!

397-GOLF
Groton, South Dakota

*Star of Wonder
Star of Night
Guide us to that perfect light!*

Merry Christmas from
Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel

May your Christmas be bright and cheerful!

Merry Christmas from Joe at Patios Plus

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Purina

From our family
to your family . . .
*Have a blessed
Christmas!*

**Professional
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Cierra Lier-Sauer, daughter of Jayde Lier and Nick Saur, Conde. What does Christmas mean to me? You open the presents and decorate the Christmas tree.



Boston Kurth, son of Travis and Debra Kurth, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Presents and the Christmas tree.



S & S Lumber
HARDWARE HANK

Peace on Earth will come to stay
when we live Christmas every day!
- Helen Steiner Rice

*Have a
Merry Christmas!*

201 East Hwy 12 • 605/397-2361



Blakely Stiegelmeier, daughter of Jordan and Whitney Stiegelmeier, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? Jesus was born and presents



Adam Flihs, son of Richard and Heather Flihs, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Caring and sharing and being nice. It's not all just about presents. It's about being kind.



We are blessed to live in a state with a
strong agriculture community!

Merry Christmas!

**SOUTH DAKOTA
Farmers Union**

**Doug
Sombke
President**



Jaxson Barrera, son of Beltran and Tasha Barrera, Groton. What does Christmas mean to me? Playing outside.



Avery Knippling, daughter of Tori Knippling and Cody Roettle, Columbia. What does Christmas mean to me? That I love my family.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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**Spanier's Custom
Harvesting
& Trucking**

Mustangs hand Lady Tigers first loss

Waubay/Summit handed the Lady Tigers their first loss of the season in a home game played Tuesday night, 54-31.

Groton Area led for most of the first quarter, holding an 8-4 lead and taking a 13-12 lead at the break. In the first quarter, Groton Area made five off 11 field goals for 45 percent and Waubay/Summit made five of 17 for 29 percent. Groton made only two points in the second quarter as the Mustangs took a 29-15 lead at half time. The Mustangs were five of 12 in shooting for 42 percent and the Tigers did not make a field goal with 11 attempted shots.

Waubay/Summit took a 43-21 lead at the end of the third quarter. The Tigers were two of eight in shooting for 25 percent and the Mustangs were four of 11 for 36 percent. In the fourth quarter, Groton Area made four of 12 shots for 33 percent and Waubay/Summit made three of 12 for 25 percent.

Allyssa Thaler led the Tigers with 10 points followed by Kaycie Hawkins with eight, Gracie Traphagen had five, Brooke Gengerke three and Allyssa Locke added a free throw.

Groton area made five of 12 free throws for 42 percent off of Waubay/Summit's 12 team fouls.

For the game, Groton Area made seven of 28 two-pointers for 25 percent and four of 15 three-pointers for 42 percent. Traphagen snatched down 10 of the team's 30 rebounds. Locke had three

of the team's seven steals. Keith and three of the teams eight assists.

Waubay/Summit was led by Alyssa Barse with 16 points followed by Alexis Hopkins with 11, Victoria Zirbel nine, Emily Breske eight, Emily Ollerich seven and Eva Benike with three. Waubay/Summit made 11 of 15 free throws for 73 percent off of Groton Area's 13 team fouls.

Waubay/Summit made 17 of 49 field goals for 35 percent, had 30 rebounds with Hopkins having eight and eight steals with Zirbel having five.

Waubay/Summit is 3-0 on the season while Groton Area is 1-1.

Groton Area had 15 turnovers while Waubay/Summit had seven.

Groton won the junior varsity game, 28-20. Scoring for the Tigers were Allyssa Thaler with 10, Brooke Gengerke, Aspen Johnson, Madeline Flihs and Trista Keith with four points apiece and Marlee Tollifson added two points.



Allyssa Locke brings the ball up-court for the Tigers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Allysa Thaler led the Tigers with 10 points including two three-pointers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

- Paul Kosel

MERRY CHRISTMAS

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Merry Christmas

MAY YOUR CHRISTMAS SPARKLE WITH MOMENTS OF LOVE, LAUGHTER AND GOODWILL, AND MAY THE YEAR AHEAD BE FULL OF CONTENTMENT AND JOY.

WEBER LANDSCAPING
605/380-7811
Groton

May you and those you love find true *happiness and peace* this Christmas!

Weismantel Agency
Marty Weismantel ~ 605/396-7341 ~ weisag@nvc.net

Groton City 2020 Salary Ordinance
ORDINANCE NO. 732
An Ordinance entitled "The 2020 Salary Ordinance" to amend Ordinance No. 722, being an ordinance regulating the salaries of the elective and appointive officers and employees of the City of Groton.
BE IT ORDAINED BY The City Council of the City of Groton that the 2020 salaries and time of payment are as follows for the elected and appointed officers and employees:
Mayor, \$625.00, Monthly
Council Members, \$3,000.00, Yearly, \$125.00 Per special City Council Meeting
Board of Equalization, \$200.00, Yearly
Planning & Zoning Commission, \$35.00, Per meeting
Planning & Zoning Commission, \$70.00, Per special meeting
Elected Officials, \$300.00 Per full day of additional authorized meetings
Elected Officials, \$100.00 Per

