

# The Groton Independent

Vol. 137 No. 49 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Aug. 5, 2020 ♦ Established in 1889

## Groton Legion to invest \$8,000 in Veteran's Circle improvements at Groton Union Cemetery



**Darrell Hillstead (left) and Shawn Boesl came before the Groton City Council Tuesday night to discuss their plans for the fly-in at the Groton Airport.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM)

be held once again at the Groton Municipal Airport north of Groton. Last year was the first event where plane rides were given and model airplanes were on display. They are planning to expand on that this year. Hillstead said they would like to establish a scholarship. A poker run will be held September 12 in Groton, Sisseton, Webster, Britton, Redfield and Clark. Then on September 13, airplane rides would be given at the Groton airport. Of course, all of that is contingent on the weather and the dates could be swapped. Hillstead said they are looking for someone to help serve the food. Councilman Karyn Babcock said she would talk with the members of the Leo Club and Lions Club to see if they would help.

Councilman Damian Bahr turned in his resignation as he will no longer be living in Groton. He was recently named as the Marshall County Sheriff. Emily Kappes was appointed to fill the vacancy and was sworn in as his replacement.

The council then went into executive session with pool managers Kami Lipp and Karla Pasteur in attendance. The pool was closed Tuesday afternoon and will reopen Friday at 1 p.m.



**Karyn Babcock was spraying off the dirt and bugs at BaseKamp Lodge in downtown Groton.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

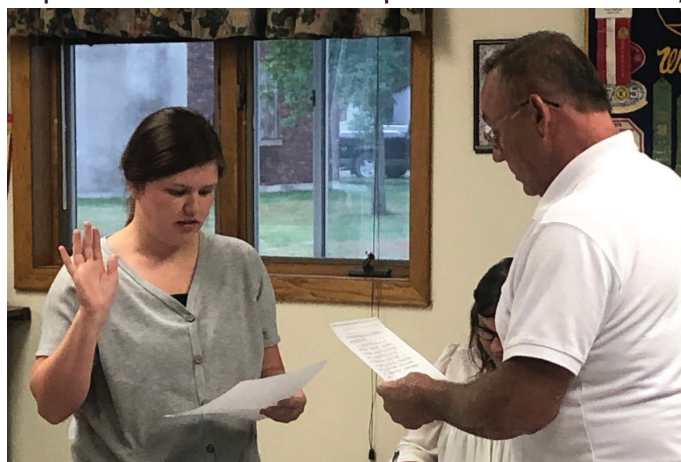
Groton Legion will be putting in six new 20' service flag poles and one new 25' American Flag pole at the cemetery. They will also be putting in new rock. All of this at the Veteran's Circle area. It will be an \$8,000 investment by the Groton American Legion Post #39. The project will be done this fall.

WEB Water is raising their rates to the city of 10 cents per 1,000 gallons and the city passed the second reading raising the rates to the same amount to cover the increase. It will go into effect October 1, the same time WEB will be implementing its rate increase.

The council authorized Clark Engineering to get a cost estimate for painting the reservoir and then apply for a grant.

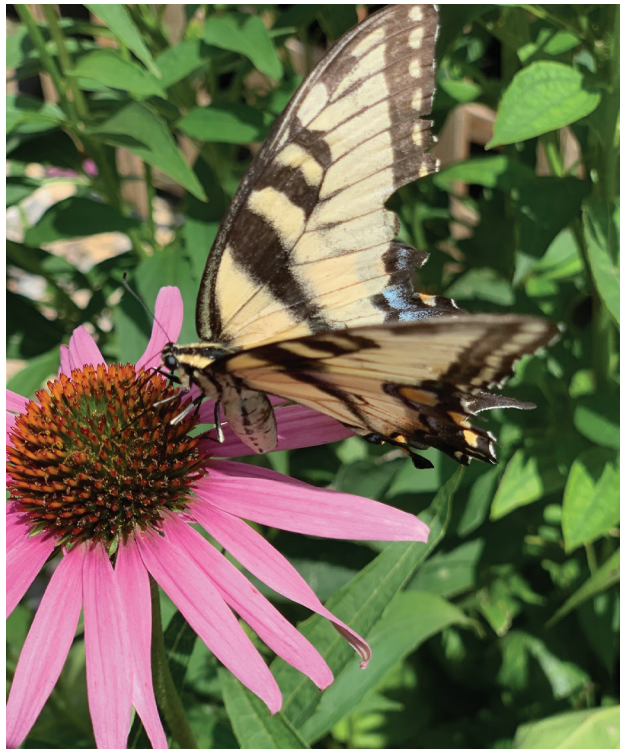
Insurance last year for the Pumpkin Fest was \$300. The company will not charge any additional insurance this year.

Darrell Hillstead and Shawn Boesl came before the council to discuss an event that will



**Emily Kappes was sworn in as the new councilman for Ward 2, replacing Damain Bahr who has moved out of town. Mayor Scott Hanlon read the oath of office.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

- Paul Kosel



**A butterfly is feeding on the flowers.** (Groton Daily Independent photo by Julianna Kosel)

## COVID-19 reported at the pool

## Pool closed until Friday

According to a post on the Groton Community Facebook Page, one of the Groton Swimming Pool employees has tested positive for the Corona virus.

