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The Groton Independent

Vol. 138 No. 03 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2020 ♦ Established in 1889



New water tower progress

Work continues on the new Groton water tower. Above, the hole is dug for the update for \$3,000, Carpet cleaning at city hall base. Below, 260 ton of pea rock will be put in for the base. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



Council approves \$4.3 million budget

The Groton City Council met in regular session Tuesday evening where the second reading of the \$4.3 million 2021 budget was approved. Of that, \$1.9 million is in the general fund, \$1.5 million in the electric fund, about half a million in the water fund, \$278,000 in the sewer fund and \$88,500 in the solid waste fund.

Some items of interest include a chip and seal project (which has been taken out of the budget for the past several years) for \$150,000. That is down from the requested \$250,000. A new patrol vehicle for \$45,000, wood chips for the park and baseball park playground for \$4,500, new meeting table and chairs at city hall for \$2,000, manhole rehab and lining for \$50,000, sewer cleaning for \$30,000, pump repairs and updates for \$20,000, tires for the yellow dump truck for \$4,500, new Bobcat mower for \$10,500, transformers for \$62,000 (original requested amount was \$90,000), replacement of the footboards for the lifeguard chairs at the pool for \$3,000, Cub Cadet zero turn 42" mower for the cemetery for \$6,000, and a sweeper lease for \$33,500. The city will be putting in a levy request of \$478,291 plus the opt out of \$230,000 for a total of \$708,291.

Other items discussed were closing of Main Street and a portion of Railroad Avenue for downtown trick and treating from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Oct. 30. Finance Officer Hope Block said that she also invited the Trunk and Treat group to come downtown for the event.

First reading of the cemetery regulations was approved, cleaning up some of the language. And a pay request for \$100,561.50 was approved for Maguire Iron for the water tower replacement project.



GHS Homecoming is next week

Groton Area will be having its homecoming week next week. Coronation is set for Monday, Sept. 21, 7:30 p.m., in the GHS Gym. The event will be broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. In back, left to right, are Trey Gengerke, Chandler Larson, Tristan Traphagen, Lee Iverson and Alex Morris; and in front, left to right, are Alexis Hanten, Grace Wambach, Regan Leicht, Tanae **Lipp and Erin Unzen.** (Courtesy photo)

Brown County Sept. 8, 2020 General Meeting

SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 – GEN-**ERAL 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 Fjeldheim, Wiese, Feickert and Sutton. Commissioner Feickert led the Pledge of Allegiance. MINUTES:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the general meeting minutes of September 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following

Professional Fees: Aberdeen Advanced Care Ambulance \$267.80; Avera St. Luke's \$462.96; Brévik Law Office \$189.75; Carlsen Funeral Home \$114.19; Clark Engineering \$2,268.95; DevNet \$3,445.31; Mark Katterhagen \$9.00; KEI \$3,576.49; Lucy Lewno \$140.00; Lincoln Co. Treasurer \$30.00; Darcy Lockwood \$9.00; NEMHC \$1,014.00; Schneider Geospatial \$2,475.00; SD DENR \$4,691.90; Kristi Spitzer \$200.00; UND – Pathology \$4,565.61; Yankton Co. Treasurer \$338.40. Publishing: Dakota Broadcasting \$1,000.00; Groton Independent \$286.22 Hub City Radio \$300.00. Rentals: Améripride \$346.64; Dakota Electronics \$66.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$17.95; Butler Machinery \$1,598.00; Crawford Trucks & Equip. \$15.34; DFP \$34.23; DataSpec \$449.00; Diamond Mowers \$44.54; DMI \$10,500.00; HF Jacobs & Son Construction \$12,851.96; Lawson Products \$9.65: Midstates Printing \$375.51; Prairie Lakes Archaeological Services \$910.00; RDO Equip. \$3,845.61; Steven Lust Automotive \$124.91; TranSource \$1,008.00; Trinity Services Group \$100.00; Walth Safety Service \$290.00; Woodman Refrigeration \$2,005.30; Zastrow's Sales & Service \$200.00. Supplies: Aberdeen Chrysler Center \$61.00; AgTegra \$21,608.49; Bakken Build Maint. \$500.00; Behnke Pit \$26,532.75; Butler Machinery \$24.34; Carlsen Funeral Home \$375.00; Cash-

