



The Groton Independent

Vol. 138 No. 19 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Jan. 06, 2021 ♦ Established in 1889

Groton Area Soccer Awards



Meier chosen as Miss Congeniality

Lydia Meier, daughter of Nicholas Meier and Anna and Brett Schwan, was voted as Miss Congeniality at the South Dakota Snow Queen Contest held this past weekend in Aberdeen. Lydia is pictured with Nicholas on the left and Anna on the right. (Photo from Nicholas Meier Facebook Page)



Academic All-State Team: Brooklyn Gilbert and Regan Leicht. (Photo by Tricia Keith)



Rookie of the Year-Jerica Locke; Offensive MVP-Kenzie McInerney and Defensive MVP-Jaedyn Penning. (Photo by Tricia Keith)



Miss Universal: Kennedy Hansen and Riley Leicht. (Photo by Tricia Keith)



Heart and Soul; Trista Keith, Brooklyn Gilbert and Regan Leicht. (Photo by Tricia Keith)



Miss Hustle: Brooklyn Hansen, Allyssa Locke and Madeline Fliehs. (Photo by Tricia Keith)

Spotlight on Groton Area Staff



Name: Brandon "BJ" Clocksene
Occupation: Food Service Director
Length of Employment: 2016-Present

Brandon "BJ" Clocksene has been in charge of the food service sector of Groton Area High School for a total of four years, but his work in the culinary sector has humble beginnings. When BJ was a child, his grandmother would often prepare copious amounts of food for his family's Christmas celebration: Turkey, ham, chicken, stuffing, and casseroles abound! He cites his Grandmother as the source of his love for cooking. After graduating from Groton Area High School in the Class of 1998, he soon pursued training at Mitchell Technical Institute. He graduated with his major in Culinary Arts. Afterwards, he returned to Groton, where he has happily resided for the majority of his life.

Mr. Clocksene's duties as Food Service Director involve ordering ingredients, planning the menu, and ensuring the preparation of the student's meals is done on time. The food service staff of Groton Area pride themselves on the effort they put into preparing meals for students, making both breakfast and lunch for both high school and elementary school students every day. As for Brandon himself, he often advises students to "Try something new whenever you can."

Editor's Note: This is a continuing series compiled by Benjamin Higgins. Higgins who is working for the Groton Independent through the Project Skills program.

Double Header Postponed

The doubleheader basketball games scheduled for Tuesday in Groton was postponed due to a number of close contacts in Warner. In addition, there were 10 that were sent home in Groton for close contacts and two sophomores have been diagnosed with COVID-19.

Upcoming Schedule

Thursday, Jan. 7

6 p.m.: Wrestling Triangular with Redfield and Webster at Webster

5 p.m.: Boys Basketball hosts Sisseton with C game at 5 p.m. followed by JV and then varsity.

Friday, Jan. 8

5 p.m.: Girls Basketball at Sisseton with C game at 5 p.m. followed by JV and then varsity.

Saturday, Jan. 9

10 a.m.: Wrestling Quad at Wolsey-Wessington

Monday, Jan. 11

4 p.m.: Basketball Doubleheader at Webster with Girls JV at 4 p.m. followed by Boys JV, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity

7 p.m.: School Board Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 12

6 p.m.: Girls Basketball vs. Aberdeen Christian at Aberdeen Civic Arena with JV followed by varsity.

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent, and posted online at www.grotonsd.net. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
 4th consecutive week is free

605/397-NEWS (6397)
 PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

HUNTING

GUARANTEED BUFFALO AND ELK HUNTS in the Black Hills. Elk hunts: cows \$1800, bulls \$3000. Buffalo hunts: cows \$1850, bulls starting at \$3000. 605-391-4646. nvrbuffalo@gmail.com

South Dakota State Land Sale

133 acres 5 miles from Custer, SD

Formerly: STAR Academy / Minimum Bid \$1,000,000

AUCTION DATE: FEB. 12, 2021

8,092 sf Building in Rapid City

Formerly: West River Ag Research and Extension Center

Minimum Bid \$750,000

AUCTION DATE: FEB. 26, 2021

Pursuant to South Dakota Codified laws, Chapter 5-9, the above described parcels of state land will be offered for sale to the highest bidder at a public auction.

For more information contact Mike Lauritsen, South Dakota Office of School and Public Lands, State Capitol Building, 500 East Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501 / PH: 605-773-3303

<https://sdpubliclands.sd.gov>

The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)
 Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher 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 57445

**BLOCKER
CONSTRUCTION**

NEW CONSTRUCTION
REMODELING
HOOP BARNs

(605) 216-2677 (605) 226-4062

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

Now Open
**Harris
Auto Body**

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

SDSU Extension

Take your [virtual] coffee break with us!

Join us every
**Tuesday-Friday,
 10-11a.m. CST**
 for our FREE Webinar Series
Informal discussion to follow.

CROP HOUR

JANUARY 2021	FEBRUARY 2021
Jan. 5-8: Stored Grain	Feb. 2-5: Field Peas, Milo & Polycropping
Jan. 12-15: Corn	Feb. 9-12: Oats
Jan. 19-22: Soybean	Feb. 16-19: Soil Health/Cover Crops
Jan. 26-29: Wheat	Feb. 23-26: Forages

MARCH 2021

Mar. 2-5: Sunflowers
 Mar. 9-12: Understanding SDSU Agronomy Research
 Mar. 16-19: Water, Weather and Climate
 Mar. 23-26: Regulatory Info/Pesticide Education

CCA Credits Available

Go to: extension.sdstate.edu/agriculture/crops for free registration and details.

It's the fast way of finding help so I can stay in my home.

Dakota at Home is the State of South Dakota's free information source for aging individuals and people with disabilities who want to remain living at home.

SD's Aging and Disability Resource Center

1-833-663-9673

Dakota at Home
 One Call
 Countless Resources

DakotaAtHome.org

EARN ENTRIES DEC. 27 - FEB. 27

WINTER BLAST GIVEAWAY

FRIDAY & SATURDAY

5PM - 9PM : RECEIVE A TICKET FOR EVERY 10 POINTS EARNED OR 15 MINUTES OF RATED TABLE PLAY FOR YOUR CHANCE TO BE SELECTED VIA KIOSK DRAWINGS TO THE BOARD GAME.

10PM : CUB CADET 24" TWO-STAGE SNOW THROWER OR \$400 FREE SLOT PLAY

Royal River CASINO • HOTEL

607 S VETERANS ST
 FLANDREAU, SD

1.877.912.LUCK
 ROYALRIVERCASINO.COM

Royal River Casino & Hotel reserves all rights to cancel or modify this program at anytime. See Players Club for promotional rules and details. Must be 21. Gambling problem? Call 1-800-781-HELP.

**MEYERS
TRACTOR SALVAGE**

ABERDEEN, SD

1000+ Salvaged Tractors & Combines
 400+ Reground Crankshafts
 500+ Tractor Tires
 300+ Rebuilt Radiators

Large Line of Swather, Baler & Cutter Parts.

GREAT BUYS & SERVICE!

WANT TO BUY TRACTORS, COMBINES & SWATHERS FOR SALVAGE

Phone (605) 225-0185
 5 Miles North & 1 Mile West of CASE-IH

Columbia City Dec. 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting – December 9, 2020
 CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.
 ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Ellen Harr. Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints
 Community – Emily Eichler
 Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the November 4th meeting. 7th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Minutes were passed out from the November 8th special meeting. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: Northwestern Energy – 520.19; Web Water – 40.13; JVT – 133.25; Trey Wright – 67.93; SDML – 514.00 & 173.75; Jeremy Dosch – 419.99; Kelsie Ehresmann – 279.99; Cara Dennert – 823.50; Corey Mitchell – 105.20; Public Health Laboratory – 69.00; Runnings – 133.89; Web Water – 38.57; Northwestern Energy – 620.19; GDI – 80.82; Sand Lake Tree LLC – 1800.00; Safety Service – 7943.73; Ken Frohling Trucking – 667.43.