half day of additional authorized meetings
Finance Officer, \$23.85, Hourly
Deputy Finance Officer, \$22.54, Hourly
Assistant Finance Officer & Police Secretary, \$22.10, Hourly
Public Works Coordinator & Street & Water Supt., \$29.86, Hourly
Wastewater Supt., \$29.56, Hourly
Asst Street Supt., \$24.58, Hourly
Technology Specialist, \$25.96, Hourly
Electric Supt, \$38.68, Hourly
Electric Lineman, \$33.45, Hourly
Police Chief, \$29.26, Hourly.
Police Officer & Assistant Chief, \$26.43, Hourly
Police Officer Level 1, \$25.49, Hourly
Police Officer Level 2, \$25.39, Hourly
Full time permanent employee individual health insurance premium will be covered by the City of Groton, along with \$260 per month toward a dependant's insurance coverage provided by

the City.
The city will contribute \$2 for every \$1 the employee contributes up to \$1000 to their health savings account under the HSA health insurance option.
The city will also contribute \$2 for every \$1 the employee contributes up to \$400 to their med flex account.
First Reading: 3-Dec-19
Second Reading: 17-Dec-19
Published: Dec. 25, 2019
Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$21.16. 18452

Latex and Mylar Balloons
Groton Daily Independent
21 N Main
605-397-6397

There are many layers of Christmas, but the most important one is Jesus. His birth gave us the promise of a heavenly home!

Merry Christmas!

**GDI News
GDI Fit
GDI Clean
GDLIVE
GDI Rent**

A LOOK INSIDE A CAFO: S.D. farmers share stories of a life in livestock

By: Bart Pfankuch

PART 2 OF A 2-WEEK SERIES: South Dakota livestock production is undergoing a major transition with the expansion of concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, in which thousands and even millions of animals are raised in a confined space. The large livestock operations are efficient and profitable, but they can also harm human health and damage the environment. As opposition rises, state government is offering financial incentives to counties that approve new projects. Along the way, the farms are sowing heated division in many rural communities and stoking fears South Dakota may end up like CAFO-heavy Iowa, which has seen fish kills and waterway pollution.

The expansion of concentrated animal feeding operations, or CAFOs, in South Dakota is without a doubt one of the most controversial topics in agriculture.

CAFOs are large livestock farms that generally house 1,000 or more animals in a confined, indoor space at any one time.

Supporters say the CAFOs are mainly well-run, efficient operations typically owned by families that raise animals humanely and manage wastes in line with state regulations.

Opponents, meanwhile, decry what they see as mistreatment of animals and are concerned over potential human health risks and the potential for environmental damage.

South Dakota is now home to 452 CAFOs that are legally allowed to house about 9.6 million animals in all, mainly cattle, hogs, chickens and turkeys.

As part of its special report on CAFOs, South Dakota News Watch visited three CAFOs in South Dakota to get an up-close look at the operations and the operators. Here is a report on those visits.

Hog farmer tries to set an industry example

Matt Moeller grew up on a small farm in Hand County, but as a young adult he felt underutilized on the family farm and decided to seek opportunities in the big city of Sioux Falls.

He spent a couple of years welding fire trucks and flatbed trailers, but the call to agriculture was strong and he spent his final three years in Sioux Falls working in a dairy.

One day, Moeller's uncle told him that the pork-production company Murphy Brown, now a subsidiary of Chinese-owned Smithfield Foods, was looking for people in South Dakota who might be interested in raising hogs.

In his late 20s at the time, Moeller jumped at the chance, and in 1998, he and his uncle built three hog barns on a small slice of land not far from his childhood home.

Now, more than 20 years on, Moeller owns the operation outright and has a state CAFO permit that allows him and his wife, Karen, to house 7,700 hogs at any one time.

"You know that saying, 'You can take the boy out of the farm but not the farm out of the boy, or something like that?'" said Moeller, 47. "I just really wanted to come back to farming."

By all accounts, Moeller has an outstanding reputation in the agricultural industry — and even among opponents of CAFOs — as a good person and a good operator.

His farm consists of two sites that total about 60 acres just east of St. Lawrence on U.S. 14 in Hand County.

His modest home sits directly between his

two sets of hog barns — three 50-foot by 200-foot barns that each house 1,100 hogs at a time, and two 50-foot by 400-foot barns that each house 2,200 hogs at a time. The larger barns, added in 2008, are each about half the size of a football field.

A 1.5-million-gallon metal tank that rises 20 feet high holds the manure collected daily from the barns and lies within sight of his home.

The entrance to his farm and the barns is remarkably clean for an operation that raises thousands of pigs each year. In a five-month process, piglets weighing 15 to 18 pounds are fed and raised to a finishing weight of 280 to 300 pounds each.

Cleanliness helps reduce mortality; any visitor allowed in must don a blue protective suit and footies.

