

The Groton Independent

Vol. 137 No. 52 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Aug. 26, 2020 ♦ Established in 1889

Digging has started for new water tower



The old concrete pad where the electrical transformers were on was being demolished on Tuesday. As they were digging up the pad, notice the huge boulder in the back right side of the photo. Former Electric Superintendent David Anderson said that was one of three footings used when the city had its own generator to generate power for the town. He said back then, a whole month's worth of diesel fuel cost the city \$55. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jamie Sprenger of Clark Engineering is setting a marker that will be used in building the new water tower. These markers are used for elevation purposes and for the pouring of the concrete. Notice the unit that is using satellite signals with the leg setting on top of the wooden stake. Everything has to be precise. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Many S.D. teachers on their own when adding safety barriers in classrooms

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

South Dakota public school teachers are largely on their own when it comes to building and installing protective barriers for their classrooms that may reduce the spread of the coronavirus among their students and themselves.

With no statewide policy in place, and little or no guidance from individual school districts, thousands of teachers across the state have had to use their own time, money and ingenuity to get barriers or partitions in place before students return to the classroom in late August or early September.

In a school year laden with uncertainty due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the question of whether physical barriers will be in place in school classrooms — and how they should be built, installed or paid for — has generally not been addressed in back-to-school plans approved by each district. While most districts provided direction on whether mask use would be required, and many reconfigured classroom spaces to meet social-distancing guidelines, barrier use was left out of most planning discussions.

Some teachers have spent their own money to use plexiglass or plastic film held up by wooden dowels or PVC pipe to create vertical barriers that aim to reduce the spread of the airborne virus from student to student and from student to teacher or vice versa. Some schools have received funding, supplies or manpower from churches or local businesses to help make barriers. A few schools have ordered barriers built by inmates in the Pheasantland Industries construction business operated by the state Department of Corrections. Some individual schools have implemented efforts to build and install barriers.

Students are likely to see a menagerie of homemade and hand-crafted barriers in some classrooms and no barriers at all in others. Many school districts have not given teachers money or supplies to build and erect the barriers.

School districts were under strong pressure, including from Gov. Kristi Noem and in some cases parents, to return to in-person teaching this fall after closing early in the spring when the pandemic hit. Many have allowed parents to select a remote-learning option if they do not feel safe sending children back to school.

Teachers, however, have not generally had the option to avoid returning to the classroom by teaching remotely. Most districts have built a completely remote-learning option for teachers and students in their fall plans, but only if major outbreaks occur.

The lack of a consistent statewide policy or local guidelines regarding physical barriers and other personal protective equipment has placed another



Loren Paul

"It's basically survival at this point; it's whatever you can do to make your classroom as safe as possible."

-- Loren Paul,
South Dakota Education Association

Continues on
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 1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
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 PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

BIDS

THE BENNETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS will receive bids for the public to purchase 35,000 ton crushed gravel in Jackson County. Contact the County Auditor at 605-685-6931 with questions.

EMPLOYMENT

POTTER COUNTY is accepting applications for Highway and Weed Superintendent. For application and job description: pcaudit@venturecomm.net, 605-765-9408, or 201 S. Exene St. Gettysburg, SD 57442. Potter County is an EOE.

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.

MOBRIDGE REGIONAL HOSPITAL: Emergency Service Director Mobridge, SD. Excellent Benefits! Complete job descriptions and to apply online go to www.mobridgeregionalhospital.org, click employment. EOE.

FARMERS UNION OIL, Westhope ND is seeking a qualified General Manager. This is a financially successful, multi location energy and agronomy retail supply cooperative located in North Central ND. Responsibilities include,

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profitability, financial oversight, personnel management and reporting to a five person board of directors. Deadline for applications is September 14th, 2020. Send resumes to, Larry Fuller, c/o General Manager, 5213 Shoal Drive, Bismarck ND or email to larry.fuller@midco.net

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. NWA offers competitive salary, benefits, transportation and SD Retirement. Please contact Quinn Lenk, NWA Director at 605-466-2206, or by email at: quinn.lenk@k12.sd.us position is open until filled.

STATE PARK STAFF: Fresh air, scenery and nature! Immediate fall openings across South Dakota for campground and maintenance staff. \$10+/hour. Contact your local park. www.gfp.sd.gov

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Wednesday, September 2, 2020

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 RGullickson@FarmersNational.com
 www.FarmersNational.com/RickGullickson

Scott Huether, Agent
 Phone: (701) 793-6789
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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 September 1, 2020 at 8:50 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
(0819.0826)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19183

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 September 1, 2020 at 8:50 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
(0819.0826)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$23.51. 19184

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 September 1, 2020 at 8:50 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
(0819.0826)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$27.04. 19185

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 1st day of September 2020, beginning at 8:50 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
(0819.0826)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$24.10. 19186

Brown County Aug. 18, 2020 General Meeting

AUGUST 18, 2020 - GENERAL MEETING

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

MINUTES:
Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to approve the general meeting minutes of August 11th, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

Payroll: Commission \$4,285.10; Auditor \$8,721.00; Treasurer \$13,590.81; SA \$22,712.15; SVAWA \$1,730.76; Maintenance \$7,960.78; Assessor \$12,798.93; Register of Deeds \$8,983.40; VSO \$2,941.93; GIS \$2,387.50; IT \$7,773.27; HR \$2,173.85; Sheriff \$42,537.51; Jail \$53,617.21; Court Security \$6,259.45; JDC \$23,253.85; Welfare \$2,077.70; Museum \$7,918.21; Parks/Fairgrounds \$6,472.48; Fair Board \$4,966.93; 4-H \$634.15; Weed \$4,251.20; Planning & Zoning \$5,137.73; Highway \$45,868.69; Dispatch \$27,840.30; Emergency \$4,119.58; Teen Court \$661.76; JDAI \$1,769.23; 24/7 Sobriety \$584.82; Landfill \$15,060.06; Matching benefits: FICA \$20,742.60, Medicare \$4,851.15, Discovery_HSA \$325.00.

Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Curling Club \$5,000.00; Agtegra Technologies, Inc \$70.00; Russel Brick \$1,000.00; GBR Interpreting & Translation \$318.00; Christopher A. Haar \$59.00; Kuck Law Office \$2,544.00; Language Line Services Inc \$2,466.73; Lewis & Clark BHS \$368.00; Lexisnexis Risk Data Mgmt Inc \$150.00; Matthew Payne \$200.00; Sanford health Occupational \$383.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$2,051.63; Yankton County Treasurer \$240.15. Publishing: Brown County Fair \$120.00. Rentals: Praxair Distribution, Inc \$44.20; B&B Contracting Inc \$4,815.57; Roland L. Moerke \$385.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$88.80. Repairs & Maintenance: Auto Glass Solutions Inc \$353.85; B&B Contracting Inc \$5,617.05; Ecolab Pest Elimination \$113.54; Graham Tire Inc \$32.34; Hoven Auto Repair Inc \$1,645.78; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$1,784.06; Runnings \$3.44; Schwan Welding \$194.00; Specialty MFG Inc \$11.67; William Spellman \$878.42; Steven Lust Automotive \$88.16; Kirby K. Kiesz \$57.50; Woodman Refrigeration Inc \$593.12. Supplies: Praxair Distribution, Inc \$223.68; Brent Fischer \$107.70; Advance Stores Company \$772.93; Agtegra Cooperative \$8,447.10; Taser International \$577.50; Cartney Bearing \$22.14; Century Business Products \$1,250.54; Dakota Supply Group \$36.17; Randall E. Weber \$75.00; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$1,245.66; Kessler \$86.28; Mac's Inc \$103.96; Marco Inc \$181.51; Menards

\$397.50; Northern Valley Communication \$26.76; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$795.98; Peter Oswowski \$317.00; Sanders's Sew N Vac Inc \$773.99; Sherwin Williams \$143.52; Kirby K. Kiesz \$105.98; Web Water Bottling Company \$26.00; West Publishing Corp \$1,768.18. Travel & Conf.: McKenzie Bierman \$37.60; Miranda Snell \$149.46. Utilities: City of Aberdeen \$4,889.59; Qwest Corporation \$268.11; Dependable Sanitation \$513.00; James Valley Telecommunication \$227.90; Northern Electric Coop Inc \$1,814.00; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$1,367.87; Northern Valley Communication \$1,506.65; Verizon Wireless \$3,433.26; Web Water Development Assoc. \$82.64. Other: James River \$984.23; Safe Harbor \$1,430.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$872,187.33.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

No Report.

LEGAL ASSIGNMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to assign claims against individuals to Credit Collection Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert approve the following fair contract for 2021: Freddie Prez (entertainment) @ \$7,500 and amend motion from August 4, 2020 Summer Fest Contract to change amount of Freddie Prez from \$11,500 to \$4,000 (\$4,000 contract for summer fest in 2020 and \$7,500 contract for Brown County Fair in 2021). All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 171-174 - HEARING RESCHEDULED:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to reschedule 1st reading of ordinance 171-174 to September 1, 2020 and authorize republication. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION APPEAL:

Troy Holtey appealed Planning and Zoning Commission decision from July 21, 2020 Item 9, Variance to Building Setbacks (Garage). Troy Holtey is request a zero foot variance. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to deny request for zero foot variance and uphold the decision of the Brown County Planning and Zoning Commission item number 9 from July 21, 2020. Roll Call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - absent, Fjeldheim - aye, Kippley - aye. Motion carried.

NUISANCE COMPLAINT:

Discussion on nuisance complaint regarding animal noise and pollution. Update on status of complaint concluding nuisance complaint between two neighbors is private matter and not a public concern. No action is being taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to go into executive session to discuss personnel per SDCL 1-25-2(1). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

THANK YOU:

Commission Sutton thanked the Kippley family and all volunteer who helped with Summer Fest 2020.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$60.53. 19197

Frederick Town Aug. 12, 2020 General Meeting

Town of Frederick August 12, 2020 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday August 12, 2020 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman R. Scott Campbell, Board members Jeff Kosters and Troy Millard, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Diane Bruns and Mariah Heine, and Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg. Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved with the exception that the variance should be issued under Frederick Development Corporation rather than Maple River Lodging as printed with a motion by Mil-

lard/Kosters; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Kosters; motion carried. The August accounts payable was approved with a motion by Kosters/Millard; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/St/Swr/EBL \$1041.95; Badger Meter meter fees Wtr \$115.70; Century Bus Products printer lease & copies Gen'l \$92.45; Community Store supplies Mun Bldg \$48.52; D. Bruns CC \$144.99; D. Bruns wage FO \$1,296.42; EFPTS taxes Gen'l/FO/CC/EBL/St/Swr/Wtr/Cmty \$866.30; FDC Econ Dev \$1,200; Frohling Law Office WWP \$22.50; GDI minutes Gen'l \$66.17; J. Kosters wage Gen'l \$46.17; JVT phone/svc/int FO/EBL/Wtr/Gen'l \$348.65; M. Cox wage EBL \$632.31; M. Heine wage FO \$922.50; M. Morlock mowing wage Gen'l \$235.49; R. Bakeberg wage St/Wtr/Swr \$449.29; R. Bakeberg veh. Allow St/Wtr/Swr \$75; R.S. Campbell wage Gen'l \$69.25; SD Dept of Rev Sale Tax Grb \$76.34; T. Millard wage Gen'l \$46.17; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; USPS box rent Gen'l \$120; WEB Water Wtr \$3,589

OLD BUSINESS

Rich Bakeberg provided a utility report which included much discussion about the wastewater project. The Frederick Development Corporation has broke ground on the Senior Living Facility and has made good progress already. Payment application number two for the wastewater project was presented and approved with a motion by Millard/Campbell. Payment Application Number Two for the Wastewater Project: Dahme Construction Company \$139,965.55.