All close contact individuals have been notified and are complying with state health regulations. The person that tested positive was working Friday evening, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons of last week.

Workers are taking every precaution to stop the spread and will be cleaning the facility for the next few days.

The Groton City Swimming Pool will reopen Friday, August 7th at 1pm.

## Absentee Ballots being mailed out next month

The general election is still three months away, but the absentee ballots will be mailed out September 18th. That according to Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor. If you checked the box "For all elections" when you applied for an absentee ballot for the primary election in June, you will automatically receive the general election ballot in September. McNickle said just because you received your ballot so early doesn't mean you have to send it back right away. You can hang on to your ballot and mail it in about a week before the general election in case you change your mind on an issue or candidate.



**Pumpkins are appearing in Groton's Pumpkin Patch. The Pumpkin Fest is set for October 10, 2020.** (Groton Daily Independent photo by Paul Kosel)

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**EMPLOYMENT**  
**MAINTENANCE MANAGER:** Timber Lake is seeking full-time Maintenance Manager. Contact City of Timber Lake at 605-865-3790 or cityoftl@tisd.us. Wage depending on experience. Equal opportunity employer.

**CONTRACT SALESPERSON** Selling aerial photography of farms on commission basis. \$1,000 signing bonus! \$1,500-3,500 weekly proven earnings. Travel required. More info msphotosd.com or 605/882-3566.

**NORTHWEST AREA SCHOOLS** in Isabel, SD is seeking applications for the following position: Health Science Instructor: South Dakota certification is required. Work-related experience may count toward certification. NWAS offers competitive salary, benefits, transportation and SD Retirement. Please contact Quinn Lenk, NWAS Director at 605-466-2206, or by email at: quinn.lenk@k12.sd.us position is open until filled.

**HOT SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 23-2** is looking to fill the following position: Secondary Math Teacher, full-time, with/without coaching. Benefits and paid leave included. Apply online at hssd.k12.sd.us under Employment Opportunities. Email questions to troy.lurz@k12.sd.us. Position open until filled.

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For more information, go to: [CDC.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

**The Groton Independent**  
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## Brown County July 28, 2020 Regular Meeting

JULY 28, 2020 – GENERAL MEETING

Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Kippley at 8:45 A.M. in the Community Room, Courthouse Annex Basement, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Wiese, Feickert, Fjeldheim and Sutton. Commissioner Kippley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### MINUTES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of July 21st, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### CLAIMS:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims and payroll:

Professional Fees: Aberdeen Flying Service \$198.00; Avera St. Lukes \$593.91; Jim Bahr \$300.00; Cogley Law Office \$6,250.00; Ryan S. Dell LLC \$6,250.00; Dohrer Law Office \$6,250.00; Christopher A. Haar \$6,265.20; Kuck Law Office \$6,325.40; Jerald M. McNeary \$6,250.00; NE Mental Health Center \$1,846.00; Sanford Clinic \$24.00; Sanford Health \$69.75; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$13,761.75; Taliaferro Law Firm \$6,250.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$100.00; Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$386.45; Hub City Radio \$5,410.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Graham Tire Inc \$675.80; Jebro Inc \$1,400.00; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$1,497.85; Pierson Ford-Lincoln-Mercury \$62.47; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$668.00; Runnings \$37.35; Kirby K. Kiesz \$103.50. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$2,512.42; Charm-Tex \$112.90; Aberdeen Medical Center Pharmacy \$720.35; Fire Safety First LLC \$945.42; Hanlon Brothers \$87,565.38; L.G. Everist Inc \$3,400.76; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$34.70; John Lemke \$23.70; Matteson Tri-Gas Inc \$730.28; Jean Moody \$53.19; Performance Oil & Lubricants \$210.25; Derek Ricci \$9.55; Runnings \$45.00; Kirby K. Kiesz \$297.33; TrueNorth Steel \$5,200.20. Travel & Conf.: Jim Bahr \$203.04; Winner Police Dept. \$116.00. Utilities: State of South Dakota \$85.57; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$29.04. Other: Big Woods Concessions \$1,100.00; Terry Boyle \$225.00; Jodi Deboer \$320.00; Exclusive Home Products \$695.00; Kalena Fast \$200.00; Josh Firkus \$160.00; Godfrey Quality Foods \$1,500.00; R&R Crafts \$480.00; Wesley & Sylvia Stern \$200.00; Rane Zens \$200.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### HR REPORT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following HR Office Report, which includes the following personnel changes: Acknowledge resignation of Miranda Snell, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective August 1, 2020. Request to fill. Acknowledge retirement of Eugene Pence Jr., Brown County Highway Department Mechanic, full-time, effective August 11, 2020. Approve hiring of Anita Hedrington, as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage \$16.65/hour; effective July 27, 2020. Approve Toby Stugel-mayer, Brown County Building Maintenance part-time, increase pay \$12.11/hour; effective August 9, 2020. Approve Jon Daschel, Brown County Building Maintenance part-time, increase pay to \$12.11/hour; effective August 9, 2020. Acknowledge personal miles driven during use of a county vehicle at \$0.575 per mile: Kendell Titze 120 miles @ \$69; John Florey 120 miles @ \$69, Dirk Rogers 798 miles @ \$458.85, Mike Scott @ \$190 @ \$109.25. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### SHERIFF SERVICE CONTRACT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to acknowledge notice of termination of law enforcement contract with City of Hecla effective September 1, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### AUDITOR'S REPORT OF ACCOUNTS:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following Auditor's report of account for June 2020: Total Cash and Checks on Hand 7700 Total Checking Account Balances: 8720366.09 Total Savings Account Balances: 3000447.42 Total Certificates of Deposit: 4923127.01 Grand Total Cash and Balances: 16651640.52 General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General