Wa \$3,834.65; Century Business Products \$96.84; Cole

Papers \$234.39; Crawford Trucks & Equip. \$3,386.84; DFP \$2,469.31; Dakota Oil \$242.43; Diamond Mowers \$2,950.67 Earthgrains \$396.50; Fastenal \$302.92; FedEx \$86.99; Genlantis \$13,213.00; Gorder Supply \$283.83; Jebro \$20,474.65; KÉI \$95.54; Ken's SuperFair Foods \$604.57; Kessler's \$71.88; Lar-Jo's \$150.00; Lawson Products \$114.27; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$134.00; Lucy Lewno \$6.50; Matthew Bender \$117.43; McKesson Medical \$716.36 Midstates Printing \$320.50; Moore Sewing \$60.00; Pantori-um Cleaners \$56.00; RDO Equip. \$1,517.82; Running's \$762.78; TranSource \$4,453.37; Van Diest Supply \$4,192.00; Walth Safety Service \$14.50; Zastrow's ales & Service \$126.79. Travel & Conf.: KEI \$152.00; Mark Milbrandt – Imprest \$446.00. Utilities: AT&T \$1.11; CenturyLink \$1,078.74; Exec. Mgmt. \$102.95; Midcontinent \$368.03; NWPS \$13,728.94; Town of Frederick \$61.00. Machinery & Equip.: Beck Motors \$34,411.00.

All members present voting ve. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: No report this

SHERIFF REPORTS:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following August 2020 Sheriff Reports: Incidents and offenses, Prisoner care, JDC, and Money deposited with the County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PRE-DISASTER MITIGATION (PDM) GRANT AWARD:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to authorize chair sign grant agreement EMD-2020-PC-0005 to receive federal share of funds in the amount of \$14,625.00. All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDÍNANCE 171 - ADOP-TION:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to adopt ordinance 171, an ordinance to amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District ĂG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): East 30 Rods of South 55 Rods in the SE1/4 of ection 25-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, (12891 388th Ave), Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton –aye, Wiese –aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye.

The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397) Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher <a href="mailto:paperpaul@gro-paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460

Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd. net ~ 605-397-7285

Notices: legals@grotonsd.net News Items: news@grotonsd.net

Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday] Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below. The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD



REMODELING **HOOP BARNS**

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



225 Brown County Hwy 19 South Aberdeen: 605/725-4900

Ordinance adopted. ORDINANCE 172 - ADOP-TION

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Sutton to adopt ordinance an ordinance 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, 'HAPT 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). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton –aye, Wiese –aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE 173 - ADOP-

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to adopt ordinance 173, an ordinance to amend 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 Sub-division" in the NE1/4 of section 22-T122N-R64W, Brown County South Dakota. (38585 139th St and 38579 139th St). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton –aye, Wiese –aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance adopted.

ORDINANCE 174- ADOPTION: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to adopt ordinance 174 as amended 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 adopted ordinance will be made available for public inspection at the Brown County Auditor's Office during regular business hours. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton -aye, Wiese -aye, Fjeldheim – aye, Kippley – aye. Ordinance adopted.

PROVISIONAL BUDGET 2021 PUBLIC HEARING:

Public hearing held as advertised for 2021 provisional budget. Opportunity for public comment was given. No action

POLICY MANUAL - CALL IN

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following employee policy:

Call-In Pay Policy The purpose of this policy is to guarantee hourly, nonexempt employees a minimum number of hours as required by law for employees who respond to a call-in for work between the time they leave their shift and begin their next shift.