NEW BUSINESS

WEB Water is increasing their rate by 10 cents. Motion to increase our water use fee from \$3.70 to \$3.80 per 1000 gallons effective October 1, to be reflected in November bills made by Kosters/Millard; motion carried. The board discussed the possibility of paying for increased police presence for the city through the Brown County Sheriff's Department. The budget for 2021 includes 5% growth. MDU has been upgrading the street lights to LED. All main street lights have been changed, and the next phase will include some lights off the main streets including yard lights. There was discussion about adding a street light on the south side of Main Street near the school as it is dark getting to vehicles after extracurricular activities.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Campbell at 8:56 PM.

M. Heine
Assistant Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$32.62. 19202

Groton City Aug. 18, 2020 General Meeting

August 18, 2020

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 pm at the Community Center for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Wells, Blackmun, Flihs, Babcock, Cutler, Kappes and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Finance Officer Hope Block, Paul Kosel, Officer Tony Garcia, Darrell Hillstead, and Brett Anderson.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

Hillstead and Anderson explained that the fliers for the Airport Fly In on September 12th and 13th are completed, and will be distributed. The Lions Club will be serving meals at the event. Volunteers are still needed for other various activities. The poker run will be held that Saturday with rides on Sunday.

Moved by Flihs and seconded by Cutler to authorize the following bills for payment. All members voted aye.

Payroll, \$38,360.95, Employee salaries; Executive, \$461.75; Administrative, \$3,393.92; Public Safety, \$8,761.20; Public Works, \$9,419.86; Culture & Recreation, \$16,324.22; First State Bank, \$10,495.51, SS and WH; First State Bank, \$466.66, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$1,050.00, Employee savings; Web Water, \$24,520.86, Water 7/20; City of Groton, \$255.60, Utility de-

posit refund; Harry Implement, \$5.34, Cemetery mower key; Kristi Ekern, \$250.00, Utility deposit refund; Rochelle Hinkelman, \$44.40, Utility deposit refund; Delton & Jacque Hoff, \$526.04, Utility deposit and overpayment refund; SD Retirement System, \$8,330.95, Employee retirement; USPS, \$202.95, Utility billing postage; Aflac, \$338.26, Employee insurance; Guardian, \$140.52, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$340.78, Employee insurance; Heartland Consumer Power, \$70,733.48, Power 7/20; WAPA, \$18,227.97, Power 7/20; James Valley, \$630.24, Utilities; Full Circle Ag, \$235.96, Herbicide; Groton Ford, \$678.98, Water pickup fuses for lights, cleaned mass air flow and throttle body; Dell Marketing, \$4,746.68, New load management computer; Galls, \$259.20, Police uniforms; EMC National Life, \$85.20, Employee insurance; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$91.89, Water meter reader replacement; Hydro Klean, \$1,450.00, Two hours to camera lines; Paul Kosel, \$516.92, Med flex; Railroad Management Company, \$517.85, Water pipeline crossing fees; Runnings, \$118.08, Duct tape, fan tip with gasket, electrical tape, starter handle and rope, 5 gallon bucket, lock pins, wheels, nozzle strainers; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$305.00, Employee retirement; Border States, \$37.83, Bushing; Locators & Supplies, \$51.78, Marking red paint; Kens Food Fair, \$1,415.07, Gas, paper products, baseball food for resale; MJs Sinclair, \$1,613.52, Gas, battery, tire repair; Ecolab, \$106.00, Pest control; Heartland Waste Mangement, \$8,025.12, Garbage hauling 7/20; Associated Supply Company, \$341.55, Acid magic for pool; Aaron Severson, \$349.16, Coaching mileage; Spencer Locke, \$349.16, Coaching mileage; Sue Fjeldheim, \$172.84, Coaching mileage; Dalton Locke, \$653.08, Coaching mileage; Northwestern Energy, \$2,120.39, New service charge for new pump house; Riteway, \$751.76, Utility bill post cards; AutoZone, \$348.40, Seal, hub-block, oil filters, AC refrigerant, drain pan, windshield washer fluid, oil filter

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock to approve the July finance report. All members voted aye.

Discussion was had about the logo and colors for the new water tower. The current logo is the word "Groton" in all black letters.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Babcock to approve Mayor Hanlon to sign the application for payment number 1 for \$67,500 from Maguire Iron for the water tower project. All members voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Kappes to adjourn into executive session for personnel items 1-25-2 (1) at 7:33 pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 7:47 pm.

Moved by Flihs and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$43.78. 19203



BDM Rural Water System, Inc.

40TH ANNUAL MEETING

Modified format due to COVID-19 issues and concerns for the health of our customers and team members

Monday, Aug. 31, 2020

3:00-5:00 p.m. & then at 7:00 p.m.

BDM Building, 705 7th Street, Britton, SD

3:00 - 5:00 p.m., There will be a drive up only meeting for members to obtain the 2019 annual audited financial statements, 2019 annual meeting minutes and the 2020 nominating committee report. Members will not leave their vehicle; Employees will bring all materials to the members. Attending members will be entered into a drawing for (2) \$100 and (2) \$50 water bill credit door prizes and will receive their BDM appreciation gifts.

There will also be an opportunity to nominate a director for District Two or for District Five. TERRY LEONHARDT is seeking re-election and has been nominated by the nominating committee for District Two. DON OGREN is seeking re-election and has been nominated by the nominating committee for District Five. If anyone intends to nominate a director from the "floor", please notify BDM in advance of the meeting so the election can be planned.

District Two: Putney, Riverside, Groton, Cambria, and Henry Townships in Brown County

District Five: Lowell, Waverly, Pleasant Valley, Hickman, Victor, Nordland, Wismer, Hamilton, Sisseton and Fort Townships in Marshall County and Tewaukon Township in North Dakota

7:00 p.m., There will be a short meeting to conduct a director's election if necessary or to conduct a vote by acclamation for District Two and Five. Any members attending at 7:00 p.m. will need to assess their own risks and take necessary precautions due to COVID-19.