Fund 6191245.8 Road & Bridge Fund 1964381.13 Road & Bridge Fund - restricted 423243.27 911 Service 308631.26 Emergency & Disaster 157565.66 Domestic Abuse 1096.5 Teen Court 29844.28 Grant 189.61 JDAI -11056.92 Richmond Youth 21916.96 24/7 Sobriety 29830.82 ROD M&P 92225.16 Tif Debt Service -522.16 Landfill + cash change 3405502.22 Landfill - restricted 1364284 Trust and Agency Funds 2673262.93 GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND CASH AND INVESTMENTS 16651640.52. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### LEASE:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following lease agreement: Amanda Johnson for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp October 3rd, 2020 with alcohol use permission form. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### SUMMER FEST CONTRACT:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to approve the all both contracts for leases of booth rental space for 2020 Summer Fest. All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

### PLATS:

R39-20 MESTAS SECOND ADDITION PLAT:

Commissioner Wiese offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing Mestas Second Addition, in the SW1/4 of Section 26, Township 124 North, Range 64 West of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined, is hereby approve in accordance with the provision of SDCL of 1967, chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye. Resolution passed.

R40-20 .....HAPI 2020-1 SUBDIVISION PLAT:

Commissioner Wiese offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing HAPI 2020-1 Subdivision in the NE1/4 NW1/4 of Section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined, is hereby approve in accordance with the provision of SDCL of 1967, chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye. Resolution passed.

R41-20 SCHOEN ADDITION PLAT:

Commissioner Wiese offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing Schoen Addition in the NW1/4 of Section 25, Township 121 North, Range 64 West of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined, is hereby approve in accordance with the provision of SDCL of 1967, chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye. Resolution passed.

R42-20 GABLER-BRAKEFIELD ADDITION PLAT:

Commissioner Wiese offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing Gabler-Brakefield Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 22, Township 122 North, Range 64 West of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined, is hereby approve in accordance with the provision of SDCL of 1967, chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye. Resolution passed.

R43-20 HAR-LUKE YOUNG FIRST SUBDIVISION PLAT:

Commissioner Wiese offered the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of County Commissioners of Brown County, South Dakota that the plat showing Har-Luke Young First Subdivision in the SE1/4 of Section 26, Township 123 North, Range 65 West of the 5th P.M., in Brown County, South Dakota, having been examined, is hereby approve in accordance with the provision of SDCL of 1967, chapter 11-3, and any amendments thereof. Seconded by Commissioner Sutton. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye. Resolution passed.

### EXPO ROOFING QUOTES:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve the following quote for roof repairs on the Expo Building: Bahr Spray Foam for 20 mills thick coating with 10 year warranty for \$24,990, rejecting quotes from Bahr Spray Foam for roofing system at \$84,594.72, Bahr Spray Foam for 10 mills thick coating with no warranty at @\$14,280.00, Bahr Spray Foam for silicone coating @ \$74,419.20, Bahr Spray Foam for roof foam 2.5lb @ \$75,854.34 and Mega Construction for aluminum roof coating at \$19,950.00, and Anthony Cooper for sealant and paint at \$15,900. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### SET HEARING DATE - REZONE ORDINANCES :

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to set hearing for Ordinance 171, Petitioned by Amber Brewer to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): East 30 Rods of South 55 Rods in the SE1/4 of Section 25-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (12891 388th Ave). Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:45 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to set hearing for Ordinance 172, Petitioned by Randy Bierle to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 2, "HAPI 2020-1 Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (1522 130th St NE). Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:45 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to set hearing for Ordinance 173, Petitioned by Bradley Gabler and Brian Brakefield to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 1 & 2, Gabler-Brakefield Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 22-T122N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota; Lot 1, "Johnson South Subdivision" and Lot 1, "Johnson South 2nd Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of section 22-T122N-R64W, Brown County, South Dakota. (38585 139th St and 38579 139th St). Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:45 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to set hearing for Ordinance 174, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.01 - 4.07 and 4.32; Title 5 Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 5.01. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office during regular business hours and is available on our website Brown.SD.US. Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:47 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SET HEARING DATE - TITLE 4 & 5 AMENDMENTS:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to set hearing for Ordinance 174, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.01 - 4.07 and 4.32; Title 5 Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 5.01. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office during regular business hours and is available on our website Brown.SD.US. Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:47 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to set hearing for Ordinance 174, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.01 - 4.07 and 4.32; Title 5 Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 5.01. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office during regular business hours and is available on our website Brown.SD.US. Public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. First reading is scheduled for August 18th, 2020 at 8:47 a.m in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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### DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH QUARTERLY REPORT:

DeAnna Harber with SD Department of health met to give quarterly report.

MUSEUM 2021 BUDGET: Patricia Kendall (DPM Director) met to discuss the museum budget for 2021 including staff raises and 2021 education programs.

### CORONER EMERGENCY

### EQUIPMENT:

Mike Carlsen (County Coroner) met to discuss emergency lights and siren for coroner use. Discussion concluded emergency lights and siren not necessary while in transit. Lights for safety and visibility on scene are appropriate. No action taken.

### APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve application submitted by Northern Electric REA Coop for occupancy of County Highway Number 10, in section 01 SW1/4, Township 122, Range 64, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve application submitted by Northern Valley Communications for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 14, in section 4, Township 123, Range 63, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Feickert to approve application submitted by Northern Electric for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 9, in Section 9, Township 125N, Range 62, Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### SERVER QUOTES:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve the following quote: SHI for VxRail VEEAM SW in the amount of \$130,476.10. Quotes rejected from SHI alternate proposals, RTI and Netwrok Center Incorporated. Quote Details are on file with the Brown County Auditor and are open for public inspection. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to go into executive session to discuss legal per SDCL 1-25-2(3). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

### ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to adjourn the Brown County Commission. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$143.40. 19160

## Brown County Brewer Rezoning Notice

### NOTICE

Application has been made by Amber Brewer to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

East 30 Rods of South 55 Rods in the SE1/4 of Section 25-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (12891 388th Ave)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 171

ATTEST:  
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0805.0812)  
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19161

## Brown County Bierle Rezoning Notice

### NOTICE

Application has been made by Randy Bierle to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 2, "HAPI 2020-1 Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (1522 130th St NE)

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

Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 172

ATTEST:  
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0805.0812)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$23.51. 19162

## Brown County Gabler Rezoning Notice

### NOTICE

Application has been made by Bradley Gabler and Brian Brakefield to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on August 18, 2020 at 8:45 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1 & 2, Gabler-Brakefield Addition in the NE1/4 of Section 22-T122N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota; Lot 1, "Johnson South Subdivision" and Lot 1, "Johnson South 2nd Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of section 22-T122N-R64W, Brown County, South Dakota. (38585 139th St and 38579 139th St)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 173

ATTEST:  
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0805.0812)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$27.04. 19163

## Brown County Titles 4-5 Hearing Notice

### NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION

### REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCE, TITLE 4 AND TITLE 5

A public hearing will be held by the Brown County Commission on the 18th day of August, 2020 beginning at 8:47 a.m. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 4 Zoning, Chapters 4.01 - 4.07 and 4.32; Title 5 Subdivision Regulations, Chapter 5.01. The proposed ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office during regular business hours and is available on our website Brown.SD.US

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 174.

ATTEST:  
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0805.0812)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$24.10. 19164

## Frederick School July 30, 2020 Regular Meeting

OFFICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2

JULY 30, 2020

The meeting was called to order on July 30, 2020, at 6:06 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Alex Hart, Jon Ellwein and Dan Nickelson. Richard Achen was excused. Also present was Superintendent/Athletic Director/HS Principal Jeff Kosters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg, Business Manager Janel Wagner and guest Troy Millard.

Members of the public were allowed three minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. Troy Millard addressed the board regarding the back to school plan.

Action 20-020 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to approve the agenda as amended: move Pixellot Camera System to #10; add Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2(2) student matters as #11; move Open Enrollment Applications to #12; and move Adjournment to #13. All aye, carried.

Mrs. Ringgenberg presented a draft of the Back to School Plan. The board discussed and made revisions to the proposed plan. Mr. Kosters presented the documents Waiver of Liability, Parent Screening Checklist, Participant/Coach Monitoring Form and Return to Play form.

Action 20-021 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve Back to School Plan as edited, and to begin classes in Phase One. All aye, carried.

Action 20-022 Motion by Nickelson, second by Ellwein to approve Waiver of Liability as presented. All aye, carried.

Action 20-023 Motion by Nickelson, second by Hart to approve Parent Screening Checklist as presented. All aye, carried.

Action 20-024 Motion by Ellwein, second by Nickelson to approve Participant/Coach Monitoring Form as presented. All aye, carried.

Action 20-025 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve Return to Play Form as presented. All aye, carried.