Non-Essential Employees

A "call-in" is defined as an unscheduled request made by an appropriate management official for an hourly non-essential employee to return to the employment location to do unforeseen or emergency work after leaving the location at the end of the regular shift and before the beginning of the next regularly scheduled shift.

When a non-essential employee is responding to a call-in, the employee will be given a minimum of two (2) hours' work at the higher of his or her regular job rate or the rate of the job assigned. The two (2) hours will count towards the regular hours worked. Should the work entail more than two (2) hours, the Department Head may accordingly adjust the worked hours.

Essential Employees When an essential employee responding to a call-in outside their regular scheduled shift (i.e. training, meetings), the employee will be given a minimum of two (2) hours' work. Should the work entail more than two (2) hours, the Department Head may accordingly adjust the

worked hours.
All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

POLICY MANUAL - LEAVE SHARING POLICY:

Discussion on transitioning to paid time off (PTO) with an extended sick leave bank benefit to employees. Draft policy on file with the Brown County Auditor and available for public inspec-

tion. No action taken. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Fieldheim, seconded by Sutton to go into executive session to discuss personnel and contracts per SDCL 1-25-2(1,4). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:30a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$86.69. 19255

Brown County Ord. 171 Brewer Rezoning

ORDINANCE #171 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION **BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-**ES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Amber Brewer is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on 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 5-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. 12891 388th Ave)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: August 9th and 26th, 2020

Passed First Reading: September 1st, 2020 Passed Second Reading: Sep-

tember 8th, 2020 Adopted: September 8th,

Published: September 16th,

2020 Effective Date: October 6th, 2020

Rachel Kippley, Chair **Brown County Commission**

Cathy McNickle, Brown County

Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.94. 19256

Brown County Ord. 172 **Bjerle Rezoning** ORDINANCE #172

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECOND REVISION **BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-**

S, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the frown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Randy Bierle is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on 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)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, own County. South Dakota tha the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: August 19th and 26th, 2020

Passed First Reading: September 1st, 2020 Passed Second Reading: Sep-

tember 8th, 2020 Adopted: September 8th,

Published: September 16th, 2020 Effective Date: October 6th,

2020 Rachel Kippley, Chair Brown County Commission

Cathy McNickle, Brown County \uditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.94. 19257

Brown County Ord. 173 Gabler/Brakefield ORDINANCE #173

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION **BROWN COUNTY ORDINANC-**

ES, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DE-SCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Energy – 419.65 Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Bradley Gabler and Brian Brakefield is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on 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)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: August 19th and 26th, 2020

Passed First Reading: September 1st, 2020

Passed Second Reading: September 8th, 2020 Adopted: September 8th,

Published: September 16th,

2020 Effective Date: October 6th, 2020

Rachel Kippley, Chair Brown County Commission

Cathy McNickle, Brown Coun-

Auditor Published once at the total approximate cost of \$20.90. 19258

Brown County Titles 4-5 **Adoption Notice**

SEQ CHAPTER \h \r 1NOTICE OF ADOPTION **ORDINANCE 174**

REVISION TO BROWN COUN-TY ORDINANCE TITLE 4 AND

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance No.174, 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, was duly adopted by the Brown County Board of Commissioners on the 8th day of September, 2020, and that such Ordinance shall be in full force and effect on and after the 13th day of October, 2020 unless the referendum shall have been invoked. A copy of the adopted ordinance is on file with the Brown County Auditor and is available for public review during regular business hours at the Brown County Courthouse (25 Market St, Suite Aberdeen, SD).