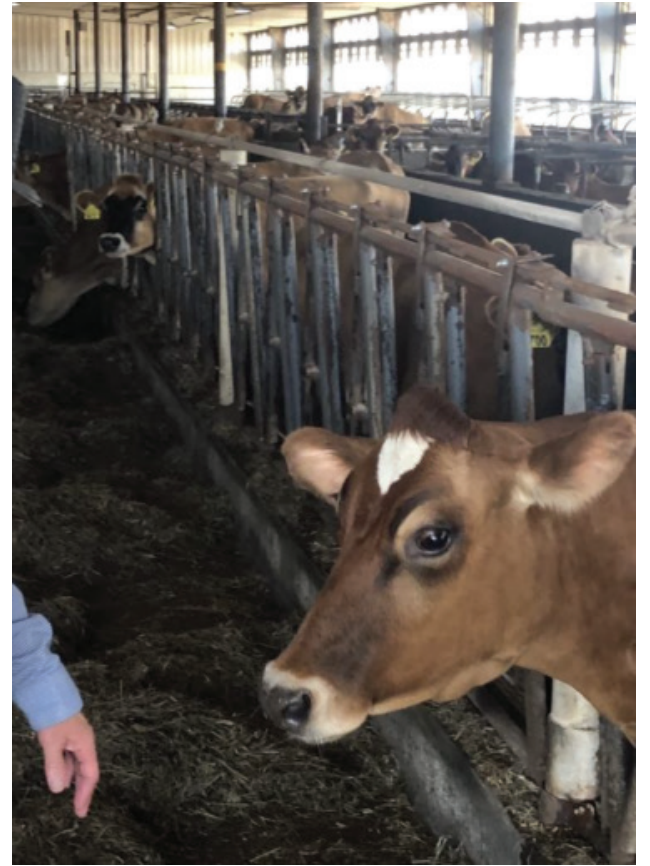
The pigs are segregated into groups of about 65 in pens within the barn that are 20 feet by 22 feet, each with about 12 feet of solid concrete floor, and 10 feet of concrete floor with slats that allow wastes to fall below. Moeller said the pigs try hard to keep themselves clean, spending time on the sawdust-covered hard concrete when eating and milling about and moving to the slats only when they need to expel wastes.

Underneath the barns lies a shallow, foot-deep concrete waste-collection area that is scraped by an automatic system each day to force wastes through a pipe and into the slurry tank. The worst job on the farm is when the scraper system needs maintenance and must be tended to by hand, Moeller said.

Moeller works closely with Smithfield, which provides him with the hogs and technical assistance. He is mainly responsible for feeding and caring for the pigs and properly handling wastes. Twice a year, typically in spring and fall, depending on the weather, Moeller engages a pumping and piping system that allows him to spread the liquid manure onto neighboring farm fields as fertilizer.

Upon reaching finishing weight, the hogs Moeller grows are picked up and transported by Smithfield to slaughterhouses in Sioux Falls or Crete, Nebraska.

In 2018, Moeller raised his hogs as RWA, or raised without antibiotics, a more expensive process that enabled pork from his farm to serve a growing consumer base seeking foods raised with fewer additives. Mortality is higher during the RWA process, he said, and it takes more work because when an antibiotic-free animal gets sick, it requires medical treatment



and must be segregated and sold separately in order to maintain the integrity of the larger RWA herd.

This year, however, Moeller said consumer demand shifted back to a desire for less-expensive pork, so he returned to production of "commodity" pigs that can be provided with antibiotic-infused feed that keeps more of them alive but cannot carry special labeling.

"Anytime it takes more time and mortality is higher, it costs more money, and the consumer has to pay that," he said.

His animals, Moeller said, are kept in a climate-controlled environment where the temperature is always 65 degrees, even when it is below zero or near 100 degrees outside.

Moeller said he has a great relationship with his neighbors, mostly farmers themselves, whom he helps with chores on occasion. He said he alerts them when he is about to spread manure — the smelliest time of the year — and he once put off spreading so a neighbor could have an outdoor graduation party.

Moeller said the odors from his operation are less intense than some other CAFOs because his shallow-pit operation requires daily cleaning and does not hold manure beneath the animals for up to a year, like other CAFOs. The shallow pit also allows him to avoid using fans that blow odors and gasses out into the air around deep-pit CAFOs.

Still, depending on the day, the odors from Moeller's farm can be smelled readily upon approach to his operation on U.S. 14 and may linger on the clothes of a visitor who spends some time at the farm.

Raising hogs has provided a good living, said Moeller, who takes trips with his wife in their camper and enjoys rodeo and racing cars. He has one full-time farmhand and sometimes also employs part-timers.

"The hardest part is just washing the barns and getting them ready for the little pigs, and you have to be here every day and make sure they have feed and water," he said. "It's like any job. If you enjoy it, it's not hard work, and if you don't, it's miserable."

Moeller is aware of the opposition to existing large livestock operations and the expansion of CAFOs in South Dakota, but he said opponents are often misinformed about local ownership, health risks, manure management and espe-



Matt Moeller and his wife, Karen, run a hog farm east of Miller in Hand County that houses 7,700 hogs in five separate large barns. Moeller said they take great pride in running a clean, efficient, profitable farm that focuses on treating animals humanely and following all state guidelines for handling wastes. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

Continues on next page



At Matt Moeller's hog CAFO in Hand County, pigs arrive weighing about 15 to 18 pounds and grow to 280 to 300 pounds after five months. About 65 pigs are held inside 440 square-foot pens within each of five large barns. These pigs are closer to their arrival weight than their finishing weight. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

cially animal treatment.