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE – e-mails from surrounding communities in regards to how they handle planning & zoning, also e-mails from our lawyer regarding planning & zoning issues.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No changes to the current suspended Columbia Covid19 ordinance. Cara presented the board with information on the dog tags for licensing. She will get those ordered.

Nuisances – There are many properties with ordinance violations. Ellen will be checking licensing. A letter will also be

sent out.
 Streets – Corey filled the board in on what is going on with the 6th Ave. culvert issue. The streets haven't been bladed, but the council does not see a need at this time. Cole asked about putting up the holiday flags on the poles.

Parks – Andrew Murray cleaned up the trees in the park. Andrew Davis mowed it. Corey raked up the area. There was much discussion on how to proceed with the park. We will be getting some professional advice from B&B Contracting. There was also talk of the empty school lot – should that be used for a ball park? The board will wait to hear what B&B has to say about what is possible for our current park.

Lagoon/sewer Cole reported that we have discharged the lagoon. Ellen ordered a ph meter – it is not in yet.

Rubble Site – The site is closed until further notice – state requirement. Site will be burned after the first snow.

NEW BUSINESS – There was discussion on the possibility of getting a new computer so we would have one permanently at the office. The speed/radar signs use computer software. Corey will talk to Grand Slam. Corey will also be purchasing gift cards for Jeremy as a holiday bonus.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara presented bank balances. She also mentioned that the city was given \$876 for mosquito grant reimbursement. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

November 30, 2020 balances: SF - \$ 161,583.11; GF - 171,585.74; FIT - \$13,978.76 cash on hand - \$30.00

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

Next City Meeting – Wednesday, January 6th, 2021 7:00 p.m. Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$37.91. 19620

Monson, Krueger place at Webster Invite

The Groton Area wrestling team traveled to Webster on Saturday where Dragr Monson placed first and Lane Krueger placed second at the tournament.

113: Dragr Monson (8-0) placed 1st and scored 26.0 team points.

Dragr Monson 8-0 received a first round bye; he pinned Wiley Elwood (Chamberlain) 0-2, 0:19; he pinned Ian Metz (Sisseton) 4-3, 1:09; and in the championship match, he pinned Kellan Hurd (Miller/Highmore/Harold) 15-3, Fall 0:52.

126: Christian Ehresmann (8-2) scored 10.0 team points.

Christian Ehresmann 8-2 pinned Kenny Smith (Deslacs-Burlington) 1-3, 1:40; he was decided by Boe Iverson (Sisseton) 4-3, 9-6; he pinned Reese Peck (Deslacs-Burlington) 0-3, Fall 1:54; he pinned Declan Tveit (Chamberlain) 0-5, Fall 0:43; and he forfeited to Elliot Bratland (Clark/Willow Lake) 11-6.

160: Cole Bisbee (3-4)

Cole Bisbee 3-4 was pinned by Garret Ristau (Chamberlain) 10-10, Fall 4:55; he received a consolation round bye; and then lost by a major decision to Weston Wahus (Deslacs-Burlington) 9-5, MD 8-0.

195: Lane Krueger (1-1) placed 2nd and scored 16.0 team points.

Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 1-1 received a bye; he pinned Kasey Michalski (Clark/Willow Lake) 7-9, Fall 3:14; and he was pinned by Noah Hutmacher (Chamberlain) 13-5, Fall 1:48.

285: Adrian Knutson (3-4)

Adrian Knutson 3-4 was pinned by Jackson Soulek (Chamberlain) 9-3, 0:17; he received a consolation round 1 bye; and he was decided by Connor Logan (Sioux Valley) 5-5, 8-4.

**Brown County
Dec. 29, 2020
Meeting Minutes**
DECEMBER 29, 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, Wiese, Fjeldheim, and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the agenda. All member present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of December 22, 2020. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:
Moved by Feickert seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims:

Insurance: Claims Associates Inc \$5,000.00. Professional Fees: Cogley Law Office \$6,682.02; Ryan S. Dell LLC \$3,225.86; Dohrer Law Office \$6,682.02; Gellhaus & Gellhaus PC \$80.00; Christopher A. Haar \$6,682.02; Harmelink, Fox & Ravnsborg Law \$146.50; Kuck Law Office \$6,735.82; Lewis & Clark BHS \$552.00; Lexisnexis Risk Data Mgmt \$150.00; Lincoln County Treasurer \$615.15; Jerald M. McNeary \$6,682.02; Medical Waste Transport Inc \$188.57; Minnehaha County Auditor \$81.83; NE Mental Health Center \$21,090.00; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$6,682.02; Taliaferro Law Firm \$6,682.02; University of North Dakota \$4,160.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$100.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$367.50. Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$493.15. Repairs & Maintenance: Dakota Electronics \$1,396.00; Dakota Structured Cabling \$5,564.05; Double D Body Shop \$175.00; Fire Safety First LLC \$32.40; House of Glass \$448.00; J&K Painting \$506.11; Ladder Electric Inc \$317.35; Pro Windmill Inc \$250.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$54.46; Western States Fire Co \$1,756.46; Woodman Refrigeration Inc \$387.65. Supplies: Brown County Treasurer \$11.06; Charm-Tex \$662.53; Dakota Electronics \$17,703.75; Kesslers \$169.17; Matheson Tri-Gas Inc \$282.61; Menards \$83.73; Pitney Bowes Inc \$126.00; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale \$218.80; Sander's Sew-N-Vac \$21.29; Sherwin Williams \$135.52; Karen Swank \$16.00. Utilities: Qwest Corporation \$2,216.96; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$2,077.87. Other: PO Holding LLC \$3,000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:
Moved by Fjeldheim seconded by Sutton to approve the following HR Report: Acknowledge resignation of Kelsie Counting, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective December 21, 2020 and approve request to fill vacancy. Acknowledge resignation of Alexis Storm, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective January 5, 2021 and approve request to fill vacancy. Approve hiring of Austin Kurkowski as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage of \$16.82 per hour; effective January 11, 2021. Approve employee step increases, annual raise, and salary schedule for 2021 as follows: FEICKERT, DENNIS Commissioner 865.59; FJELDHEIM, DOUGLAS Commissioner 865.59; KIPPLEY, RACHEL Commissioner 865.59; SUTTON, DUANE Commissioner 865.59; WIESE, MICHAEL Commissioner 865.59; MCNICKLE, CATHARINA Auditor 2176.94; FILINGER, EMILY Chief Deputy Auditor 24.62; WALBERG, JOSHUA Chief Deputy Auditor 24.62; ENGRAF, DAVID Deputy Auditor 17.85; MCCLAIN, JEANNETTE Deputy Auditor 17.42; BORCHARD, DORENE Chief Deputy Treasurer 24.62; MEYERS, CYNTHIA Chief Deputy Treasurer 24.62; ARAGON, AMANDA Deputy Treasurer 16.34; ENGQUIST, TRACY Deputy Treasurer 17.95; FORSTING, JOLENE Deputy Treasurer 18.65; HOVENDICK, ELIZABETH Deputy Treasurer 16.07; SHEFFIELD, JO Deputy Treasurer 18.10; GOLDADE, LORI Deputy Treasurer - Pt 16.07; VANMETER, PATRICIA Interim Treasurer 2176.94; STODDARD, JENNIFER Chief Deputy States Attorney 2894.04; HART, PENNY Chief Office Deputy 25.17; ALDENTALER, ROSS Deputy States Attorney 2855.20; BROWN, JODI Deputy States Attorney 879.48; NELSON, KARLA Deputy States Attorney 2330.77; SWISHER, SARA Legal Assistant 21.73; NOESS, SHELTON Legal Secretary 17.49; MADSEN, TRACY Secretary