Cathy McNicklé, Brown County Auditor

(0916.0923)

Published twice at the approximate cost of \$21.15. 19259

Columbia City Sept. 9 **Meeting Minutes**

Rescheduled City of Columbia Council Meeting - September

TING TO ORDER

7:00 p.m. ROLL CALL - Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Ellen Harr, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints

Community – Jeremy Dosch Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the August 4th meeting. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Minutes were also passed out from our special dog ordinance meeting August 17th. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cole

Kampa seconded the motion. All

in favor – motion carried. Warrant Vouchers: GDI 34.67; Northwestern Energy – 446.52; Web Water – 38.19; JVT – 126.35; Brown County Weed & Pest Control – 452.40; Jark/ Worlie Auction – 8712.50; Brown County Weed & Pest Control 458.40; Runnings – 52.23; GDI – 94.39; Jeremy Dosch – 419.99; Kelsie Ehresmann – 321.99;Cara Dennert – 823.50; Corey Mitchell - 373.99; S&S Lumber - 598.17; Ken Frohling Trucking - 998.10; ILC - 59.58; Web Water - 67.52; Agtegra – 383.21; Northwestern

Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the vouchers as presented. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All in favor – motion COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORESPONDENCE - SDML Renewal Information request; 2019 JVT Annual Report; e-mail from Brad Wilson regarding 25 years of membership with the SDML Workers' Compensation Fund; e-mails from Torian Mitchell & Jenny Hallan regarding compli-

> UNFINISHED BUSINESS - In regards to the compliance review - the inspectors noted 2 areas in need of improvement 1) front door opening/shutting pressure and 2) front door entry trip hazard. The inspectors sent a picture of our front door though the picture they send was clearly not our front door. Cara will follow up with them in an e-mail. No changes to the current suspended Columbia Covid19 ordinance.

ance review

Nuisances - A couple residents in town will be receiving letters of lot debris needing attention, unlicensed cars, and illegal street parking.

Streets – B&B will be contacted by Trevor to see when they can blade our streets. There was some discussion on a snow plow attachment for our new city truck. Cole thought we should table further discussion on that until next month.

Parks - The umbrella from the ball park needs to be put into storage.

Lagoon/sewer – We will need to pump before October 10th.

Rubble Site – The new fence is in - looking good - much improvement. Still need to burn the site though

NEW BUSINESS - Dana Mohr resigned via text message before tonight's meeting - 9/9/20. The City Council will be looking for someone to fill the position. Any interested parties should e-mail the city: columbiacity@nyc.net

FINANCIAL REPORT - The council reviewed our revenue and expenditure budget records January – June of this year. They also reviewed last year's adopted budget. After discussion, the council put together a 2021 budget ordinance. Trevor Meints made a motion to pass the first reading of the ordinance. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried. Second reading will be September 16th, 7 p.m. Cara presented bank balances. Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

August 31, 2020 balances: SF – 158,441.40; GF – 165,334.70; FIT - \$13,978.75; Cash on Hand \$35.90

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

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 16th, 7:00 p.m. – 2nd reading of 2021 budget ordinance

Next Regular City Meeting -October 7th, 2020 7:00 p.m. (note – this is the first Wednesday of the month - because of scheduling conflicts - the rest of 2020 council meeting will be on the first Wednesday of the month. In December, we will revisit the scheduled date for monthly meetings.)

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$42.90. 19260

Bates Township Mowing Notice

BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2020 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate \$300 per half mile.

Bates Township Board of Su-pervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road rightof-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and charged to the landowner. Landowner is responsible for spraying all noxious weeds.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors

Betty Geist Township Clerk (9/16-9/23)

Published twice at the approximate cost of \$19.39. 19262

2 \$ Groton Independent \$ Wed., Sept. 16, 2020

Medical, recreational marijuana on the ballot

By Dana Hess For the S.D. Newspaper Association

seeing double; marijuana is on the ballot twice deaths and defund drug dealers and cartels. in 2020.

Initiated Measure 26 lays out the parameters for starting and running a medical marijuana program. Constitutional Amendment A takes an omnibus approach, calling on the Legislature to make rules for medical marijuana and setting the standards for legalizing the use of recreational marijuana.

Organizers for the two ballot measures say that they complement each other, and that the passage of Amendment A would protect the initiated measure from meddling by the Legislature.

"There's always one legislator who thinks they know better than voters do," said Melissa Mentele, executive director of New Approach South Dakota which is advocating for the medical marijuana measure.