"These pigs, they got it made," he said. "They have all the feed they want in front of them, they have all the water they need, and they're at 65 degrees all day," Moeller said. "It's a felony to abuse your animals, and pork producers are in favor of those laws."

Moeller said increased economies of scale have occurred in many industries, including agriculture.

"I don't know any farm anymore run by a husband and wife with just a couple cows and chickens and hogs," he said.

His true measure of success, he said, is operating a farm that he and his wife can be proud of. That starts with keeping the farm and barns tidy and ends with forging good relationships with neighbors and treating animals humanely.

"It goes a long way when somebody drives up and sees your place clean and mowed as opposed to junk all over the place and weeds growing over," Moeller said. "I take a lot of pride in my facilities and my farm and in trying to do the right thing."

Part-time cattleman upholds family history

Brian Alderson and a visitor stand on a wooden platform 10 feet above the floor of his cattle barn as about 600 half-ton animals mill about below.

About 15 minutes into a conversation, Alderson asks, "You tell me, does it stink in here?"

Surprisingly, despite the fact that a few animals had defecated and flatulated, and that the platform hovers over a 1.2-million-gallon underground manure pit, the odors are minimal.

Alderson insists his deep-pit cattle barn that sits north of Highway 42 about 12 miles west of Sioux Falls has led to a major improvement on the environment and on the lives of his neighbors when compared to the open-air feedlot he used to operate.

"While there is a faint odor in here, I only had 200 steers outside and it smelled way worse



During spreading operations, farmer Matt Moeller checks a pump that is part of a mechanical system that stirs the manure and then pumps it into a pipe that will carry it to nearby farm fields.

than in here, especially when it rained and the odor of ammonia came up," Alderson said. "It's a night-and-day difference."

Alderson, 37, is a former standout football lineman who brushed up against an NFL career and who was enshrined in 2019 into the University of South Dakota Coyote Sports Hall of Fame.

Alderson is now a part-time cattleman who has a full-time job as a cropland insurance adjuster. He and his wife, Erin, have sons ages 5 and 3.

His lone 14,400-square-foot barn can produce about 750 Holstein cattle each year, and is a fairly low-intensity operation in terms of manpower. The cattle barn allows him to keep his hand in farming and maintain a family tradition on his land that stretches back to 1876.

"I can do this in two or three hours a day, about 20 hours a week," Alderson said. "I can hang out with my kids and do it 300 yards from my home. My boys play down here and they like hanging out with their dad."

Alderson obtained a conditional-use permit from Minnehaha County in 2017 that allows him to raise up to 950 head of cattle. Though his operation is under the 1,000 animal threshold that would trigger the need for a state concentrated animal feeding operation permit, Alderson operates his farm much like CAFOs that house a few hundred or even thousands more cattle.

He has an arrangement with JBS Beef, a Brazilian-owned firm that provides meat to Walmart, among other sellers.

About every nine months, Alderson receives a shipment of roughly 600 cattle that weigh about 500 to 600 pounds each; they are held within four separate pens within the larger barn.

He feeds and cares for them until they reach their roughly 1,200-pound finishing weight.

During each cycle, Alderson said he spends about \$700 in feed on each animal, generating roughly a half-million-dollar impact on the local feed market each year.

As the animals grow, their wastes fall into the underground pit, which is 12 feet deep and has a 12-inch concrete liner with a double layer of rebar. Additives are mixed into the pit wastes to break down bacteria and reduce odors and gasses, Alderson said.

Typically once a year — like all CAFO operators — Alderson pumps the liquid wastes from the pit onto area farm fields as fertilizer. He said that 36-hour period is the one time per year the smells at his farm become intense. Alderson spent about \$20,000 in engineering costs to make sure his barn was efficient and safe.

The operation allows him to control the flow of wastes, and accompanying odors, far better than when his cattle were allowed to stroll around and do their business in pastures, he said.

Alderson bristles when discussing the opposition that invariably arises when any new CAFO is proposed in South Dakota. He, like other livestock farmers, said many opponents are ill-informed about farming in general and especially about how animals are treated and wastes are managed at large livestock operations. About 50 people showed up to his conditional-use hearing and he eventually endured six appeals to his permit.

"There was a lot of fear about what this was going to turn into; they saw cattle and they said, 'That doesn't look very good,'" he said. "But now I don't think they notice it. Their day-to-day life hasn't been affected at all, and in fact, I think it has improved."

Alderson said South Dakota producers have increasingly specialized in one type of animal or crop in order to improve efficiency and profitability. Ultimately, the changes in agriculture are being driven by consumers who buy the meat and other goods farmers produce — and much of that demand is pushed a desire for low prices.