21.73; THOMPSON, ERNEST States Attorney 3729.23; O'DAY, BRITANNY Victim Specialist 2164.51; MCCLAIN, RYAN Building Maintenance 17.60; SCHULZ, MICKEY Building Maintenance 19.03; DASCHEL, JON Building Maintenance - Pt 12.23; SCHOOLEY, RICHARD Building Maintenance - Pt 12.23; STUGELMAYER, TOBIAS Building Maintenance - Pt 12.23; DOSCH, JUDY Building Superintendent 2146.59; FORSTING, MONTY Building Maintenance 16.53; FISCHER, KATHRYN Appraiser 23.82; KRAFT, JOSEPH Appraiser 20.61; KUSLER, BARRY Appraiser 23.31; SWENSON, SARAH Appraiser 21.74; RUSH, POLLY Chief Office Deputy 21.94; METZ, RUSSELL Deputy Director 25.38; LOESCHKE, GENE Director 2329.99; DESENS, BECKY Secretary 17.03; DANNEN, MICHELLE Deputy Register of Deeds 16.61; DOHMAN, ANNE Deputy Register of Deeds 16.34; JANUSZ, ANDREW Deputy Register of Deeds 17.85; MALSOM, MARIANN Deputy Register of Deeds 18.10; WOODFORD, CINDY Deputy Register of Deeds 17.95; NICHOLS, ROBERTA Register of Deeds 2176.94; SCHLECHT, KATHY Administrative Assistant 24.62; NIEMANN, TAMMIE Assistant - Pt 12.05; WALBERG, AARON Veterans Service Officer 2052.89; MADSEN, SCOTT GIS Coordinator 2411.38; WOLBERG, PATRICK IT Director 3301.93; LANE, CORY IT Support Specialist 26.02; ADAM, JOSEPH IT Support Technician - Pt 23.66; SCHNABEL, SHAWN IT Technician 23.22; COUGHLIN, ERICA Human Resources Director 2423.08; BARSTAD, KRISTI Administrative Assistant 19.68; WILSON, RACHEL Administrative Assistant 18.07; LUNZMAN, DAVE Chief Deputy Sheriff 2668.07; NEITZEL, KATHRYN Chief Office Deputy 22.85; BAKER, KEITH Deputy Sheriff 25.48; BLACK, BRANDON Deputy Sheriff 25.17; BRAY, DANIEL Deputy Sheriff 24.11; GRAFF, WESLEY Deputy Sheriff 26.48; HILL, MICHAEL Deputy Sheriff 24.46; KOENS, BRIAN Deputy Sheriff 27.08; LEMKE, JONATHAN Deputy Sheriff 27.92; MARCUSON, ERMELINDA Deputy Sheriff 24.46; MILLS, BRANDON Deputy Sheriff 23.41; SMITH, BENJAMIN Deputy Sheriff 26.83; SORENSEN, ANTHONY Deputy Sheriff 24.11; WRIGHT, GAVIN Deputy Sheriff 24.46; WOYTASSEK, SANDRA Secretary 18.73; MILBRANDT, MARK Sheriff 3400.71; LAKE HARMON, AMY Administrative Assistant 17.35; HARPEL, JAMES Control Room officer 14.33; MANN, TERESA Cook - Jail 19.53; JAMES, MICHAEL Cook - Jail - Pt 17.35; GIBSON, TY Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; BARNETT, AMBER Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; CARRILLO, JACOB Correctional Officer - Jail 17.51; DULIK, JOSEPH Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; GEDITZ, JESSICA Correctional Officer - Jail 17.51; GERANEN, LESLI Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; HERDRINGTON, ANITA Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; KRAHL, CHRISTEEN Correctional Officer - Jail 19.26; KULWICKI, HEATHER Correctional Officer - Jail 20.14; MCQUARIE, SAMANTHA Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; OCHSNER, RUSSELL Correctional Officer - Jail 20.86; RICHARDS, TYLER Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; ROSALES, CLAUDIA Correctional Officer - Jail 17.51; SANCHEZ, ANGEL Correctional Officer - Jail 17.16; VEGA, JEREMIAS Correctional Officer - Jail 17.88; EMBURY, JOSEPH Correctional Officer - Jail Pt 14.33; SMITH, NATHAN Deputy Sheriff - Jail 26.83; CLARK, JOHN Jail Sergeant 22.23; MITCHELL, CYNTHIA Jail Sergeant 22.93; NAGEL, JACLYN Jail Sergeant 20.83; WHITE, JENNIFER Jail Sergeant 22.42; KAMIN, LINN Jail Supervisor 27.92; MITCHENER, TANYA Nurse - Jail 2424.81; ERNST, MICHAEL Correctional Officer 20.55; EVANS, TERENCE Deputy Sheriff 27.13; PAUL, CORTNEY Deputy Sheriff 24.82; HILLESTAD, DANICA Assistant Supervisor - JDC 20.83; WASEM, STACIE Correctional Officer - HD 20.35; WEINMEISTER, ELLIE Correctional Officer - HD 17.16; REICH, BRENDA Correctional Officer - HD -Pt 15.21; CHAMPLAIN, FADIA Correctional Officer - JDC 17.51; GORDON, BRYAN Correctional Officer - JDC 17.51; HOPPOCK, SAMUEL Correctional Officer - JDC 18.20; KIRNAN, JEFFREY Correctional Officer - JDC 20.91; KOENS, KRISTAL Correctional Officer - JDC 20.86; MOUNGA, ADELAIDE Correctional Officer - JDC 20.40; WESTFALL, ELISE Correctional Officer - JDC 18.92; GOETZ, JOSHUA Correctional Officer - JDC -Pt 17.16; GRAF, CAROLINE Correctional Officer - JDC -Pt