Organizers are wary of the Legislature after its reworking of IM22, an anti-corruption measure approved by voters in 2016.

"We learned that the South Dakota Legislature is very willing and perfectly able to essentially gut a ballot issue," said Drey Samuelson, political director of South Dakotans for Better Marijuana Laws which is championing Amendment A.

That argument is characterized as "garbage" by David Owen, president of the South Dakota Chamber of Commerce and Industry and a leader of the No Way on Amendment A coalition.

Lawmakers winnowed out the unconstitutional aspects of IM22, Owen said, and enacted legislation that provided for many of its anti-corruption features like an accountability board, limits on gifts to legislators and an increase in the time it takes to go from being a lawmaker to being a lobbyist.

"The voters' intent was preserved," Owen said. "It's a distortion to say the whole thing was repealed."

Workforce vs. economic development

Amendment A opponents are worried about the effect legalized recreational marijuana will have on the workforce. Owen explained that manufacturers in South Dakota rely on federal contracts which require a drug-free workforce.

"We're going to see a spike in people failing drug tests," Owen said, as well as an increase in businesses having to fire the people who fail those tests.

For his part, Samuelson predicts an "economic boom" with the passage of Amendment A as marijuana growing buildings and dispensaries are built.

A fiscal note on the attorney general's Amendment A explanation predicts that state revenues from licensing fees, sales tax and a 15% excise tax would total \$29.3 million in 2024. The revenues would be split with 50% for public schools and 50% for the state's general fund.

"That's a lot of money in a small state like South Dakota," Samuelson said.

Owen notes the many costs of legalizing marijuana which include the administrative costs of the program, increased social services and more traffic fatalities.

"There's a serious question how much of

that \$30 million is going to get to schools or the general fund," Owen said. "We don't think it's the panacea proponents make it out to be."

Balancing risks and rewards

Eleven states have legalized the recreational use of marijuana and, according to Samuelson, it remains popular in those states. He notes that legalization doesn't necessarily lead to an increase in marijuana use but rather as a

BROOKINGS — South Dakota voters aren't way to reduce opioid and heroin overdose same harmful effects

"You don't have to be pro marijuana use to believe that prohibition doesn't work," Samuelson said.

The risks of legalization are too great for Owen who notes, "This is an intoxicant." Legalization will lead to putting more youth at ment and can lead to risk, traffic fatalities and abuse.

Medical marijuana on ballot, too

There are 37 states that have legalized medical marijuana, among them South Dakota's neighbors Iowa, North Dakota and Minnesota. It's also on the ballot in Nebraska this year.

IM26 backer Mentele said the measure was written to "help people with low incomes access medicine that can be very expensive." The measure also allows for the home cultivation of a small amount of marijuana.

Mentele's IM26 "pro" statement on the 2020 ballot question pamphlet quotes Gov. Kristi Noem on "trusting our citizens to exercise their personal responsibility to do what's best for themselves and their loved ones."

`That trust and weight should also be applied to cannabis," Mentele said, noting that the passage of IM26 would get people who are currently circumventing the law into a legal market.

"We're just trying to keep people out of prison," Mentele said. "The narrative that this will create new users is false. Just because it's legal doesn't mean you have to do it."

Medical group opposes IM26

"Medical marijuana is a misnomer," according to Benjamin Aaker, MD, president of the South Dakota State Medical Association. Aaker notes that marijuana has about 400 different chemicals.

Legitimate medications are approved by the Food and Drug Administration. "We have active ingredients identified," Aaker said. "We know the dose to give."

There are no prescriptions written for medical marijuana. A patient with a chronic ailment would get a card from the doctor that would allow the patient to purchase marijuana at a dispensary.

Aaker said that voters considering legaliz-

ing medical marijuana should know that what they are voting for already exists. Marinol uses synthetic THC, the active ingredient in marijuana. It's an FDA-approved drug for the relief of postchemotherapy nau-

"We can give it as a legitimate drug, Aaker said. "We can already prescribe it right now."