"If all you want to see is grass and a few cattle out your door when you look out, the



Brian Alderson produces beef cattle at his property west of Sioux Falls in a barn that houses about 600 head at any one time. Alderson said his attempt to get a conditional-use permit from Minnehaha County faced opposition by some neighbors, but he said his indoor operation produces less odors and allows for better control of wastes than his previous open feedlot. Photo and video by Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

next time you go to a barbecue, instead of picking up a six-pack of beer and a pound of hamburger, go ahead and spend that whole 12 bucks on the pound of hamburger," Alderson said, noting that free-range or organic foods often cost significantly more. "It's demand, and you tell us what you want us to do when you go to the grocery store."

A colony of families and farms

The Oaklane Colony in Hanson County is a fully functioning town, with a school, housing and a handful of varied farm operations.

The head of the agricultural side of the system is John Wipf, 64, who oversees the raising of turkeys, hogs and dairy cattle at the Hutterite colony that houses 28 families a few miles west of Bridgewater. The farm also grows corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa and hay, mostly as feed for its animals.

The Oaklane Hutterian Brethren is one of 68 Hutterite Anabaptist colonies in the state; more than half of the colonies are part-owners of the Dakota Provisions turkey plant in Huron. Numerous colonies hold state permits to run CAFOs.

"I think the colonies raise every turkey produced in the state," Wipf said.

Turkeys are one of several types of livestock animals raised at Oaklane, which holds a multi-species CAFO permit from the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The colony produces about 70,000 turkeys a year in three large barns.

The turkeys arrive in groups of about 7,500 from a cage-free birthing facility near Claremont, and weigh about three pounds after five weeks. The turkeys are raised at Oaklane without antibiotics and fed and watered for another 20 weeks to a finishing weight of about 45 to 50 pounds. At that point, they are shipped to the plant in Huron for processing, Wipf said.

Fans keep the turkeys cool in the summer and boilers keep them warm in winter. "If you had to be a turkey, this would be a pretty good way to live," Wipf said.

The turkey wastes, known as litter, can build to about six inches per flock, he said. The litter is collected and brought to a composting barn on the entrance road to the colony.

The colony also has a dairy cattle operation with jersey cows, and a large farrow-to-finish hog operation, which includes 1,500 sows and produces about 40,000 head per year. The hogs are raised in an antibiotic-free program and finish at a weight of about 280 pounds in barns in a field a short drive from the main colony. Their wastes are collected and piped to a storage pond about a mile away; the hog barns produce about 9 million gallons of waste

The Life of Harry Pharis, Jr.

Memorial services for Harry "Sonny" Pharis, Jr., 81, of Groton were held Monday, December 23, 2019 at the Groton United Methodist Church. The Rev. Brandon Dunham officiated. Inurnment will follow at a later date in Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Harry passed away Saturday, December 14, 2019 at Avera St. Lukes Hospital.

Henry Harrison Pharis, Jr. was born on June 16, 1938 in Aberdeen, SD to Henry and Evelyn (Bonde) Pharis.

Harry attended Putney Grade School and graduated from Groton High School in 1956. On October 26, 1958, he was united in marriage to Gloria Bourassa, and together they were blessed with five children. Harry farmed near Putney his entire life, eventually being joined by his son, Kevin.

Harry was a member of the United Methodist Church in Groton. He served on many boards including the Groton School, Putney Township and Putney Farmers Elevator, SD Farm Bureau, and the Minneapolis Grain Exchange. Harry's hobbies included snowmobiling, fishing, hunting, watching football and cooking. He was an avid gardener who loved to share his produce with others. He enjoyed going to casinos and hosting poker night with his friends. Grandpa Harry took great pride in watching his grandchildren in all of their activities.

Harry will be forever loved and greatly missed by his wife of 61 years, his children: Kim (Craig) Weber, Karla Pasteur, Kelli (Lars) Hanson, Kami (Tom) Lipp, Kevin (Kara) Pharis, 17 grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren, a special nephew, Cory (Becky) Barber, several other nieces and nephews and his aunt, Nita Geranen.

Preceding him in death were his parents, Henry and Evelyn, and siblings Roland "Bud" Pharis, Mary Lou Swinter, Charlotte (Eugene) Barber, and Larry Pharis.

Urnbearers will be his grandsons: Jeremy Weber, Eric Lipp, Cody Hanson, Dylan Hanson, Reilly Ell, Kyler Ell, Kale Pharis, Pierce Kettering and Henry Pharis, III.

Honorary Urnbearers will be Rich Bures, Glenn Cooper, Doug Craig, Richard Kolker, Jack Oliver, Jim Oliver, Dr. Tom Reynolds, Wayne Simon, Marc Sippel, Roger Solaas, Sherman Solaas, Rich Squire, and Jim Stephenson.



The Life of Jack Walter

John "Jack" Walter, 84, died peacefully December 17, 2019 at Dougherty House Hospice in Sioux Falls. Services were held Saturday, December 21, 2019 at St Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Groton, SD. Inurnment will be at a later date in the Groton Cemetery.

Jack Walter was born October 31, 1935 on the family farm to Merle and Ethel (Hendershott) Walter. He attended grade school with his 3 brothers in Riverside Township and graduated from Groton High School in 1954. He enlisted in the U.S. Army, and served 16 months on the DMZ in Korea where he was a radar operator and maintenance engineer.