14.33; HALE, MEAGAN Correctional Officer - JDC -Pt 16.82; HERMANSEN, JULIE Correctional Officer - JDC -Pt 14.33; KOPETSKY, DONOVAN Correctional Officer - JDC -Pt 14.33; MOUNGA, SAMUELA Interim Supervisor - HD 22.43; BAHR, BRIAN Supervisor - JDC 1862.32; HILGENBERG, ROXANNE Welfare Director 2098.48; MARTILLA - Klipfel, Marianne Curator 16.61; ORMAND, JACQUELYN Curator of Collections 19.15; RAWSTERN, SHERRI Curator of Education 19.91; BAIRD, MARY Curatorial Assistant - Pt 14.99; KENDALL, PATRICIA Museum Director 1768.28; SHUTT, LEANNE Museum Office/Volunteer Coord. 13.73; SMITH, KURT Fairgrounds Manager 1962.78; SCHLOSSER, DANIEL Maintenance 18.33; BURNS, RICHARD Summer Help - Ft 12.29; LOCKE, BREANNA Summer Help - Ft 12.29; SWENSON, STEWART Summer Help - Ft 12.29; WEIG, JOHN Summer Help - Pt 12.29; OBAN, SONJE Administrative Assistant 17.90; RICCI, DEREK Fair Manager 1921.55; BIERMAN, MCKENZIE Secretary - 4H/Fair Office 15.79; HEMEN, CHRISTOPHER Weed and Pest Supervisor 1768.28; CLARK NORTH, NANCY Planning & Zoning Assistant 14.07; BADER, CLIFTEEN Planning & Zoning Director 2157.51; KELLER, RONALD Planning and Zoning Technician 21.34; TITZ, KENDELL Assistant Superintendent - Hwy 26.14; FLOREY, JOHN Foreman - Highway 23.74; ROGERS, DIRK Highway Superintendent 2979.54; LEHRKAMP, GERALD Lab Grade 3 Highway/Weed&Pest 20.28; ROHRBACH, MICHAEL Lab Grade 3 Highway/Weed&Pest 19.43; GROTE, TROY Labor Grade 3 - Highway 19.43; GRUNSTEIN, CHARLES Labor Grade 3 - Highway 19.95; KOST, KYLE Labor Grade 3 - Highway 19.73; ULMER, JOSHUA Labor Grade 3 - Highway 19.27; VAN HEERDE, DENNIS Labor Grade 3 - Highway 19.83; HEUPEL, MATTHEW Labor Grade 4 - Highway 19.12; NEHLICH, BRAD Labor Grade 4 - Highway 20.26; BRUCKNER, DAVID Labor Grade 5 - Highway 21.95; JENSEN, CASEY Labor Grade 5 - Highway 20.38; JUENGER, NICHOLAS Labor Grade 5 - Highway 20.33; OWENS, BRYAN Labor Grade 5 - Highway 20.43; ZUMBAUM, DEAN Labor Grade 5 - Highway 20.17; PIGORS, KURT Mechanic - Highway 21.99; WIPF, PAUL Mechanic - Highway 22.26; LLOYD, DARYL Mechanic Highway 22.16; EPPARD, CINDY Secretary - Highway 17.81; SCHAIBLE, LESLIE Summer Help - Highway - Ft 13.61; JESZ, SARAH Assistant Director 26.76; JONES, KENTON Communications Director 2604.24; WALLER-SORENSEN, JONATHAN Dispatch Shift Supervisor 22.23; WALTH, TONYA Dispatch Shift Supervisor 22.82; ALLAM, DAWN Dispatcher 19.52; CROSBY, JILL Dispatcher 17.80; ERHARDT, CORY Dispatcher 19.87; GASSER, AARON Dispatcher 19.52; PODOLL, HAYDN Dispatcher 17.45; POTTER, SHAY Dispatcher 17.45; ROHRBACH, CANDACE Dispatcher 17.80; SMIT, PAIGE Dispatcher 17.45; WOODS, PATTI Emergency Management Assistant 21.99; MEINTS, SCOTT Emergency Management Director 2401.76; LEHR, DIANE Teen Court Coordinator 17.71; VINGER, KELSIE JDAI Coordinator 1786.92; FULDA, HENRY 24/7 Sobriety Coordinator 15.34; BELL, MAGGIE 24/7 Sobriety Tester 14.33; HOWELL, DOREEN 24/7 Sobriety Tester 14.33; KAMIN, SIERRA 24/7 Sobriety Tester 14.33; BRAATEN, BARRY Equipment Operator - Landfill 19.88; KALLENBERGER, JASON Equipment Operator - Landfill 19.88; LOUT, MICHAEL Facility Maintenance - Pt 16.07; NESS, JOHN Facility Maintenance - Pt 16.07; ARNDT, JARELL Heavy Equipment Operator 19.17; LOUT, TERRY Labor Grade 4 - Landfill 20.01; SCOTT, MICHAEL Landfill Manager 2451.59; BAUMGARTNER, ROBERT Landfill Office Manager 21.87; KVERNEVIG, RHONDA Scale Operator - Pt 16.07; RAMSDALE, STEVE Scale Operator - Pt 16.07;

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.
PLANNING and ZONING DEPARTMENT APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS:
Commissioner Sutton offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION # 82-20
WHEREAS, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, the Board of Brown County Commissioners may alter or amend the schedule of fees, charges, expenses and a collection procedure for building permits, zoning permits, certificates of zoning compliance, appeals and WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Application

Fee Schedule established by Resolution #41-19, be amended; and WHEREAS, it has been determined that application fees will be as shown in: PLANNING & ZONING "APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE - TABLE 2021"

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by authority of Chapter 4.26 Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, the following APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE in the Planning/Zoning Department is hereby approved and adopted to be effective January 04, 2021 as shown on: PLANNING & ZONING "APPLICATION FEE SCHEDULE - TABLE 2021" APPEAL ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ORDINANCE DECISION - \$200 (to the Zoning BOA) APPEAL ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT DECISION - \$200 (to the Board of Commissioners) APPEAL BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS DECISION - \$200 (to Circuit Court - paperwork prep) REZONE PARCEL APPLICATION - \$350 PRELIMINARY PLAT APPLICATION - \$25 VACATION OF AN EXISTING PLAT APPLICATION - \$100 PRELIMINARY & FINAL PLAT APPLICATION (combined) - \$100 VARIANCE APPLICATION - \$100 VARIANCE TO SETBACKS APPLICATION - \$100 VARIANCE TO SHELTERBELT SETBACKS APPLICATION - \$100 VARIANCE TO APPROACH SEPARATION APPLICATION - \$100 CONCENTRATED ANIMAL FEEDING OPERATION (CAFO) - \$300 SPECIAL EXCEPTION/CONDITIONAL USE - \$200 CONDITIONAL USE_NEW SIGN APPLICATION - \$200 CONDITIONAL USE_WIND ENERGY APPLICATION - \$200 CONDITIONAL USE_DISTRICT OPTIONS APPLICATION - \$200 CONDITIONAL USE_CANNABUS REGULATIONS APPLICATION - \$200 CONDITIONAL USE_COMMUNICATION TOWERS APPLICATION - \$200
Seconded by Commissioner Feickert. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye, Kippley - aye. Resolution Adopted.

PLANNING and ZONING DEPARTMENT PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS:
Commissioner Sutton offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION # 83-20 WHEREAS, by authority of Chapter 4.26 Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, the Board of Brown County Commissioners may alter or amend the schedule of fees, charges, expenses and a collection procedure for building permits, zoning permits, certificates of zoning compliance, appeals and WHEREAS, it has been determined that the Permit Fee Schedule established by Resolution #40-19, be amended; and WHEREAS, it has been determined that fees will be based upon the valuation of the project as shown in PLANNING & ZONING "PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE - TABLE 2021 "WHEREAS, it has been determined that a minimum fee be set; and WHEREAS, it has been determined that an "Administrative Fee" be applied when any construction has commenced prior to application and/or prior to receiving an approved Permit; and WHEREAS, it has been determined that a "Surcharge" be applied when any construction has commenced prior to an application being submitted and/or prior to obtaining an approved Permit. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by authority of Chapter 4.26 Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, the following PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE in the Planning/Zoning Department is hereby approved and adopted to be effective January 4, 2020 as shown on: PLANNING & ZONING "PERMIT FEE SCHEDULE - TABLE 2021" Permits: - "Permit Fee Schedule - Table 2021" Moving Permit - \$10 Demolition Permit - \$10 Sign: face replacement - \$20 Sign: new construction set - \$100 Flood Plain Development Permit (FPDP) - \$20 Fence Permit: (for inside community, not rural) - \$10 Construction: - "Permit Fee Schedule - Table 2021" \$25.00 minimum fee for any type construction from \$0 to \$8,350 \$3.00 per \$1,000 of project valuation of construction estimate after \$8,350 Penalty: Administrative Fee - failing to obtain an approved building/zoning permit prior to commencement of any construction \$50.00 Penalty: Surcharge: if construction has commenced prior to an application being submitted and/or prior to obtaining an approved permit [0.5% (1/2%) times total project valuation] Seconded by Commissioner Feickert. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye, Kippley - aye. Resolution Adopted.