The SDSMA also opposes Amendment A. Marijuana use has the



as smoking, Aaker said, and can lead to decreased judgment and response time, impairs adolescent brain developschizophrenia.

Aaker predicts that if recreational marijuana is legalized it will lead to increased traffic accidents and more psychiatric diagnoses.

Both questions Amendment A and IM26 – are on the statewide ballot in the Nov. 3 general election. Absentee voting begins Sept. 18.

-30-



Cheer someone up! Send a balloon!

This one is \$6 (includes delivery in Groton & Tax)

Groton Daily Independent 21 N Main 605-397-NEWS (6397) **Delivery in the**

COUNTY OF DAY IN CIRCUIT COURT 5th Judicial Circuit In the Matter of the Petition regarding Camille Roxanne Gonsoir and Aubrey Connie Lou Gonsoir for a Change of Name to Camille Roxanne Craig and Aubrey Connie Lou Craig. CIV: 20-29

NOTICE OF HEARING FOR NAME CHANGE OF A MINOR CHILD (UNCONTESTED)

State of S.D. Gonsoir Name Change to Craig STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

NOTÌCE IS HEREBÝ GIVEN that a Verified Petition for Name Change of a Minor Child has been filed by Desiree Gonsoir the object and prayer of which is to change their minor child's name from Camille Roxanne Gonsoir. Aubrey Connie Lour Gonsoir to Camille Roxanne Craig, Aubrey Connie Lou Craig.

On the 14th day of October, 2020, at the hour of 2:30 p.m. said Verified Petition will be heard by this Court before the Honorable Jon S. Flemmer, presiding, at the Court Room in the Day County Courthouse, City of Webster, Day County, South Dakota, or as soon thereafter as is convenient for the court. Any interested party may come and appear at that time and place and show reasons, if any, why said name should not be changed as requested.

Dated this 18th day of August, 2020, at Webster, South Dakota.

/s/ Jon S. Flemmer Circuit Court Judge (SEAL) /s/ Cláudette Opitz Clerk of Court

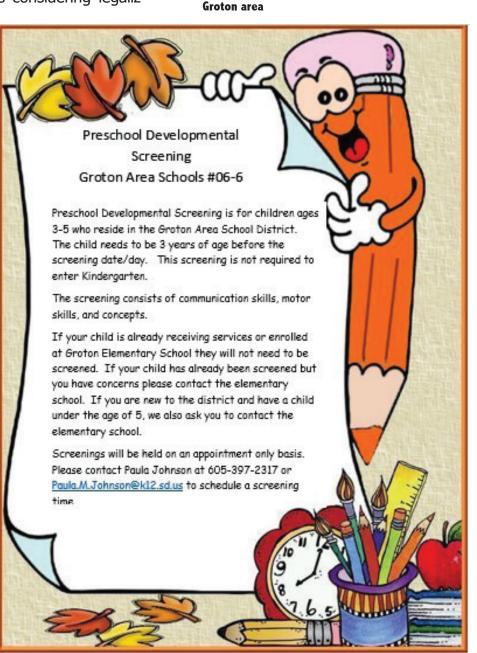
Published four times at the total approximate cost of \$57.72.

East Hanson Mowing Notice

East Hanson Owners and tenants of East Hanson Township are hereby notified and required according to law, to cut all weeds in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within said township on or before October 1, 2020 or same will be hired done by the township board and \$300 per half mile charged to abutting property

By order of the township board.

Betty Schinkel Township Clerk (9/16-9/23) Published twice at the approximate cost of \$11.75. 19261



Tigers fall short in closing seconds against Sisseton

Groton Area scored with six seconds left in the game, but was unable to convert the two-point PAT and that led Sisseton to a 22-20 win over the Tiger football team Friday in Sisseton. The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Kevin and Kara Pharis.