Mr. Kosters presented information to the board about the Pixellot Camera System to broadcast events in the gymnasium.

Action 20-026 Motion by Hart, second by Ellwein to approve the purchase of the Pixellot Camera System. All aye, carried.

Action 20-027 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to enter Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 (2) for student matters at 8:17 p.m. All aye, carried. Troy Millard exited the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

President Schlosser declared Board out of Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Action 20-028 Motion by Hart, second by Nickelson to approve Open Enrollment applications #21-3, #21-4, #21-5 and #21-9. All aye, carried.

Action 20-029 Motion by Ellwein, second by Nickelson to approve Open Enrollment applications #21-6, #21-7 and #21-8 with contingencies. All aye, carried.

Action 20-030 Motion by Hart, second by Nickelson to adjourn at 8:53 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President  
Janel Wagner, Business Manager

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$30.56. 19158

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**Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Aug. 5, 2020 ♦ 3**

# Experts: Wave of bankruptcies likely in S.D. as pandemic stifles incomes and aid runs out

By: Nick Lowrey



**Breck Miller**

**"It would not surprise me at all if we do see an increase in the number of bankruptcy filings ... and I think it's going to strike across the demographics. It's not just a low-income thing."**

-- Breck Miller, Lutheran Social Services

The COVID-19 pandemic and the economic hardships it is causing will likely result in a wave of personal, farm and small-business bankruptcies in South Dakota and beyond in the coming months that will be both a result and a cause of a wider economic crisis spurred by the coronavirus.

So far, federal aid and unemployment programs, and several months of restricted access

to the court system, have delayed a rise in bankruptcies from showing up in court filings.

But increased rates of unemployment, reduced incomes of people at all levels of the economy and a coming debt crisis will all play a role in the anticipated bankruptcy storm that could affect a wide range of individuals and businesses, including people who long saw themselves as financially stable, said Breck Miller, community relations director for Lutheran Social Services Center for Financial Resources in Sioux Falls.

"It would not surprise me at all if we do see an increase in the number of bankruptcy filings," Miller said. The pandemic "really put a lot of people in a financial bind, and I think it's going to strike across the demographics. It's not just a low-income thing."

Federally backed financial assistance programs have helped keep food on many family's tables during the pandemic and have so far helped many of the hardest-hit South Dakotans stave off bankruptcy.

Mortgage forbearance, which allows for a delay or reduction in house payments, was granted as part of the federal CARES Act, and helped some homeowners manage debt. Temporary aid was also provided through new payment options from credit-

card companies, and some borrowers were granted a pause in student loan payments.

But as federal assistance programs expire, and private lenders start seeking back payments on home and car loans, experts say many people in financially vulnerable positions will soon find that the debt they took on during the worst of the pandemic has become too much to handle.

"The scariest thing for us in our office was that payment options weren't necessarily laid out, or at least not understood clearly when people took the forbearances," said Miller.

Mortgage payments delayed through forbearance still must be paid, sometimes as soon as the forbearance period ends. A homeowner could be on the hook for hundreds or even thousands of dollars in back payments that must be made and carry the risk of defaulting on loans.

Back payments alone will drive more people to seek bankruptcy protections in the coming months, said Clair Gerry, a bankruptcy attorney from Sioux Falls.

"For that reason alone I would expect to see a big uptick in Chapter 13s," Gerry said of the personal bankruptcy filings.

As of late July, 16,000 South Dakota residents were unemployed, and many were forced to turn to credit cards or drawing down savings to survive, Miller said. As of August, those unemployed workers lost the \$600 weekly enhanced unemployment benefit created by Congress as part of its pandemic relief efforts.

A rising wave of bankruptcies could lengthen the pandemic's economic recession as small businesses and consumers struggle to restructure their debts or sell off what they own or write off debts they can't pay. The burden has already been immense for many families at all income levels in South Dakota, many of whom have said they couldn't withstand an unexpected \$400 expense without taking on more debt even before COVID-19 hit.

Consumer spending, meanwhile, is sure to fall and the economy overall will suffer, said Joe Mahon, an economist and outreach director at the Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank.

"Think of all those people who lost their jobs and lost their incomes," Mahon said. "Even with the unemployment benefits that they might have been receiving, they're probably thinking more about hanging on to their discretionary money rather than going out and spending on appliances and clothing and things like that."

If consumers are stuck paying off debts, they can't spend their money at local businesses, many of which also took on additional debt to survive the pandemic and which will be less able to expand. That will result in fewer job openings for people trying to return to work as their unemployment runs out and the economy continues to open up.

"We know that that large of a shock to employment is going to have a long and persistent feedback effect on the economy," Mahon said.

Exactly when the bankruptcy bomb will go off is anybody's guess at this point, economists and bankruptcy experts say, but they worry it is only a matter of time before filings rise rapidly.

"My phone calls right now, a substantial part of them, are asking about what happens when this is over, with people asking, 'Should I come see you?'" Gerry said. "Based on those calls, I just know there's a storm looming ... everybody is predicting that there's going to be a lot of bankruptcies filed by fall or winter."