INMATE HOUSING CONTRACT - FAULK COUNTY:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to authorize chair sign jail prisoner housing agree-

ment with Faulk County at a rate of \$90 per inmate per day. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

WAIVE SOLID WASTE FEES - 2019 LANDFILL WRITE-OFFS:
Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the following solid waste write-offs for fiscal year 2019: A1 Sanitation \$78.28, City of Aberdeen \$77.52, Dependable Sanitation \$828.78, House of Glass \$14.69, Hub City Inc. \$436.71, SD Game Fish and Park \$110.28. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR BOARD APPOINTMENTS:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following fair board appointment for three year terms (2021-2023): Mike Nehls and Melanie "Mel" Sombke. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

NSU FOUNDATION REVENUE BONDS - INTEREST RATE MODIFICATION:

Commissioner Sutton offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION NO. 84-20

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION OF BROWN COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REVENUE BONDS (NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION), SERIES 2019, THE NOTE RELATING THERETO, AND APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING OTHER ACTIONS IN RESPECT THERETO. WHEREAS, Brown County, a body politic and corporate duly organized and validly existing under the laws of the State of South Dakota (the "County"), pursuant to South Dakota Codified Laws Sections 6-8B-30 through 6-8B-52, 7-18-6 and Chapter 9-54, as supplemented and amended (collectively, the "Act"), is authorized and empowered to make modifications to the Economic Development Revenue Bonds (Northern State University Foundation), Series 2019 (the "Bonds") and the Note relating thereto (the "Note"); and WHEREAS, as a result of negotiations between the holders of the Bonds and Northern State University Foundation (the "Borrower"), all holders of the Bonds have agreed to lower the interest rate on the Bonds; and WHEREAS, the County desires to authorize its Chairman, Vice Chairman or County Auditor to take certain action for modification of the Bonds and Note. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Brown County as follows: Section 1. Authorization of Modification. There are hereby authorized to modify the interest rate on the Note and Bonds to 1.75%. Section 2. Terms and Modification of the Bonds and Note. The modification shall be executed by the manual of facsimile signatures of any of the Chairman or Vice Chairman of the County Commission or the County Auditor (each an "Authorized Signatory" and, collectively, the "Authorized Signatories") and attested by the manual or facsimile signature of any other Authorized Signatory.
Section 3. Incidental Authorizations. The Authorized Signatories, or any of them, are hereby authorized and directed, in the name of and on behalf of the County, to execute any and all instruments, documents and certificates, perform any and all acts, approve any and all matters, and do any and all things deemed by them to be necessary or desirable in order to carry out the purposes of this Resolution.
Section 4. Invalidity. If any section, paragraph, clause or provision of this Resolution shall be ruled by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, the invalidity of such section, paragraph, clause or provision shall not affect any of the remaining sections, paragraphs, clauses or provisions. Section 5. Conflicts. All ordinances, resolutions and orders, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution, are, to the extent of such conflict, hereby repealed.
Section 6. Effective Date. This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage. Seconded by Commissioner Wiese. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert - aye, Sutton - aye, Wiese - aye, Fjeldheim - aye, Kippley - aye. Resolution Adopted.

SURPLUS DECLARATION:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Fjeldheim to declare the following patrol vehicles surplus: 2013 Ford Explorer, VIN ...20852; 2015 Ford Explorer, VIN ...98586; 2061 Ford Explorer, VIN ...26119. Surplus sale will be noticed at a later date. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS:
Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to authorize the following Contingency Transfers: Mental Illness Board in the

amount of \$7,000 from contingency 101-5.112.422.99 to 101-5.445.422.99. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TAX DEED PROPERTY:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to authorize Patty VanMeter, County Treasurer, to submit all qualifying parcels to the States Attorney for completion of the tax deed process. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID OPENING - HIGHWAY ROOF:

Time and place as advertised to open, read and consider bids for Highway Building Roof. One bid received from Hub City Roofing in the amount of \$132,750 at \$1.10 per board foot. Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Feickert to award bid to Hub City Roofing. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ASSIGNED REVENUE:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to assign \$250,000 from surplus cash to future capital building improvements. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS 2020:
Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following budget supplements: Commission \$30,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 101.5.111.426.07; Elections \$19,957.00 General Fund Donations 101.4.365 101.5.120.426; Information Technology \$50,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 101.5.171.426; Coroner \$20,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 101.5.213.426; County Nurse \$1,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 101.5.421.429; Developmentally Disabled \$5,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 101.5.422.03; Highway \$225,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 201.5.101.99 201.5.311.426; POD Fund \$2,458.04 POD Surlus Cash 234.1.101.99 234.5.222.426; JDAI \$7,000.00 Undesignated Surplus Cash in the General Fund 101.5.101.99 238.5.159.426. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

COURT APPOINTED INDIGENT DEFENSE CONTRACT:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to defer the contract one week. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:
Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to go into executive session to discuss contracts per SDCL 1-25-2(4). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:
Moved by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:00 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$238.90. 19626

**Brown County
Ord. 186
Malsam Rezoning**
NOTICE

Application has been made by Troy Malsam 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 January 12th, 2021 at 8:46 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):

Jones Outlot 1 in the N1/2 of Section 32-T124N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (39551 129th 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. 186

ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
(1230,0106)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.34. 19600

**Groton City
Dec. 29, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

December 29, 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: Kappes, Wells, Blackmun, Cutler, Flihs, Babcock and Ted Dickey via telephone, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Hope Block, and Terry Herron.

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

Ted Dickey explained the resolution to authorize the application for financial assistance for the water project in the amount of \$1,326,000. Moved by Cutler and seconded by Flihs to approve Resolution 2020-2. All members voted aye. The resolution reads as follows:

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMITTAL OF THE APPLICATION, AND DESIGNATING AN AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE TO CERTIFY AND SIGN PAYMENT REQUESTS.

WHEREAS, the City of Groton (the "City") has determined it is necessary to proceed with improvements to its Water System, including but not limited to replacing water lines and painting the ground storage tank (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that financial assistance will be necessary to undertake

the Project and an application for financial assistance to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (the "Board") will be prepared; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate an authorized representative to execute and submit the Application on behalf of the City and to certify and sign payment requests in the event financial assistance is awarded for the Project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City as follows:

1. The City hereby approves the submission of an Application for financial assistance in an amount not to exceed \$1,326,000 to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources for the Project.

2. The Mayor is hereby authorized to execute the Application and submit it to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources, and to execute and deliver such other documents and perform all acts necessary to effectuate the Application for financial assistance.

3. The Mayor is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City to do all things on its behalf to certify and sign payment requests in the event financial assistance is awarded for the Project.

Adopted at Groton, South Dakota, this 29th day of December 2020.

Maguire Iron's fifth payment request for \$67,761 was approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Kappes. All members voted aye.

Maguire Iron's sixth payment request for \$28,485 was tabled on a motion by Wells and seconded by Cutler. All members

voted aye.

Dickey and Herron leave the meeting at 7:18 pm.

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

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

Payroll, \$41,988.88, Employee salaries; Executive, ; Administrative, \$7,885.55; Public Safety, \$8,690.59; Public Works, \$25,412.74; First State Bank, \$14,586.11, SS and WH; Dakotaland FCU, \$2,550.00, Employee savings; First State Bank, \$1,399.98, HSA Contributions; A&B Business, \$310.61, Copier rent; April Abeln, \$71.32, Dep flex; Alliance Equipment Co, \$166.98, Chainsaw holder for bucket truck; Aramark, \$49.32, Rug rent; Arbor Day Foundation, \$15.00, 2021 dues; Auto Zone, \$159.83, Oil, filters, coolant; Brian Bahr, \$100.00, Santa day at PMS; Banyon Data Systems, \$6,270.00, Accounting software; Chase Visa, \$402.54, Dropbox, AED batteries, gas, postage, screen; City of Groton, \$500.00, Utility deposit refunds; Cole Paper, \$68.46, Trash bags; Colonial Research Chemical, \$150.58, Cleaners; Darrel's Sinclair, \$158.95, Battery for red Chevy Pickup; DENR, \$1,500.00, 2021 permission to discharge permit; Dollar General, \$211.95, Sanitizers, soap, handy, coffee, paper products, charger; Electric Company of SD, \$2,755.11, Bore for new service; Geffdog, \$167.92, Drop box signs, red cross posters for pool; Groton Chamber of Commerce, \$1,200.00, Chamber