In 1958, he married Helen Steenson of Aberdeen and together they raised five children on their family farm east of Groton. Jack and his brother David started Walter Angus Farm in 1952. Following the death of David, Jack moved forward with the registered Angus herd, raising premium Angus seedstock for over 50 years. When asked what he did for a living, Jack would always say he was a "bull shipper"! As his family grew, they were busy in 4-H, showing Angus cattle across the region and camping.

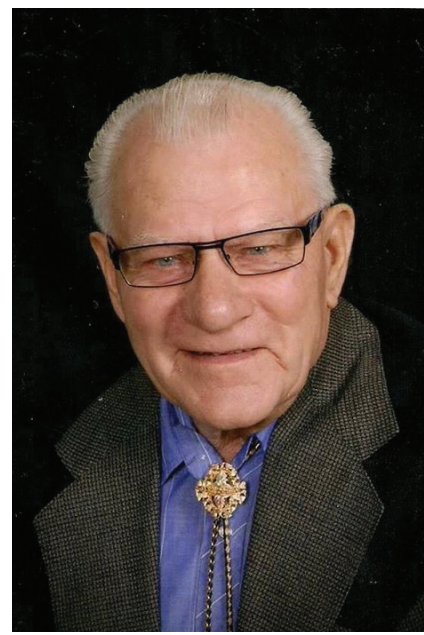
Jack and Helen developed a love for traveling and visited all 48 contiguous states. They settled in Harlingen, TX, as their winter home for more than 25 years where they enjoyed dancing and the warm weather. In 2012, Jack & Helen retired to Mina Lake where Helen took joy in watching the water and Jack did his best to fish! Helen suffered a stroke in 2014 and passed away January 6, 2016.

In his youth, Jack was an active 4-H member and was president of the Brown County YCL. As an adult, Jack was active in Groton Jaycees, Brown County 4-H, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church and the Groton American Legion. He was a life-long member of the American Angus Association, Hub City Angus and North James Valley Angus Association. He was a strong supporter of FFA and was instrumental in restarting the Groton program in the late 70s.

Grateful for sharing his life are his five children, Kim (Mike) Jones, Carterville, GA; Mark (Barb), Centerville, SD; Scott (Vicki), Tyler TX, Pam (Kent) Geppert, Kimball, SD; and Dani Bolte and friend Lance Danielson, Sioux Falls; 12 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, one sister-in-law, Jean Walter, Groton; one brother-in-law, Jim (Ruth) Steenson, Kalispell, MT and numerous nephews and nieces.

He is preceded in death by his parents, step-mother Alice; three brothers, Vernon, Donnie and David, and son-in-law Kurt Hill.

Miller Funeral Home in Sioux Falls, SD assisted with arrangements.



The Life of Dale Cutler

Dale Lee Cutler, a lifelong Brown County resident, died peacefully at his Bethesda home in Aberdeen, SD, on Dec. 14, 2019.

Services were held Thursday, December 19, 2019 at Aberdeen First United Methodist Church. Rev. Derek Baum and Rev. Eldon Reich officiated. Burial followed in Groton Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Dale was born January 8, 1926, at Claremont, SD, the second child of Howard and Sybil Cutler. He attended a nearby country school and later graduated from Claremont High School, where he had learned the most important thing of his lifetime: the name and address of Kathleen (Cassie) Gibbs. They were married in 1944, and together began a lifetime of farming, ranching, and child rearing that lasted 55 years, until Cassie succumbed to ALS disease in 1999. Both Cassie and Dale were voracious readers, lifelong learners, and strongly believed in the value of education. Although neither had the opportunity to attend, they were proud that all 6 of their children graduated from college.

Dale's accomplishments were many, and his love of cattle led him to one of his favorite ventures. In the 1960's, he and a handful of other cattlemen determined that the commercial beef herds in the US, then primarily Angus and Herefords, needed some fresh genetics to bolster feedlot performance. Through study, research, and travel abroad, they decided that the Simmental cattle of Europe were the best breed to help improve cattle genetics at home. That group formed the American Simmental Association, a national association to promote the importation and use of these cattle. Dale was a founding member of the association and served as its president in 1973/4. He traveled throughout cattle country promoting the breed and helping organize various state associations. He and Cassie enjoyed seeing new places, but most of all cherished getting to know people who would end up being lifelong friends.

Another favorite venture began around their kitchen table, where



several of us were complaining of the low corn prices in Claremont. That led to various discussions on value-added ag possibilities, which eventually led to the planning, fundraising, and construction of the Groton ethanol plant in 2003.

Dale was very sociable. He was gregarious and warm without having to be the center of attention. He had a fantastic memory for people and their names which came from genuinely loving to be around them. It seemed that he knew everyone in South Dakota.

We family members got to enjoy daily his humor, quick wit, and easy laugh. We also saw how he faced some of life's worst challenges, from the destruction of the farming economy to the loss of a spouse. Dale's resoluteness in the face of those losses, and his ability to remain positive, were an example of grace under pressure for all of us and a life lesson we will never forget.