## Relief efforts stemming bankruptcy flood, for now

So far, 2020 has been a relatively slow year for bankruptcy courts. Nationwide, total bankruptcy filings were down about 23% compared to the first six months of 2019. In South Dakota, by the end of July, bankruptcy filings were down about 16% compared to the first seven months of 2019, said South Dakota Bankruptcy Court clerk Frederick Entwistle.

Much of the decline is due to a near total shutdown in bankruptcy activity at courts that went dark during the last half of March and all of April, Entwistle said. But by the end of May, bankruptcy filings had returned to near-normal levels in South Dakota. By the end of June, 416 personal bankruptcies had been filed in South Dakota during the calendar year, according to data from the American Bankruptcy Institute.

There are several reasons bankruptcy filings have yet to rise. One of the biggest reasons may actually be the relatively high unemployment rate. At the end of June, 7.2% of the South Dakota workforce was unemployed, which is more than double the pre-pandemic unemployment rate of 3.1% recorded in March.

Bankruptcy attorneys and financial counselors have recommended to clients that they hold off on filing for bankruptcy until the worst of their financial losses have ended. Often, that meant waiting until finding a job and figuring out what their new monthly income would

**Continues on next page**

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**Continued from Page 4**

be. If an individual files for bankruptcy but has to keep living off of credit cards or other forms of debt, any debt incurred after the initial filing won't be discharged or reorganized as part of the bankruptcy proceeding.

There are other good reasons to hold off on filing for bankruptcy right now, Gerry said. Sometimes waiting until after a tax return has been received and spent is a good idea, for example. Spending down one-time payments such as stimulus checks or other state or federal financial assistance is also a good idea to do before filing for bankruptcy.

"When COVID hit, everyone was kind of holding their breath. That's why we're waiting for the storm to break, until people get back to work and we find out what the new norm is," Gerry said. "When they don't have a paycheck coming in, they're not being garnished. And right now, there's a lot less collection-type action because collectors know there's not much they can do at this point."

South Dakotans, in general, also tend to avoid bankruptcy. The state currently ranks 45th lowest in the per-capita rate of bankruptcy filings out of the 50 states and has had one of the lowest per-capita bankruptcy filing rates for more than a decade. Over the past five years, there have been fewer than 1,100 personal bankruptcies filed in the state each year. In 2019, just 964 people or married couples filed for either chapter 7 or chapter 13 bankruptcy.

Recessions, though, tend to push people beyond their financial limits faster and farther than they can cope with. In 2010, when the effects of the Great Recession of 2008 peaked in South Dakota, 2,000 people filed for bankruptcy protection, nearly double the number from before the Great Recession began.

**Only a matter of time before a crash**



**Joe Mahon**

Experts cannot predict just how bad the COVID-19 economic fallout will be, but the picture is not likely to be pretty. Unlike the Great Recession, which took years to play out and left agriculture relatively unscathed, the COVID-19 economic crisis has hit every state at roughly the same time and in much the same way.

South Dakota, despite its lack of state government mandated business closures or other mandated social distancing measures, fell off the same economic cliff as its more restrictive neighbors, Mahon said. Traffic at businesses of all types, but most especially bars, hotels and restaurants, cratered in April and didn't return to pre-pandemic levels until July.

"You still had people losing their jobs. We know employment has fallen in the state. So you would expect that to have that feed-through effect on household finances, that will ultimately show up in bankruptcies," Mahon said.

COVID-19 also came at a time when farmers and ranchers, South Dakota's economic bedrock, were struggling against a trade war and low prices for grain, soybeans and cattle. In fact, January and February of 2020 saw overall bankruptcy filings in South Dakota increase over the same period in 2019 due to a jump in farm bankruptcies, said Gerry.

"We were doing a lot of restructuring or mediation for farms near the first part of the year to get ready for spring planting," he said.

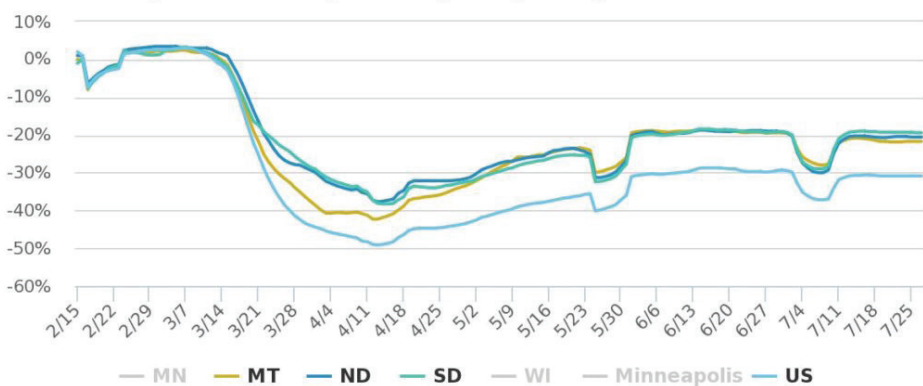
The news isn't all bad, though. More South Dakota small businesses have reopened and have started hiring again when compared to other states. South Dakota also boasts slightly more new job postings than in its neighbors, according to data from the Minneapolis reserve bank.