bucks; Groton Chamber of Commerce, \$10,861.00, City donation; Groton Community Transit, \$2,500.00, City donation; Groton Independent, \$155.84, Publishing; Harry Implement, \$88.84, Hoses and ends for skid loader; Heartland Power, \$49,584.63, Power 11/20; Heartland Waste, \$8,051.92, Garbage hauling 11/20; Chris Kassube, \$700.00, Utility deposit refunds; Ken's Food Fair, \$63.25, Gas; MJs Sinclair, \$893.47, Gas, car wash, tire repair; Nelson Sales & Service, \$109.62, Edger blades, belt cutter deck; SD Assoc of Rural Water, \$590.00, 2021 dues; SD State Treasurer, \$7,241.49, Sales tax; SD Retirement System, \$8,491.56, Employee retirement; USPS, \$203.00, Utility billing postage; Web Water, \$13,459.01, Water 11/20; WAPA, \$19,505.16, Power 11/20; Terex, \$669.81, Annual inspection and repairs on bucket truck; Matt Gaede, \$40.00, Camping fee refund; Cole Paper, \$346.15, Purell hand sanitizer floor stands; Patios Plus, \$1,432.14, Sono tube and misc concrete work at ball field supplemented by foundation donation; Employers Mutual, \$77.30, Employee insurance; Galls, \$132.33, PD uniforms; Clark Engineering, \$11,627.64, Water tower engineering; Colonial Research, \$409.25, Sanitizer stands for community center; SD Dept of Health, \$119.00, Water testing; Share Corp, \$361.23, Air freshener, gloves, magnetic ground; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$167.54, Endpoints; S&S Lumber, \$77.85, Keys, adhesive, filters;

The November finance report and a \$20,000 transfer from the general fund to the airport fund

was approved on a motion by Flihs and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to approve the second reading of Ordinance #740 - Amending Liquor Laws. All members voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Kappes to approve the 2021 NECOG Joint Cooperative Agreement. All members voted aye.

The 2021 fee schedule was approved with changes by Blackmun and seconded by Flihs. All members voted aye.

The results of the holiday lighting contest December 17th were as follows, and the winners will receive the listed credit on their utility bill.

Brett and Anna Schwan 1st place - \$100

Alan and Barbara Bell 2nd place - \$75

Rick and Sherry Koehler 3rd place - \$50

The board thanked the community for the beautiful light displays in town.

Moved by Kappes and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:43pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:16pm.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Babcock to hire Kellie Locke as the Assistant Finance Officer at the hourly rate of \$19. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to adjourn the meeting at 8:18 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$72.87. 19627

**Brown County
Ord. 183**

Koehler Rezoning

NOTICE
Application has been made by John Koehler 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 January 12th, 2021 at 8:46 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):

Lots 1-4, "John Koehler Sub-division" in the SE1/4 of section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (3000 N Baird 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. 183

ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
(1230.0106)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19597

**The Groton Independent
Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition
Subscription Form**

All prices listed include 6.5% Sales Tax
 Black & White \$41.54/year
 Colored \$74.55/year
 Colored \$42.60/6 months
 E-Weekly* \$21.30/year

* The E-Weekly is a PDF file emailed to you each week. It does not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

E-mail _____

Phone Number _____

**Groton Daily Independent
www.397news.com
Subscription Form**

This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

1 Month \$15.98
 3 Months \$21.30
 6 Months \$26.63
 9 Months \$31.95
 12 Months \$42.60

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____

State, Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

The following will be used for your log-in information.

E-mail _____

Password _____



Pay with Paypal. Type the following into your browser window:

paypal.me/paperpaul

Mail Completed Form to:

Groton Independent
P.O. Box 34
Groton, SD 57445-0034

or scan and email to paperpaul@grotonsd.net

2020 in review

Hey kids, what a year it was. Well, 2020 is in the rear view mirror but before we breathe a sigh of relief, let's look back for a moment or two with the Official 2020 Super Brain Quiz.

- The year 2020:
 - Sucked
 - Really sucked
 - Really, really sucked
 - Was enough to make a preacher cuss
- Why does Donald Trump believe he won the 2020 presidential race?
 - He also believes in the Tooth Fairy.
 - People are saying...
 - After all, he was doing such a bang-up job.
 - Putin assured him it was in the bag.
- According to some people, 1 in 586 North Dakotans have died of:
 - A liberal hoax
 - It's just a cold.
 - Hangnails
 - Not COVID 19
- Why did President Trump pardon so many people involved in the Russia coverup?
 - It's not because they were guilty if that's what you're thinking.
 - Quid Pro Quo
 - Quid J-Lo
 - Quigley Down Under
- Tom Brady breaks up with the New England Patriots because:
 - Irreconcilable differences
 - Bill Belichick kept giving him wedgies
 - Financial infidelity
 - All of the above

- The White House went 417 days between press briefings because:
 - No news is good news.
 - Frankly, it's none of your business what we're doing in here.
 - If I told you I'd have to kill you.
 - Trying to cut back on the lies

- Actress Lori Loughlin pled guilty to:
 - Shot a man in Reno just to watch him die.
 - Shot the sheriff and the deputy
 - Doing 27 in a 25 in Aberdeen
 - Pulled the "Do not remove under penalty of law" tag off her mattress



**That's Life
by Tony Bender**

- NASCAR announced that this would no longer be found at race tracks.
 - Teeth
 - The Stars and Bars
 - The Jolly Roger
 - The Grumpy Roger
- In June, President Trump dubbed COVID 19:
 - The Kung Fu Flu
 - Just a cold.
 - The 'Gina Virus
 - Bob
- In September a hurricane is named:
 - Sally
 - Mustang Sally
 - Long Tall Sally
 - Runaround Sue

Bonus: Also in September, Trump encourages people in North Carolina to vote:

- Once by mail and once in person
- One if by land and two if by sea
- Early and often
- Democratic on Nov. 4.

Answers: 1. d; 2. a; 3. a; 4. a; 5. b; 6. d; 7. c; 8. a; 9. d; 10. d; Bonus: b. Grading: 11-9 correct: Next time keep your eyes on your own paper! 6-8 correct: If this quiz were based on the electoral college, you'd be the winner. 3-5 correct: Were you even trying? 0-2 correct: Statistically, you would have done better throwing darts.

© Tony Bender, 2021

The Minnesota Vikings finished the 2020 season with a 37-35 win against the Detroit Lions. Neither team had anything to gain with a win, but this game turned into a thriller that came down to the final minutes. The Vikings (7-9) held on for the win, and can finally close this season out and put it behind them.

Kirk Cousins had a great game, completing 28 of 40 passes for 405 yards and three touchdowns.

He was once again under pressure on most of his throws, but that was to be expected with left tackle Riley Reiff sitting this game out. Alexander Mattison was the lead back on Sunday, touching the ball 24 times for 145 yards and two touchdowns. Another backup player who wanted to put some good plays on tape before the offseason was Chad Beebe, who had one of the plays of the game right before halftime. With :11 seconds on the clock before half, Beebe caught a pass from Cousins and pinballed off two Lions defenders before showing breakaway speed on his way to a forty-yard touchdown, giving the Vikings a five point lead.

Harrison Smith hasn't been playing his best football lately, but on Sunday he led the team with nine tackles to go along with a pass breakup and a timely interception in the third quarter. Hercules Mata'afa was another player who stood out, tallying the Vikings' only sack to go along with a tackle for a loss and a QB hit. It hasn't been a good year for Mike Zimmer's defense, and this game was no different. The silver lining is that the Vikings have some young players who have a ton of potential, and when the other injured players return, the Vikings should be considerably better next season.

The player of the game was Justin Jefferson, who now has more receiving yards than any other rookie in NFL history. The young wide receiver has a very good chance to be named offensive rookie of the year, and he has already proven he's a special talent. Jefferson finishes the 2020 season with 1400 yards and seven touchdowns, and will surely be a focal point of the offense next season.

Looking ahead, we'll be keeping an eye on the playoffs, with a recap of each game that will ultimately lead us to the championship. We will also include any Vikings related news and notes, so make sure to check back next week. Skol!