Dad loved his family and would do anything for them. He loved his land, his livestock, his church, and his friends. He planted innumerable trees on his lands and particularly liked apple trees. Like the extended Cutler family, he loved the game of baseball and played or managed for most of his life. He was blessed to have a special friend, Joan Henry, who was his boon companion for many years. He was grateful for the excellent care provided by Bethesda, and especially Carole Greseth.

Grateful for sharing his life are his children and grandchildren: Dan and Diane Cutler (Dana, Dillon, and Dacey); Linda and Bill Richter (Allison, Becka, BJ, Gretchen and Emily); Bruce and Barb Cutler (Carley, Brock, and Grant); Pam and Tim Zoellner (Victoria, Alexandra, and Jackson); Mark and Kristen Cutler; and Mike and Tracy Cutler (Mackenzie, Madison, Michaela, and Dylan) and 31 great grandchildren. Dale was preceded in death by his wife Cassie, his parents, and two brothers, Keith and Verl. He is survived by three siblings; Lyle Cutler, Ann Carver, and Mary Lynn James.

Dragr, Knutson placed sixth at Madison

There was a field of 20 teams that participated in the Madison Invitational wrestling tournament held Saturday. Dragr Monson and Adrian Knutson both came home with sixth place finishes.

120: Dragr Monson (6-4) placed 6th and scored 7.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 received a bye (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Connor Eimers (Tea Area) 12-5 won by decision over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 (Dec 11-6)

Cons. Round 2 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 won by fall over Dominic Santiago (Chamberlain) 6-6 (Fall 3:00)

Cons. Round 3 - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 won by decision over Brayden Siemonsma (West Central) 10-5 (Dec 8-5)

Cons. Semi - Sam Olson (Madison) 13-2 won by fall over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 (Fall 0:20)

5th Place Match - Connor Eimers (Tea Area) 12-5 won by decision over Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 6-4 (Dec 4-2)

160: Thomas Cranford (6-5) scored 3.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Wren Jacobs (Sturgis Brown) 17-3 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 6-5 (Fall 1:53)

Cons. Round 1 - Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 6-5 won by fall over Ethan Schroeder (Lennox) 0-7 (Fall 1:52)

Cons. Round 2 - Brayden Gee (Dell Rapids) 8-5 won by fall over Thomas Cranford (Groton Area) 6-5 (Fall 0:34)

182: Lane Krueger (5-5) scored 5.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 5-5 won in sudden victory - 1 over Bryce Kwiecinski (Sioux Falls Lincoln) 9-8 (SV-1 4-2)

Quarterfinal - Luke Rasmussen (Brookings) 7-0 won by tech fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 5-5 (TF-1.5 2:36 (17-2))

Cons. Round 2 - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 5-5 won by forfeit over Forfeit Forfeit (Rapid City Stevens) 6-9 (For.)

Cons. Round 3 - Ben Zarr (Lennox) 10-7 won by fall over Lane Krueger

(Groton Area) 5-5 (Fall 2:56)

195: Grady O'Neill (5-5) scored 7.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 5-5 won by fall over Grayson Janssen (Rapid City Stevens) 7-9 (Fall 2:34)

Quarterfinal - Isaac Feldhaus (Howard) 12-2 won by fall over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 5-5 (Fall 3:33)

Cons. Round 2 - Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 5-5 won by fall over Zaul Moniz-DeLeon (Omaha Central) 1-3 (Fall 0:59)

Cons. Round 3 - Sam Loecker (Sioux Falls O'Gorman) 12-5 won by fall over Grady O'Neill (Groton Area) 5-5 (Fall 2:08)

285: Adrian Knutson (6-6) placed 6th and scored 13.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 won by fall over Elliott Renville (Sioux Falls Lincoln) 3-10 (Fall 2:51)

Quarterfinal - Nash Hutmacher (Chamberlain) 14-0 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 (Fall 0:35)

Cons. Round 2 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 won by fall over Ethan Skarnagel (Sisseton) 0-6 (Fall 2:07)

Cons. Round 3 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 won by fall over Hayden Herlyn (Lennox) 5-4 (Fall 1:16)

Cons. Semi - Braden Peters (Flandreau) 5-2 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 (Fall 3:22)

5th Place Match - Jake Scheafer (Sioux Falls O'Gorman) 8-5 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 6-6 (Fall 0:50)

DPS Officials Urge Safe Driving During Christmas Week

PIERRE, S.D. – South Dakota's Department of Public Safety reminds people that a safe Christmas holiday begins when they get behind the wheel.

The Highway Patrol and the Office of Highway Safety urge drivers to be careful when driving for Christmas, whether it is across town or across the state. With more people on the road for the holiday, Highway Patrol Superintendent Col. Rick Miller says it is important everyone watches out for each other.

"It is easy with so many things going on to forget about staying safe while driving," he says. "But one mistake – getting distracted by your electronic devices, drinking and then driving, not wearing your seatbelt or not slowing down – can lead to a regrettable Christmas for many."

This year's Christmas holiday reporting period for motor vehicle traffic crashes covers 30 hours, from 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 24, through midnight, Wednesday, Dec. 25. During last year's 102-hour long reporting period, there were 173 reported traffic crashes resulting in 48 injuries and two deaths. Of the two fatalities, one was a pedestrian and the other was a pickup driver who was ejected after not wearing a seatbelt.