Much of what happens over the next few months will depend on what Congress comes up with as far as economic stimulus, and how long it takes those currently unemployed to get back to work. Avoiding a surge in bankruptcies, though, will take a lot more stimulus and far faster employment and wage growth than is likely to occur.

"It would take more than the stimulus that was talked about last time," Gerry said. "That just kept people fed, basically ... doing that again and taking care of emergencies is not going to cure the future."

**Workplaces**

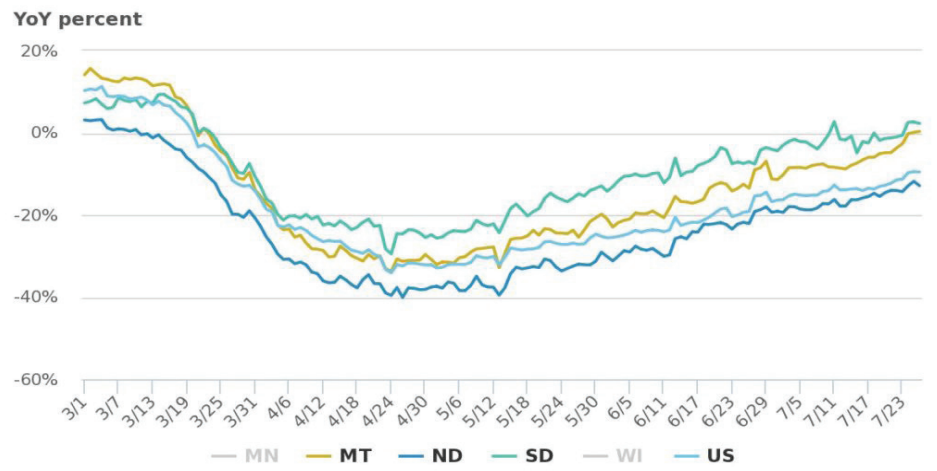
Percent change from baseline, seven-day rolling average



Note: Compared to median day-value from the 5-week period in Jan 3-Feb 6, 2020  
Source: Google Community Reports

This chart shows the weekly percentage change in the number of people who are going to their places of work in 2020 compared to 2019. The data show that work place visits are down as much as 20% in South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and the U.S. The data was compiled using location history data collected from Google users as part of that company's efforts to help communities track the mobility of their residents during the pandemic. Chart: Courtesy Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank

**Change in Job postings**



Note: Compared to same day and week in 2019  
Source: Indeed

This chart from the employment service Indeed shows that the number of open jobs in the Great Plains, including in South Dakota, has ticked upward in recent months but is still at or below the number open a year earlier and indicates that some job losses are not being replaced. Chart: Courtesy Minneapolis Federal Reserve Bank

**Columbia City Aug. 4, 2020 Regular Meeting**

City of Columbia Council Meeting – August 4, 2020

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Ellen Harr, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints

Community –

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the July 7th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: Agtegra-462.00; JVT – 125.12; GDI – 34.67; Jeremy Dosch – 419.99; Kelsie Ehresmann – 335.99; Cara Dennert – 823.50; Trey Wright -55.59; Great Western Bank - 211.06; Menards – 6.76; Brown County Weed & Pest Control – 548.08; Runnings – 55.78

Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the vouchers as presented. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE – mail, e-mail & calls from Torian Mitchell – Rural Development; SDML – 2019 Annual Financial Report; brochure from radar speed/sign -Elasticity

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Pet ordinance – council had first reading over the proposed ordinance. No changes need to be made to proposed ordinance. Trevor Meints made a motion to pass the first reading of the ordinance. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Second reading will be August 17th, 7 p.m. No changes to the current suspended Columbia Covid19 ordinance.

Nuisances – A few residents in town will be receiving letters of lot debris needing attention, unlicensed cars, illegal street parking, and unsupervised pets.

Streets – The streets are in good shape – they will need to

be bladed one more time (after a rain.) There is a culvert cover on Lake Blvd. that needs replacing. The council has been looking into speed/radar signs for quite some time. Elancity sent a brochure – Trevor will follow up with pricing. It looks as though we can get 2 signs for \$5500. Cole Kampa made a motion that if Trevor can get them for that price, he should go ahead. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

Parks – no report

Lagoon/sewer – Cole reported that the paperwork is caught up. There were a couple holes in the lagoon that were fixed. Ellen said that Pierre had called to see if we were having any lagoon issues because of flooding. We plan to pump possibly mid-October.

Rubble Site –Site needs to be burned again.