By Jordan Wright

W Weismantel AGENCY

AUTO HOME FARM COMMERCIAL CROP

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

PROGRESSIVE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC INSURANCE ALLIANCE GREAT AMERICAN North Star Northwest GF SFM

ACCESS TO MANY MORE COMPANIES!

FROST CONSTRUCTION INC.
GENERAL CONTRACTOR

605.290.1535

custom homes | remodels | additions

MIDWEST MASONRY &

New or Replaced Sidewalk
Block Walls ~ Egress Windows
Driveway ~ Garage Floors ~ Basement Floors
Stone and Brick Work

Call for a free quote **605/397-8383**

JOHNSON AGENCY

Real Estate & Insurance
Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

102 N Main St. Office: 605/397-2424 Home: 605/397-8565

Dakota Outdoors

Erik Dean

402 N Main St
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605.229.0123

dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com

HARR Motors

www.harrmotors.com

605-225-3078 ~ 1-800-658-3463

CARPENTRY • CONCRETE

SCHULTZ CONSTRUCTION LLC

BATH, SD

Check out our portfolio on Facebook at **Schultz-Construction-LLC**

~ New Construction and Remodeling- renovations, additions, and carpentry work
~ Concrete- foundations, flatwork, decorative concrete surfaces.

605-380-1717
www.shawnschultzconstruction.com

Hanlon Brothers Gravel Hauling

New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60' reach trackhoe

605/395-6531

Put our experienced team to work for you!

GROTON Ford

GROTONFORD.COM 605-397-2311

Harry Implement

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"

CERTIFIED DEALER AFS ADVANCED FARMING SYSTEMS CASE IH

(605) 395-6421
Ferney

Social Factors Impact Wellbeing

Some health problems are much larger than the health care system and cannot be fixed by doctors, nurses, hospitals, and the rest of the traditional health care team.

In our physician peer group sessions, my colleagues and I often share the agony we feel when sending people out of the emergency room, knowing that the patient is going right back into the conditions that contributed to their crisis in the first place. Perhaps they could not afford their insulin or have no refrigerator in which to keep it cold. Perhaps they are going home with the person who hurt them. Perhaps they don't have a home to go to and are trying to care for their wound while living on the street. These situations are real, and they exist in rural areas, small towns, and big cities alike.

I often urge my patients to get more exercise, and we brainstorm ways to overcome the barriers they face. But options are limited for the person whose neighborhood has no sidewalks or isn't safe to stroll through. We talk about good nutrition, and most patients know it's best to eat plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables. But what if the only store they can reach is the convenience store which doesn't stock healthy options?

Some of my patients come to me having researched their symptoms, and we talk about how to find reliable medical information on the internet. But what happens if they don't have access to the internet? Sometimes I print out educational material, but that has no value for the patient who cannot read.

Almost everyone has stress in their lives, but for some people the stress is unremitting and severe. They deal with poverty and the attendant evils of housing and food insecurity, with limited education that restricts their options. They lack reliable transportation which keeps them from school or work or regular healthcare. They suffer from chronic diseases, racism and other forms of discrimination while separated from the support of family and community.

Research reveals that these chronic stressors have significant adverse effects on the health of not only the individual, but their descendants as well. We have a label for these stressors. They are called "social determinants" and we are increasingly aware that they play an even bigger role in a person's wellbeing than all the things that health care providers do.

Protecting and promoting the health of our patients and our communities is a sacred mission, but we need to expand our perspective beyond medicine and surgery and helping one individual at a time. Health is larger than the health care system. We each have a role to play in recognizing and reducing the impact of social determinants for the wellbeing of our entire community.

Debra Johnston, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices family medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www.prairiedoc.org and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



By Debra Johnston, M.D. ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

Brown County Ord. 184 Weigel Rezoning NOTICE

Application has been made by Marcie Weigel 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 January 12th, 2021 at 8:46 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, "Weigel and Locken Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of

Section 7-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38855137th 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. 184
ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (1230.0106)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19598

Brown County Ord. 185 Dosch Rezoning NOTICE

Application has been made by Marjorie Dosch 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 January 12th, 2021 at 8:46 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, Dosch Subdivision in the NW1/4 NW1/4 of Section

8-T127N-R63W of the 5th, P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38905 107th Street)
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 zoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 185
ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (1230.0106)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19599

Westport Town Resolution No. 12 Sewer Surcharge

RESOLUTION NO. 12
TOWN OF WESTPORT
A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 9 DATED FEBRUARY 4, 2019, AND PROVIDING FOR AMENDED SEWER RATES AND SURCHARGE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO SEWER SYSTEM, FOR PAYMENT OF REVENUE BOND AND YEARLY REVIEW OF RATE

WHEREAS, on February 4th, 2019, the town of Westport (the "Town") passed Resolution No. 9 to establish sewer rates and a Surcharge for Consolidated Loan 2019L-104 (Loan); and

WHEREAS, on May 4th, 2020, the Town signed the suspension of Loan and revocation of the committed amount; and

WHEREAS, on June 25th, 2020, the Board of Water and Natural Resources awarded a new Consolidated Loan 2021L-202 which requires the Town to amend its sewer rates and Surcharge.

NOW THEREFORE THE BOARD RESOLVES, FINDS AND DETERMINES AS FOLLOWS:

1. Surcharge for Bond Issue. There shall be charged a monthly surcharge for the services provided by the improvement financed by the Revenue Bond Series 2021. The surcharge shall be segregated from other revenues of the utility and shall be used for the payment of the revenue bonds. Provided that such surcharge shall create net income, remaining from time to time after first paying all reasonable and current expenses of maintenance, repairs, replacements and operation, sufficient to fund interest, reserve and debt service fund annual requirements.

2. Rates and collection. The Town does hereby establish the special charge or surcharge payable by each customer of its System who receives or benefits from the services of the Project. Such charge or surcharge shall be set at a level which will produce income at the times and in amounts sufficient to pay when due the principal of and interest on the Revenue Bond Series 2021 and all other payments as may be required under the loan agreement and Revenue Bond Series 2021.

3. Sewer Rates and Revenue Bond Series 2021 Surcharge. The following sewer rates shall be applicable to all customers served whether in or out of the town or whether retail or sales or resale:

The Residential Active and Inactive sewer base charge is \$6.50 per household plus a \$32.50 Surcharge. The Business base charge is \$45.50 per business plus a \$32.50 Surcharge. The Surcharge is for debt service on the 2021 Revenue Bond Series. This surcharge shall become effective April 1st, 2021.

This surcharge shall remain in effect until such time as the revenue bonds are discharged. The initial surcharge shall be collected at the same time as other charges of the sewer system. The surcharge is found to be equitable for the services provided by the improvement.

4. Segregation. The debt service surcharge shall be segregated from other income of the Sewer System in a separate account and is pledged to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources for the payment of the loan payments on the Revenue Bond Series 2021.

5. Yearly review. The amount of the surcharge shall be reviewed from year to year and may be modified in order to provide such funds as are set forth herein. The charges shall be reviewed yearly by town personal and administratively adjusted, upwards or downwards, pursuant to SDCL § 9-40-15 to such amounts as may be necessary to pay principal, interest, and other charges as may become due and owing under the Revenue Bond Series 2021.

6. Billing and Accounting. The surcharge shall be included in the monthly user sewer bill. Nothing contained herein requires the surcharge be indicated on the billing; however, the surcharge segregation shall be indicated on the books of the Town.

7. Surcharge not to create constitutional indebtedness. The charges provided herein are for

the purpose of paying the Revenue Bond, Series 2021 of the Town which do not constitute indebtedness within the meaning of Article XIII, Section 4 of the South Dakota Constitution.

8. Severability. If any one or more of the provisions of the shall be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, by final decree of any court of lawful jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision hereof.