SD Newswatch
Continued from front page

stress upon teachers in South Dakota, many of whom are worried about the health of themselves, their families and their students as they return to in-person teaching and learning amid a pandemic, said Loren Paul, president of the South Dakota Education Association.

"It's basically survival at this point; it's whatever you can do to make your classroom as safe as possible," Paul said. "There's no easy answers, but it would be nice if there were more answers for our teachers about masks and PPE in the classrooms."

Paul said he has heard from members of the union who don't feel supported by school districts, and the lack of mask requirements and guidance regarding barriers in classrooms has enhanced that sentiment. He said classrooms could have been made safer if districts had begun planning earlier and invested more time and money in protecting teachers and students.

"The teachers are the ones on the front lines right now, and I just feel for them," Paul said. "They're doing whatever they can to make things safer, but if you're trying to get dividers for your elementary classroom right now, you go online or to the hardware store and those materials are not available now."

Teachers in the Sioux Falls School District have been given a high degree of flexibility when it comes to adding protective equipment to their classrooms, said DeAnn Konrad, community relations supervisor for the district.

The district has installed plexiglass barriers in offices and other areas where face-to-face contact is likely, but does not have a policy in place in regard to whether or how barriers can be installed in classrooms, Konrad said.

The district's approach has been to layer several elements of protection from the virus on top of one another in hopes of creating the safest environment possible, Konrad said. Mask usage will be strongly encouraged when students return to classes on Aug. 27 and 28, and the district has upgraded the filters in its air-circulation system, she said.

Principals are playing a lead role in determining what barriers are allowed in classrooms, Konrad said. With 25,000 students, 3,500 staff members and buildings of all different sizes and layouts, Konrad said flexibility was required.

"I've gone around to various classrooms, and you see something different in every single classroom," she said. "Is one better than the other? We don't know because there's not been a scientific study on what works best."

Konrad said the district has a warehouse of supplies, including some protective equipment, that individual teachers and schools can request for use. She also noted that federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines on school safety stress the importance of social distancing and mask usage but do not mention barriers or partitions as necessary protections.

"I'm not sure how much we know about whether partitions are effective or not," she said.

The CDC does note, however, in a section on its website called, "Operating schools during COVID-19: CDC's Considerations," under a subsection titled "Physical Barriers and Guides," that partitions can be helpful in reducing the spread of the virus.

The CDC recommends that schools "install physical barriers, such as sneeze guards and partitions, particularly in areas where it is difficult for individuals to remain at least 6 feet apart," though the section does not specifically reference classrooms.

Konrad said the district has looked at installation of barriers and partitions in classrooms as something that teachers can do if they feel safer or more comfortable doing so, not unlike a teacher bringing in a lamp to provide more lighting in a classroom.

"There isn't anything that anyone would be required to have that we haven't provided to them," she said.

In Rapid City, where school resumes in early September, teachers are also being given leeway in any protective measures they want to install beyond what the district has done to increase protection from the virus, said spokeswoman Katy Urban.

"We're going to see some cases where teachers take some liberties to make it safer, and we're fine with that," Urban said. "There's going to be a lot of freedom in that."

In addition to requiring masks when inside buildings, the district has reconfigured classroom seating and removed unnecessary furniture to increase social distancing. It also is providing water bottles to students to end the use of public water fountains.



Gov. Kristi Noem stands in a classroom with protective desk partitions during a July press conference at John Harris Elementary School in Sioux Falls. Noem has pushed for a return to in-person learning in South Dakota public schools.

Photo: Courtesy Erin Bormett, Sioux Falls Argus Leader

Every employee will get two masks and a face shield to start the school year, and each student will get two masks, Urban said.

Classrooms will also be cleaned and sanitized often each day, she said. Using plexiglass barriers increases the area that needs to be cleaned regularly, Urban said. She also said the district cannot afford to provide plexiglass to all teachers to install in their classrooms.

"Plexiglass is one more thing for people to clean and we're not sure, given the price, how effective that would be," she said.

Urban said the district spent about \$135,000 in funding from the federal CARES Act on protective equipment and another \$40,000 for plexiglass to install barriers in office areas where close contact is likely. Overall, South Dakota schools received \$47 million in CARES Act funding for the coming year.

Some plexiglass barriers will also be installed in classrooms where social distancing is impossible due to building design or instructional need, such as in speech classes where students stand together and project their voices.

School principals have been given flexibility in deciding how some safety measures will be implemented as long as they remain within the district's general guidelines for the upcoming school year, Urban said.

The district will not allow any flammable materials, such as shower curtains, to be used as barriers in classrooms, Urban said. Some teachers are putting tape around their desks to create a no-go zone around them to increase distance between themselves and students when up-close teaching occurs.

"District guidelines were set forward to create as much space as we can," she said. "Other than that, it's really up to the teacher and the principal to determine how things will work in their building. Every school has an individual plan based on their layout and things they can do."

Despite the best efforts of school districts to keep teachers and students safe, some educators remain concerned that in-person learning will carry significant risks this fall, said Paul, the union president.

"Teachers want some more guidelines, but probably they want more support than guidelines," Paul said. "In March, April and May, our teachers were heroes. Now they're just trying to throw the teachers back in the classroom without masks or anything, and teachers are saying, 'Hey, wait a minute, we're worried about our safety and the safety of our families and of the children.'"

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As COVID-19 cases rise, experts question effectiveness of contact tracing in S.D.

Nick Lowrey, South Dakota News Watch

Editor's note: This article was produced through a partnership between South Dakota News Watch and the Solutions Journalism Network, a national non-profit group that supports rigorous journalism about responses to problems.

Public health experts are questioning the extent and effectiveness of contact-tracing efforts in South Dakota and across the country, arguing that an inadequate number of investigators and lags in testing times have reduced the efficacy of the tracing process.

Contact tracing aims to reduce the spread of infectious diseases, including COVID-19, by quickly identifying people who may have been exposed to the virus. Investigators question people who test positive for the virus and then try to determine who else they may have come in contact with. Those people are then warned to isolate, watch for symptoms and get tested if they feel sick.