"It always comes down to this – making the holiday season memorable for the right reason," says Miller. "That doesn't mean just the drivers, but also making sure the passengers, especially children, are properly restrained."

South Dakota's deadliest Christmas holiday period was in 1976 when 10 people died from injuries received in five crashes. The last fatality-free Christmas Holiday weekend occurred in 2015.

The Highway Patrol and the Office of Highway Safety are part of the Department of Public Safety.

Senior Meals Suggested Donation Going Up

Area IV Senior Meals will be increasing its suggested donation amount to \$4.50 per meal, beginning on Jan. 1.

The change is effective at Senior Meal locations in Brown, Campbell, Corson, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Marshall, McPherson, Potter, Roberts, Spink, Sully and Walworth.

The donation amount is a suggestion only. Participants can still decide what they pay.

The increase is the first of its kind in more than eight years.

This News Can't Wait!

South Dakota News Watch is the only news organization dedicated to explaining important statewide issues - reporting that laid the foundation for a dozen bills in the 2019 Legislature.

You can support this investigative journalism for all South Dakotans with a tax-deductible donation. Now through Dec. 31, your gift will be matched dollar for dollar.

SDNEWSWATCH.ORG/donate

SOUTH DAKOTA NEWS WATCH

Inform. Enlighten. Illuminate.

Top 3 reasons to get your dog licensed!

- 1) It greatly improves your chance of getting your dog back if it goes missing.
- 2) It lets people know that your dog is up-to-date on its rabies vaccine.
- 3) It's the Law!

2020 DOG LICENSES ARE AVAILABLE NOW!!

Licenses due by December 31, 2019

Fines start January 2, 2020

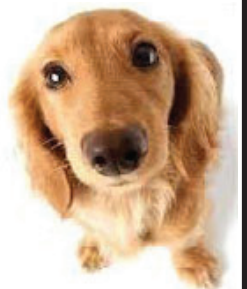
Spayed/Neutered dogs are \$5 per dog; otherwise \$10 per dog

Proof of rabies shot information is REQUIRED!!

Email proof to city.peggy@nvc.net

fax to (605) 397-4498 or bring a copy to City Hall!!

Please contact City Hall at (605) 397-8422 as soon as possible if you no longer have a dog(s) that was previously licensed.



Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS
FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS
www.kenssuperfair.com
Aberdeen • Groton • Clark • Ipswich • Eureka • Britton
View Our Weekly Flyer on the American News Mobile App!

CHRISTMAS 2019
Merry Christmas
Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS
ABERDEEN
Will close 4 pm December 24th
SHELL EXPRESS
CUSTOMER & BOTTLE SHOP
Will close 7 pm December 24th
FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS
GROTON & IPSWICH
Will close 3 pm December 24th
FOOD FAIR
BRITTON, CLARK & EUREKA
Will close 3 pm December 24th
SUPER FAIR FOODS & BOTTLE SHOP
ABERDEEN & KEN'S FOOD FAIR IN
BRITTON, CLARK & EUREKA
Will be closed December 25th
SHELL EXPRESS
ABERDEEN
Will be open 8am-4pm December 25th
FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS
GROTON & IPSWICH
Will be open 8am-Midnight December 25th
ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS WILL BE OPEN REGULAR HOURS THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26TH

ALL WINES 10% OFF
With The Purchase of 6 Bottles or More of Any 750 ml Wine (Excludes Sale Wines)

Pillsbury
CAKE MIX 15.25 Oz. Box **99¢**
RTS FROSTING 2 for \$3
12-16 Oz. Tubs

APP DEAL OF THE WEEK
Cool Whip Whipped Topping
8 Oz. Tub
SALE PRICE 99¢
With Digital Cpn
Your Final Price **FREE**
with \$10 Purchase through the Ken's App
Limit 1 per customer, requires \$10 additional purchase and use of Ken's App

USDA Choice Demkota
WHOLE BONELESS RIBEYE
CUT, WRAPPED & FROZEN FREE
\$10.99 Per Lb.

3 for \$5
Fresh
RASPBERRIES, BLUEBERRIES OR BLACKBERRIES
6 Oz. Pkg.

Ken's Fresh 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF
Value Pack GROUND FRESH DAILY
\$2.59 Per Lb.

Cass Clay SOUR CREAM
12 Oz. Squeeze or 16 Oz. Ctn.
\$1.69

Dean's COUNTRY FRESH ICE CREAM
56 Oz. Square
\$2.88

Kretschmar WHOLE BONELESS HAM
\$2.59 Per Lb.

Best Choice APPLE JUICE OR CIDER
64 Oz. Jug
\$1.29

Scott BATH TISSUE
12 Double Roll or Paper Towels 6-Roll Bundle
\$4.99

Feed The Families • Healthy Holiday Food Pantry Donations
Items are marked throughout the Aberdeen store to make it easy to shop for healthy holiday food items to donate to the Salvation Army. Drop off items in the designated grocery cart at the store's exit through the end of the year!