Groton Area held a 14-6 lead after the first quarter and that lead stayed at half time. Sisseton scored twice in the second half and took a 16-14 lead with 7:10 left in the game. At one point, Groton Area was down to the nine-yard line but a Sisseton player plowed through the line and caused a fumble which would later end up as a touchdown for the Redmen. Lane Tietz would connect with Jaimen Farrell and Farrell would break a couple of tackles along the end of the field and would dive into the endzone with six seconds left. The PAT conversion failed and the Redmen hung on to win, 22-20. A field goal attempt by the Tigers in the first half was off to the side.

Farrell would be the offensive and defensive leader for the Tigers with 148 yards receiving, 93 yards rushing and had 16 tackles. Andrew Marzahn had 20 yards rushing, Pierce Kettering 26 yards rushing, Jordan Bjerke 29 yards receiving, nine tackles and one sack, Favian Sanchez had four yards rushing and had two interceptions. Paxton Bonn had 14 tackles while Alex Morris had 13 tackles and one sack and Colby Dunker had nine tackles.

Sisseton had more yards rushing, 211-143, Groton Area had more yards passing, 127-48 with Lane Tietz completing eight of 20 passes. The Tigers lost two of three fumbles while the Redmen recovered all three of their fumbles. Both teams had eight penalties with the Tigers having 50 yards marked off and the Redmen 75.

Anthony Tchida had 160 yards rushing for Sisseton and Andrew Cranhold had 29 yards receiving.

Scoring:

the PAT.

First Quarter

8:33: Sisseton: Anthony Tchida 4 yard

run. PAT run no good. 6:04: Groton: Jaimen Farrell 4 yard

pass from Lane Tietz. Jackson Cogley kicked

0:22: Groton: Jai-

2:46: Sisseton: Isaiah Harrison, 3 yard

run. PAT run by Carter

Schaunaman is good.

7:10: Sisseton: An-

drew Kranhold 10 yard

pass from Anthony

Tchida. Isaiah Harri-

0:06: Groton: Jai-

men Farrell 69 yard

pass play from Lane

Tietz. PAT run attempt

Groton Area is 1-2

on the season and

will travel to Milbank

on Friday for a 6 p.m.

contest. Sisseton, now

2-2, will host Aber-

deen Roncalli.

failed.

son ran in the PAT.

Fourth Quarter

men Farrell 3 yard run. Jackson Cogley

kicked the PAT.

Third Quarter

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The official throws the yellow flag as pass interference was called on this play. Andrew Marzahn attempted to catch this play. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Paxton Bonn (left) and Jaimen Farrell bring down Sisseton's Anthony Tchida. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Celebrating 70th Wedding Anniversary

Columbia High School sweethearts Alfred and Doris (Dennert) Larson will be celebrating their 70th Wedding Anniversary on October 6, 2020.

Thankful for many years of fond memories and lifelong friendships in the Columbia, Groton and Aberdeen communities.

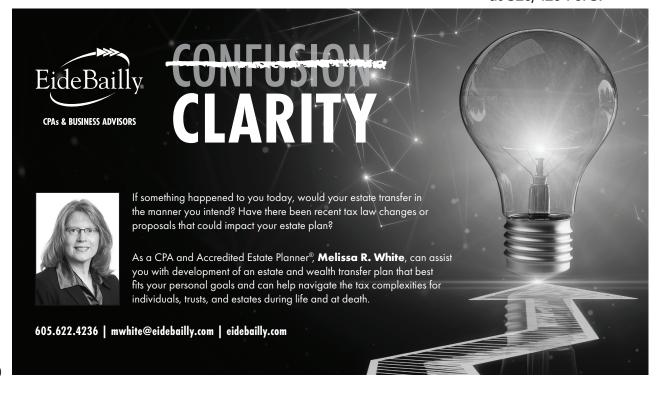
Greetings may be sent to: 12951 Ironwood Drive, Aberdeen, SD 57401

Thank you to the **Groton Community** for the thoughts, prayers and incredible support my family and I received while I was critically ill and as I recover! What a caring and generous community we have!