The process is seen as a critical tool in the fight against COVID-19 and other diseases such as tuberculosis because it can break or slow the cycle of transmission from one person to another.

When combined with high rates of testing and social distancing, contact tracing has been shown to slow the spread of COVID-19 and speed up the ability of countries such as South Korea, Singapore and Germany to safely reopen their national economies.

Investigating COVID-19 cases has taken on heightened importance in South Dakota in recent weeks as the state has seen a surge in its number of new cases. On Aug. 20, South Dakota reported 125 new cases of the disease and had the nation's second-highest rate of transmission, according to state and federal data.

The state also reported on Aug. 20 that at least two dozen COVID-19 cases were related to the Sturgis motorcycle rally, including two notices about the potential for significant public exposures, and school districts and colleges were already reporting cases among students just days into the new academic year.

South Dakota Department of Health leaders say their contact-tracing efforts are keeping up with the increasing caseload. The state's goal is to make contact with everyone who tests positive for COVID-19 in South Dakota within 24 hours of the department being notified of the new case.

The 131 contact tracers now working for the health department are making initial contacts with known COVID-19 patients within about 15 hours on average, said Cassie Deffenbaugh, who leads the contact-tracing team. The state contact-tracing workforce has grown to five times its pre-pandemic size since March, and has been able to identify 35,000 close contacts of coronavirus patients during the pandemic so

far. Deffenbaugh said she is confident that the state's contact tracers would be able to keep up with the virus.

"We are adequately staffed to be able to support our current workload," Deffenbaugh said. "We are constantly assessing to make sure we are adequately staffed at this time and that we will be moving forward."

But some disease researchers say the contact-tracing workforce is not widespread enough in South Dakota to handle the rising number of cases. Without increased availability of COVID-19 testing and speedier test result reporting — along with extensive social-distancing and increased mask usage — experts worry that contact tracers likely will be overwhelmed and the benefits of the process will be muted.

"I don't think that we can afford, at this point, for contact investigation to stop the epidemic alone. It would have to be done at such a national scale with such speed and efficiency, that I don't think that's feasible," said Travis Porco, an ophthalmological biostatistician and disease transmission researcher at the University of California at San Francisco who has been studying contact tracing since the pandemic began. "We really just don't have a single magic bullet at this point, we need a little bit of everything to try to turn the tide."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention told Congress, in June, that the country needed a minimum of 100,000 contact tracers to adequately manage the COVID-19 pandemic.

But an Aug. 7 survey of state health departments conducted by Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security and National Public Radio found that there were just 41,122 contact tracers actively working in the U.S. Adding 59,000 more contact tracers to the workforce would cost billions of dollars, CDC officials said.

The Johns Hopkins/NPR survey also found that just three states — Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont — had enough contact tracers on staff to adequately track their COVID-19 cases. Three additional states — Montana, Michigan and Hawaii — would have enough contract tracers if they would bring in reserve staff. The South Dakota health department did not participate in the survey.

A News Watch analysis of the Contact Tracing Workforce Estimator created by the Fitzhugh Mullan Institute for Health Workforce Equity at George Washington University shows the state would need 638 contact tracers in order to adequately cover the average number of new cases found between Aug. 4 and Aug. 18. Hiring several hundred more contact tracers could cost millions of dollars and could likely take months.

Contact tracing can be an essential public health tool for managing a pandemic, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Aggressively tracking down and identifying who, how and when people become infected with COVID-19 and then selectively quarantining people who have been in contact with or have



been diagnosed with the virus can break chains of transmission. Breaking the chain of transmission can prevent widespread outbreaks, reducing both the number of deaths from the disease and its negative economic effects.

"Contact tracing is useful because it allows us to help people at direct risk of infection, rather than only being able to act in ways that help the whole community, which helps us use broad actions like shelter-in-place more sparingly, and also ensures that we can direct our time and attention to where they're needed most," said Eric Lofgren, an epidemiologist and assistant professor at Washington State University.

South Korea, for example, was once second only to China in the severity of its COVID-19 problem. But an aggressive, nationwide contact-tracing campaign, combined with high levels of testing, have helped contain outbreaks and keep the number of new cases under control. Since the beginning of July, the country of 50 million has seen an average of fewer than 60 new cases per day.

In one well publicized incident, South Korea's investigators identified a popular nightclub in the country's capital, Seoul, as the source of a potential COVID-19 outbreak after someone at the nightclub tested positive for the virus. Contact tracers used surveillance cameras, credit card records and personal interviews to track transmission from the nightclub to a student, a taxi driver and someone who worked at a warehouse with 4,000 employees, all before they could spread the disease further. The outbreak was capped at 156 cases.

The South Korean economy, meanwhile, has remained largely open, though heavily impacted by declines in export trade due to the pandemic. South Koreans are still going to restaurants and bars and using air travel for vacations.

Contact tracing can also help identify people at the most risk from COVID-19 due to old age or a preexisting health condition such as diabetes early so they can be monitored more closely and provided health care more quickly when needed. Contact tracing is also about the only way to find people who are carrying the virus but aren't displaying symptoms so they can be quarantined, Porco said. Any delay in testing people or in getting test results will reduce the value of contact tracing because infected people have more time to spread the illness to more people.

"What contact tracing gives you, if it's done well, is the chance to out run the epidemic a little bit," Porco said. "If you find a case fast

Continues on next page



Travis Porco

"[Contact tracing] is great because it can be a tool for protecting vulnerable people, we can find a lot of asymptomatic carriers and get them out of disease circulation. It's a big help, but it's not going to reduce the need, unfortunately, for masks and social distancing."

— Travis Porco, University of California

enough. And you can find their contacts, you could intervene.”

Investigating disease transmissions through contact tracing is not a new concept in South Dakota. It has been common practice in the public health field for decades as an effective tool for helping to control the spread of infectious diseases such as tuberculosis or measles and even sexually transmitted infections such as syphilis or HIV.