NEW BUSINESS – Still looking for a city truck/plow. There is one at the Huron surplus that Corey is going to look into. Cole

is checking on a plow that might be for sale.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara presented bank balances. She gave a report on the CDs at the bank. Corey is going to look into them as far as if we are getting the best interest rate possible. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

July 31, 2020 balances: SF – \$157,083.17; GF – 174,651.74 \$; FIT – \$13,978.69

Cole Kampa made a motion to adjourn. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor – meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 17th 7:00 p.m. – 2nd reading of pet ordinance

Next Regular City Meeting – September 1st, 2020 7:00 p.m. Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

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# STUDENT CLASS SCHEDULES 6-12

by Mrs. Kiersten Sombke

Due to technology requirements for the creation of the new "Remote Learning Platform", the Parent Portal was opened earlier today. We are still working on student schedules for grades 6-12, and class schedules are not final until Friday, August 7th.

We ask that you please hold your questions and requests regarding class changes until August 10th for Dual Credit Students, and August 12th for students in grades 6-12 who are not taking Dual Credit Classes.

Dates to Know Regarding Class Schedule Changes:

August 7th: Student Class Schedules will be posted at 5:00pm

August 10th: Dual Credit Students (only Juniors and Seniors who previously registered for Dual Credit Classes) will come in to print out their registration acceptance notice, and may make adjustments to class schedules. Dual Credit Students may pick up a technology agreement form.

August 12th: Grades 6-12 Students may come in to make class changes. Students will be served one at a time, in the order of arrival. Students are asked to practice social distancing while waiting their turn to be served.

August 18th: Dual Credit Students may come in to check out a computer; students will be required to submit a completed technology agreement form before checking out a computer.

August 19th: First day of School! School begins at 8:18am for the MS/HS Building. Students will be asked to report to their first hour classes after putting their belongings in their student lockers.

August 21st: Last day of class changes for students in grades 6-12.

I want to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding while we finish preparing to welcome back our students! Have a great rest of the summer!

# The Life of Ronald Harry

On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, Ronald Lee Harry, beloved husband, father of three, grandfather of seven, and great grandfather of three, passed away at the age of 81 in Punta Gorda, Florida, from complications of vascular dementia and cancer.

Ron was born on June 13, 1939, in Conde, South Dakota, to Marvin and Josephine Harry. He grew up in Ferney, SD. Ron attended South Dakota State University, graduated in 1962, and earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering. From 1962 to 1964, Ron served in the United States Army at Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia. During his time there, on March 23, 1963, he married the love of his life, Barbara Donovan.



Ron proudly worked for Standard Oil of Indiana, which later became Amoco Oil, for 34 years before retiring. After 57 years of marriage, Ron still referred to Barbara as "the perfect wife". Together they raised three children, Todd, Tami (his favorite daughter), and Brian. (Please note that his favorite sons earned master's degrees.)

Ron truly will be missed by all who knew him. He was a fun, loving, and generous man who knew how to make people laugh. Ron knew how to make people feel special, and he was always so proud of his children and grandchildren. Ron often expressed his gratitude for his loving family and his wonderful life. He would often ask, "How did I get so lucky?"

Ron was honest, hard-working, and always made sure he took care of his family. More than anything, he loved to spend time with them. To Ron, family was everything.

Ron was preceded in death by his father Marvin, his mother Josephine, his sister-in-law Charlotte, and his brother Russell. He is survived by his wife Barbara and his three children, Todd (wife Tracy), Tami (husband Anthony), and Brian (wife Mercedes). Ron is also survived by his grandchildren Ashton, Emily, Sean, Josie, Alex, Adler, and Anara, as well as his great-grandchildren Sophia, Fabiola, and Leona.

Memorial services will be held in Ferney, SD, at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery Fund c/o Roni Dobberpuhl 14420 409th Ave. Conde, SD 57434 or Groton First Responders/Fire Department c/o Patti Woods 406 N. Main Groton, SD 57445.

To express condolences to the family and share in celebrating the life of Ron, please visit [www.JohnsonTaylorFuneral.com](http://www.JohnsonTaylorFuneral.com) and sign the online guestbook. Arrangements are by Johnson Taylor Funeral and Cremation.

## West Nile case reported in Brown County

As if the Corona Virus was not enough, there is also tracking of the West Nile disease spread by mosquitoes.

According to the South Dakota Department of Health, there have been two cases of West Nile in South Dakota as of August 4. One in McCook County and the other in Brown County.

As of July 28, there have been 17 cases in the United States in the states of Arizona, Arkansas, California, Iowa, Missouri, Mississippi, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas and South Dakota. There have been no deaths recorded.

38% of all mosquitos trapped in the last week have been Culex tarsalis. They are the mosquito that transmits the West Nile Disease.

The City of Groton did do an adult mosquito control last week.

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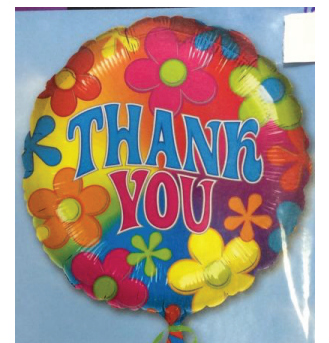
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