Julie Weig

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Sisseton Netters edge past Groton Area

Sisseton edged out Groton Area in volleyball action Thursday in Sisseton. The varsity game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Doug and Wanda Hamilton, Patios Plus, Sign Gypsies and Hefty Seed.

The first game was tied nine times and there were five lead changes before the Redmen scored the last four points to win the first game, 25-21. The second game was tied six times and there were three lead changes before Sisseton scored the last three points to win, 25-21. The third game was tied four times and there were two lead changes as Sisseton pulled away at the end to win, 25-20.

Stella Meier had five kills and two blocks while Grace Wambach had five kills, Aspen Johnson and Maddie Bjerke each had three kills, Allyssa Locke had two kills and two ace serves, Kenzie McInerney had two blocks and a kill, Madeline Fliehs had two kills and an ace serve, and Alyssa Thaler had an ace serve. Alexis Metz led the Redmen with eight kills and an ace serve, Avery Despiegler had five kills, two blocks and an ace serve and Kierra Silk had five kills.

Sisseton won the junior varsity match, 2-1. That match was broadcast live on GDILIVE. COM, sponsored by Dan and Marjae Schinkel. Groton Area scored the last 10 points of the first game to win, 25-12. The second game was tied 12 times and there were five lead changes as Sisseton rallied to win, 25-23. The Redmen jumped out to a 5-0 lead in the third set and would go on to win, 15-6. Lydia Meier led the Tigers with seven kills and four ace serves while Sydney Leicht had five kills and two ace serves.



Maddie Bjerke



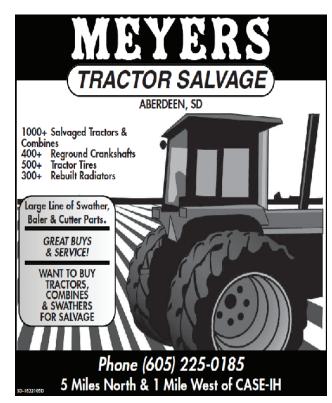
Grace Wambach



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(605) 395-6421 Ferney COVID-19 creating confusion, frustration and delays

The Groton Area Board of Education spent nearly two hours on CO-VID-19 issues at its meeting Monday evening. Confusion, frustration and delays seem to be coming from the state to local school districts.

Superintendent Joe Schwan said that the Dept. of Health has passed the buck to local districts. Instead of the Department of Health doing all of the back ground checks and quarantining, it is now up to the local districts to do it.

Conflicting information has also come from the state about ongoing close contact cases. Diane Kurtz and Carla Sperry were at the meeting and they talked about their experiences with the whole close contact situation. In fact, Superintendent Joe Schwan had to call the Department of Health to get information on the local case as there are delays in relaying information to parents and school officials. Middle/High School Principal Kristen Sombke said that staff members had spent five hours of research on the one case. "And that's just one case," she said. Schwan said that the seating charts that have been implemented saved 8-9 students from having to be in close contact. In addition, another 2-3 students were saved from close contact because they took advantage of leaving the building during their study hall.

There is also conflicting policies for extra curricular activities and the board, at the present time, is going with the recommendations from the SD High School Activities Association. Schwan will put together a policy for the district and present it at the next board meeting.

It was also reported that about one-fourth of the MS/HS students are wearing masks and that most of the elementary students have masks and do wear them from time to time.





A county deputy is pictured at the scene of the crash which was covered up to protect the evidence. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Devastating end to the Groton Fly-In

The second annual Groton Fly-In at the Groton Municipal Airport came to a devastating end late Sunday morning when an airplane crashed just outside the airport in the ditch of 128th Avenue. According



to eye witnesses, the air plane appeared to make some sort of a maneuver when, what it appeared that the engine died and the airplane nose dived into the ditch. One victim died on the scene, and the other was transported to Avera St. Luke's Hospital, where they were pronounced dead, according to the Brown County Coroner Michael Carlsen.

The National Transportation Safety Board and Federal Aviation Administration will be investigating.



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