Prior to the pandemic, the SDDOH employed 21 contact tracers officially known as Disease Intervention Specialists. After the pandemic began, the health department spent an additional \$1.2 million on contact tracing and added 110 contact tracers, known as COVID Intervention Specialists. They are spread out among health department offices in Aberdeen, Pierre, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Watertown. Increased funding for contact tracing came as part of federal pandemic relief efforts such as the CARES Act.

Every person who tests positive for SARS-COV-II, the virus that causes COVID-19, is supposed to be investigated by the state’s contact-tracing team, Deffenbaugh said. The contact tracing process begins when DOH is notified that someone has tested positive for the virus. South Dakota state law requires healthcare providers to notify the state immediately when they suspect someone has a respiratory illness such as COVID-19.

The state’s goal is to make contact with a person who has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus within 24 hours of the department being notified of the test. The initial contact includes some education on COVID-19 and what to expect from the disease as well as how to avoid spreading the disease to others.

Contact tracers can even help people find places to self isolate if quarantining in their home isn’t feasible, Deffenbaugh said. So far, the health department has helped 48 people find a place to quarantine outside their home.

But the most important thing contact tracers do is identify a COVID-19 patient’s close contacts, which includes anyone the patient had been within six feet for 15 minutes or more up to 48 hours before showing symptoms. The interview includes questions about the patient’s workplace, social gatherings, activities and home life.

The idea is to collect as much contact infor-

mation on a patient’s close contacts as possible and then notify each close contact to alert them of the possible exposure. The patient’s close contacts are then advised to self isolate, monitor themselves for symptoms and get tested for the disease if symptomatic.

“Ultimately, our goal is to do everything that we can to help them identify the people that may have been exposed,” Deffenbaugh said. “People are very good at working with us and ultimately they care about the people that they may have exposed.”

Once the investigation has been completed, each contact is supposed to be enrolled in a daily monitoring program so contact tracers can follow-up via text message or phone calls to ask about symptoms and provide resources for quarantining or isolating. Monitoring lasts until a person is deemed recovered from COVID-19 or fails to develop symptoms for up to 14 days after being exposed.

Sometimes a contact-tracing investigation reveals that someone spent time at a crowded event or a bar and can’t provide information on everyone they came into close contact with, Deffenbaugh said. When that happens, the state issues an alert with the date, time and location of the potential exposure. Recent examples include notices issued on Aug. 18



Testing for COVID-19 is taking place at several hospitals and clinics across South Dakota, including the Oyate Health Center in Rapid City. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

and 20 after a person who spent time in a Sturgis saloon and a tattoo parlor worker tested positive for COVID-19. On Aug. 14, the state issued an alert after a person who attended a concert at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls tested positive for the virus.

Contact tracing is an expensive, resource-intensive process. It requires many people making many contacts by phone and aggressively investigating every new COVID-19 case thoroughly and quickly. Testing for the virus must be conducted quickly and results from tests must be turned over to health departments in a timely fashion. Tests for the virus also need to be widely available to anyone, not just those displaying symptoms, Porco said.

“Contact investigation, if done well, is very intensive. It takes a lot of resources,” Porco said.

For all of its importance, contact tracing has a number of shortfalls. For one thing, contact tracing in South Dakota relies on people to answer phone calls, often from strange numbers. In today’s world of random robo-calls and phone scammers, that can be a big ask, Deffenbaugh said.

“We do have instances where we may not be able to get a hold of someone; that is one of the challenges we have,” Deffenbaugh said. “Obviously there are a lot of unknowns, [but] as we’re doing our case investigations, we are identifying those contacts.”

Because contact tracing is such an expensive, time-consuming activity, public health agencies can struggle to scale up their efforts

when disease transmission rates are high. Transmission rates and case numbers are high enough now, Porco said, that there is likely no way to bring enough new contact tracers online fast enough to slow the spread of the virus.

Some areas should consider another lock down, Porco said, and testing availability as well as the speed of testing need to be improved. The use of masks and social distancing could be improved, he said.

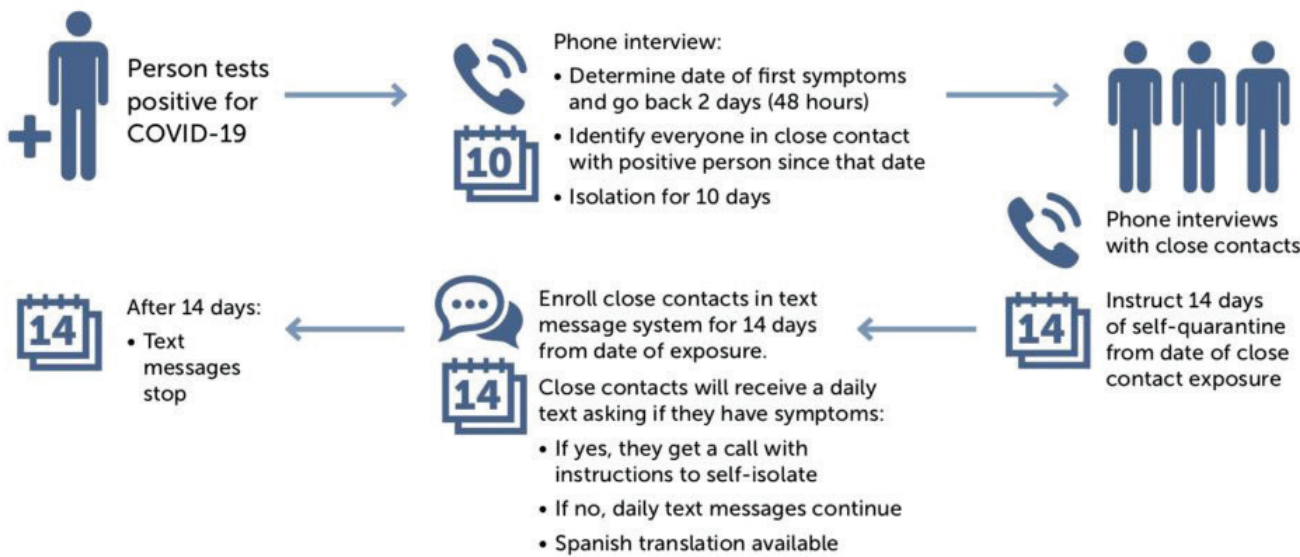
“[Contact tracing] is great because it can be a tool for protecting vulnerable people, we can find a lot of asymptomatic carriers and get them out of disease circulation,” Porco said. “It’s a big help. But it’s not going to reduce the need, unfortunately, for masks and social distancing.”

ABOUT NICK LOWREY

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

COVID-19 CONTACT TRACING

WHAT TO EXPECT IF YOU’VE HAD CLOSE CONTACT WITH A POSITIVE CASE



DEFINITIONS

- CONTACT TRACING:** helps to find people exposed to a positive case of COVID-19 so they can be quarantined to stop further spread.
- CLOSE CONTACT:** six feet or less for more than fifteen minutes at a time
- ISOLATION:** separates sick people with a contagious disease from people who are not sick.
- SELF-QUARANTINE:** separates and restricts the movement of people who were exposed to a contagious disease to see if they become sick.

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Mobridge-Pollock hands Groton Area season opener loss

Mobridge-Pollock scored four touchdowns in the first 13 minutes of the game Friday night, but then Groton Area's defense contained the visiting Tigers. Despite the defensive effort, the offense was unable to score any points as Mobridge-Pollock scored a 26-0 win in the season opener in Groton.

The game was broadcast live on the GDIL-IVE.COM and simulcast locally on FM 89.3, sponsored by BaseKampLodge of downtown Groton.

Mobridge-Pollock scored on its first possession when Braden Goehring scored on a 57-yard pass from Cayden Eiseman. The two-point PAT conversion attempt failed and it was 6-0 with 10:15 left in the first quarter. Mobridge-Pollock would later score on an 82-yard pass play from Eiseman to Bryston Goehring on the second play from scrimmage. The PAT pass was no good and it was 12-0 with 3:07 left in the first quarter. Groton's next drive was thwarted by Bryston Goehring when he intercepted the ball, putting Mobridge-Pollock at Groton 14 yard line. On the next play, Braden Goehring would score on a 14 yard run. The PAT kick by Braden Goehring was good and it was 19-0 with 1:43 left in the first quarter.

Then on the kick-off, the Groton defender lost sight of the ball and Mobridge-Pollock pounced on the ball and they were at the Groton 24 yard line. Mobridge-Pollock would score on the first play in the second quarter on an 11-yard run by Eiseman. The PAT kick by Braden Goehring was good and it was 26-0 with 11:56 left in the second quarter.

And that was the scoring for the game, but we have some other highlights.

In the third quarter, Jordan Bjerke would make a catch on fourth and five to make it first and goal from the nine yard line for Groton Area. Then penalties took charge and it ended up being fourth and 21. That drive was started by an interception by Favian Sanchez and the drive started at the Mobridge-Pollock 39 yard line.

In the fourth quarter, Jaimen Farrell would pick up a punt fumble and score for the Tigers, but here is what really happened according to Tom Woods: "That play was considered a muffed punt so when Farrell recovered that fumble, he could not advance that fumble because you cannot advanced a muffed punt. That is why they did not count it as a touchdown and brought the ball back to where the muff occurred."

Groton Area's defense held strong in the fourth quarter. Mobridge-Pollock had four opportunities to score from the five yard line was the Groton Area defense denied the visiting Tigers the touchdown.

Coach Shaun Wanner said he knew Groton would be challenged in this game. "We have a lot of inexperience out there. We did a lot of good things and we will improve as the season goes on. This is a good group of kids and they love playing football. We struggled defensively at first, but we made some adjustments and did really good. Offensively, we moved the ball well a times."

Mobridge-Pollock had most of its offense in passing as Cayden Eiseman completed 13 of 20 passes for 276 yards. Receivers were Braden Goehring with 5 catches for 116 yards, Bryston Goehring had one catch for 82 yards, Trace Cerney had three catches for 41 yards and Zane Reinert had two catches for 36 yards.

Groton Area's offense was pretty well split between the running game (77 yards) and the passing game (50 yards).

Groton Area had 30 carries for 77 yards. Kaden Kurtz had 19 carries for 30 yards, Jaimen Farrell had two for 21 yards, Pierce Kettering had two for nine yards, Favian Sanchez had three for three yards and Kolby Dunker had four for 14 yards.

In passing, Kurtz completed five of 15 passes for 45 yards and had two interceptions. Lane Tietz completed one of two for five yards.



Jordan Bjerke makes a catch and gets Groton Area a first down. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Jaimen Farrell tries to get around Mobridge-Pollock's Simon Fried. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Receivers were Jordan Bjerke with 1 catch for 23 yards, Jaimen Farrell had four for 14 yards, Pierce Kettering had one for eight yards and Ethan Gengerke had one for five yards.

Mobridge-Pollock had 25 carries for 98 yards with Gavin Reinert having 13 carries for 51 yards and Cayden Eiseman had seven for 28 yards.

Mobridge-Pollock had more first downs, 13-7. Both teams had two fumbles with Mobridge-Pollock losing one. Groton Area had six penalties for 55 yards and Mobridge-Pollock had 10 for 70 yards.

Defensive leaders for Groton Area were Pierce Kettering with nine tackles, Alex Morris with eight tackles and a sack, Jaimen Farrell had eight tackles and a fumble recovery, Kaden Kurtz had six tackles, Kale Pharishad five tackles and one sack, Chandler Larson had five tackles, and Favian Sanchez had one interception.

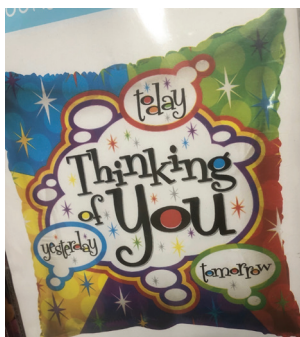
Mobridge-Pollock was led by Gabe Jerome with six tackles and Cayden Eisemann had five.

Groton Area, now 0-1, will host Ellendale/Edgeley-Kulm on Friday at 7 p.m. Mobridge-Pollock, now 1-0, will host Miller/Highmore-Harrold.

- Paul Kosel



Kaden Kurtz scrambles to find an open receiver. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



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Alex Morris (left) and Pierce Kettering double team on this Mobridge-Pollock runner. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Golfers take part in three meets

The Groton boys golf team opened its season Aug. 17th at the Sioux Valley Invitational held in Volga.

Brevin Flihs placed 27th, shooting a 49 in the first nine holes and a 48 in the second round for a total score of 97.

Hunter Kassube placed 30th with scores of 56 and 45 and a total of 101.

Tristan Traphagen was 40th with scores of 60 and 52 and a total of 112.

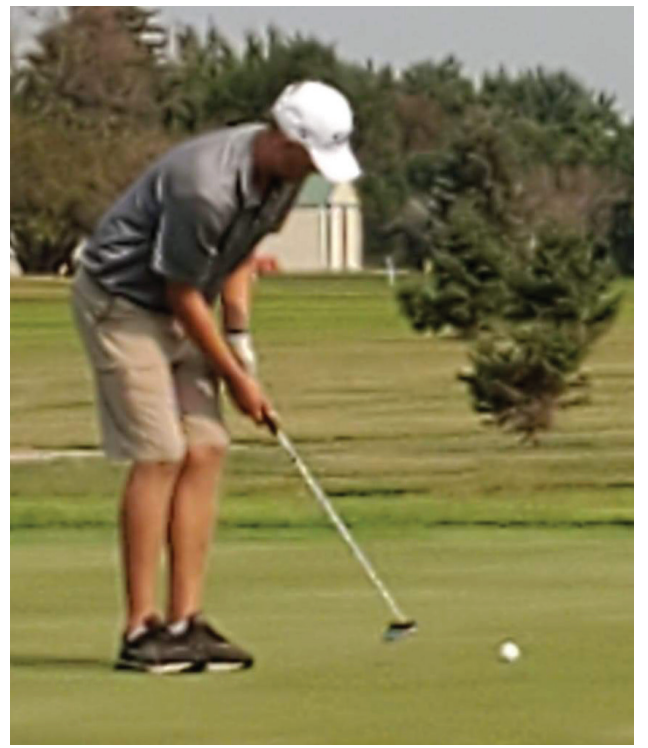
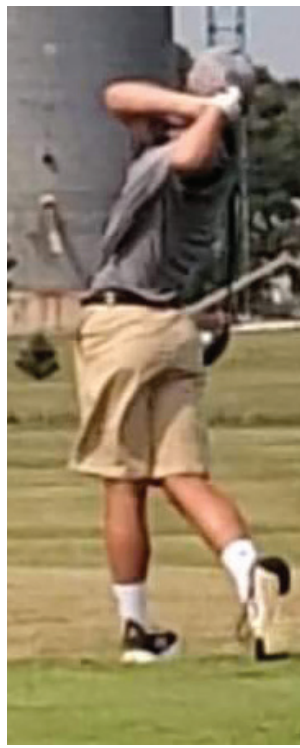
Lucas Simon was 42nd with scores of 59 and 57 and a total of 116.

Aberdeen Roncalli won the team title with a score of 334 followed by Sisseton with 346, Sioux Valley 350, Milbank 379, Redfield 383, Flandreau 407 and Groton Area 426.

Then the team went to Milbank for the Milbank Area Poet Invitational on Aug. 20th. Groton did not field a complete team at that meet with three golfers taking part. Hunter Kassube shot a 54 and a 52 for a total of 106, Lucas Simon shot a 54 and a 53 for a total of 107 and Tristan Traphagen shot a 72 and a 55 for a total of 127.

The Northeast Conference Golf Meet was held Tuesday at the Olive Grove Golf Course in Groton. Brevin Flihs finished in fifth place with a score of 79, Tristan Traphagen was 13th with a 92 and Hunter Kassube was 15th with a score of 95. Lucas Simon shot a 103 and Logan Pearson shot a 126.

Aberdeen Roncalli won the team meet with a score of 312 followed by Sisseton with 348, Groton Area with 369, and Redfield and Milbank each scored 398. Caleb Barse of Tiospa Zina won the NEC meet with a score of 72.



Brevin Flihs and Tristan Traphagen at the NEC Golf meet held Tuesday in Groton. (Photo by Kristie Flihs)

Girls beat Belle Fourche, St. Thomas More in Soccer

Groton Area girls soccer team traveled to Belle Fourche on Friday and posted a 4-1 win. Scoring goals were Jerica Locke, Kenzie McInerney, Mia Crank and Kennedy Hansen.

The Girls Soccer team beat then beat St Thomas More, 5-1, on Saturday.



Emma Schinkel and Trista Keith (Photo by Tricia Keith)

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Upcoming Events

- Thurs., Aug. 27: Volleyball at Britton-Hecla, C at 5:15
- Fri., Aug. 28: Football hosts Ell./Edgeley-Kulm, 7:00
- Sat., Aug. 29: Boys (3 p.m.) and Girls (1 p.m.) Soccer hosts Vermillion
- Tues., Sept. 1- City Council Meeting, 7 p.m., Groton Community Ctr.
- Tues., Sept. 1: Boys Golf @ Lee Park Golf Course, 10 a.m.
- Tues., Sept. 1: Volleyball hosts Ipswich, 6 p.m. (No C Match)
- Thurs., Sept. 3: Cross Country at Redfield, 10 a.m.
- Fri., Sept. 4: Football hosts Webster Area, 7 p.m.
- Sat., Sept. 5: Boys (3 pm) and Girls (1 pm) soccer at Tea Area
- Mon., Sept. 7 - LABOR DAY - No School
- Tues., Sept. 8: Cross Country at Britton, 4 p.m.
- Tues., Sept. 8: Volleyball hosts Webster (C Match at 5 p.m.)

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