Adopted at Town of Westport, South Dakota, this 4 day of January, 2021

APPROVED:

Mitchell Wilson
Board President
Town of Westport
Attest: Doreen Hertel
Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$51.26. 19628

Groton City Ord. 740 Markup Fees

ORDINANCE NO. 740

An Ordinance entitled: "An Ordinance Amending Section 1-3-4 Mark up Fees of Chapter 1-3 Financial Regulations and Omitting Chapter 1-6 Sale of Alcohol".

Be it ordained by the City of Groton that the following ordinance be amended to read as follows:

1-3-4 Markup Fees. All lessees under operation/~~lease agreement with in the city for the sale of liquor and all licenses licensed under subdivisions (17) or (18) of SDCL 35-42 shall purchase all alcoholic beverages, including malt beverages, from the city purchase all liquor according to the South Dakota Codified Laws Title 35 pertaining to Alcoholic Beverages.~~ The city may shall charge such lessee or licensee a markup fee up to of ten percent (10%) above the city's cost for the liquor or malt beverage plus freight. ~~The city may establish the mark up fee by resolution.~~ All markup fees established by the city shall be charged uniformly to all lessees and licensees ~~except for liquor versus malt beverage.~~

Passed first reading: 12/1/20
Passed second reading: 12/29/20

Published: 1/6/21
Effective Date: 1/26/21
Scott Hanlon, Mayor

ATTEST:
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$15.35. 19629

South Dakota School of Mines & Technology Fall 2020 Dean's List

RAPID CITY, SD (Jan. 5, 2021) – For the fall 2020 semester, 649 South Dakota Mines students were named to the Dean's List.

In order to merit a spot on the Dean's List, students must earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for the semester. Full-time students must have earned a minimum of 12 credit hours for the term, while part-time students must have earned between three and 11 credit hours that term.

Local students named to the Dean's List were Lily Cutler, Claremont and Landon Marzahn. Groton

What would your community's New Year's resolution be for 2021?



Paula Jensen
Vice President of
Advancement



This is the time of year when we reflect on our personal successes and failures, then use that knowledge to set new strategies for our future. So, imagine if every year your community residents gathered in celebration of the previous year, then prioritized three to five New Year's resolutions that would be worked on collaboratively throughout the year to create a thriving community? What would that look like?

There is a real motivational perspective in working collaboratively toward creating the thriving rural community we want to live in. Maslow's hierarchy of needs is a motivational theory in psychology comprised of a five-tier pyramid of human needs. From the bottom of the hierarchy upwards, the needs are physiological (food and clothing), safety (job security), love and belonging needs (friendship), esteem, and self-actualization. Needs lower down in the hierarchy must be satisfied before individuals can attend to needs higher up. Recently, a colleague working in the rural community and economic development field shared a rural hierarchy of needs. From the bottom of the pyramid upwards, the needs were housing, education, quality of life, broadband, medical, transportation, and workforce.

These basic rural needs are essential conditions for the maintenance, growth, and well-being of our communities. People often ask me, "Why do some rural communities thrive, and others drop off the map?" My observations have revealed that thriving communities employ three motivational factors: grit, agency, and mastery.

Community Grit is defined as the passion and perseverance for long-term goals held by community residents and leaders who can envision their community thriving.

Community Agency is the capacity to overcome obstacles by navigating the system within given circumstances. Communities that display agency come together and layout strategies based on local needs. They also engage local residents, resource providers, and other stakeholders to approach solutions through innovative thinking.

Community Mastery is when residents and organizations collaboratively apply grit and agency over long periods of time to grow in amazing ways. This unique system has the capacity to move rural communities toward fully actualizing their potential.

The Community Mastery theory is a long-term strategy for community and economic development that can be achieved in three stages:

Apprentice Stage

Get connected – map out who is in your local, regional, and statewide networks, begin building relationships, then invite them into your work.

Get a vision – play to your strengths, then widen the vision to discover a niche that fits the future you want to create in your community.

Get a strategy – adapt systems of the past into a flexible view of your future that will fully actualize local potential.

Creative / Active Stage

Get Communicating – create a system that engages a multitude of voices and reaches all generations across many channels.

Get Leading – develop innovative opportunities for anyone, at any age to lead from their strengths.

Get Learning – build skills locally through training and mentorships, then practice and experiment by taking on small projects that lead toward a greater strategy.

Mastery Stage

Get Transformed - establish a system that celebrates success, learns from failure, and continually engages new people in various stages of the Community Mastery theory, while living like community and economic development is a marathon, not a sprint.

If you made it to this paragraph and are fretting about setting New Year's resolutions for your community this year because it just will not work, then show some grit by sharing this article with three other people. Have a conversation and breakdown the community mastery theory because there's always good value in trying to discover what is possible for your community.

Having a passion for community leadership and development is what drives Paula Jensen's personal and professional life. Paula resides in her hometown of Langford, South Dakota, population 318+. She serves as a Strategic Doing practitioner, grant writer and community coach with Dakota Resources based in Renner, South Dakota. Dakota Resources is a mission-driven 501c3 Community Development Financial Institution working to connect capital and capacity to empower rural communities. Contact her at paula@dakotaresources.org.

National Gas Price Average Holds Steady for 12 Days

January 4, 2021 – The new year has started, but the national gas price average remains unchanged, holding steady at \$2.25 for the last 12 days. Pump price stability at the start of the year is credited to consistent crude oil prices in late December, about \$47-48/bbl, combined with low demand. U.S. gasoline demand, as recorded by the Energy Information Administration (EIA), was at the lowest level for the last week of December in 23 years (since 1998) – at 8.1 million b/d.

South Dakota Gas Prices

Today \$2.22 ~ Yesterday \$2.22 ~ Last week \$2.21 ~ Last month \$2.11 ~ Last year \$2.48

"Holiday road travel was down at least 25%. With fewer people on the road, the majority of states saw little change at the pump from the last week of 2020 to the first few days of 2021," said Marilyn Buskohl, AAA spokesperson.

While the national gas price average is nine cents more than last month, January gas prices are already 33 cents cheaper than this time last year. That is the largest year-over-year difference at the beginning of January since 2015. AAA expects demand to dwindle in coming weeks and gas prices to likely be cheaper, especially if crude oil holds at the current price point.

How high or low gas prices will go in 2021 will largely depend on crude oil prices, supply and demand. AAA expects that as the vaccine becomes more widely available and states loosen travel restrictions, Americans will begin to drive more and at that point we will see an impact at the pump. At \$2.17, 2020 saw the lowest annual national gas price average since 2016.

Final Rural Health Column

Dear readers, editors and publishers of our partner states,

The Community Health News Service has given you unbiased health and health care information for eight years. We have done all of this on a shoestring budget. That shoestring has now broken, and this column by Trudy Lieberman will be the last column of our service.

On behalf of the 17 state press association partners, I want to thank our readers, our state partners and the Nebraska Press Association for distributing our columns. Thanks, also, to Charlyne Berens, our editor, and, especially, to Trudy Lieberman our reporter/writer. Her passion for helping all of us understand the world of healthcare, insurance and research gave us expert insights and updates.

We hope that all of the newspapers we have served will continue to provide solid, verified health information to their readers. Thank you all for allowing us to help local newspapers to do what they do best: keep their readers in touch with a world that affects them all.

Below is the final column.

On behalf of our team,

Dennis Berens

Facilitator, Community Health News Service

THINKING ABOUT HEALTH

The Picture of Health in America Is Not So Rosy

By Trudy Lieberman, Community Health News Service

For end-of-the-year columns, it's customary to recap the events of the past 12 months, usually highlighting a mix of the good and the bad. Because this year has been dominated by health, in particular COVID-19, and my beat is health, it seems fitting to reflect on where we are. Where we are is not good.

A headline in the Los Angeles Times seemed to sum up the current state of the U.S. health care system: "Bodies pile up, patient care falters as COVID-19 devastates L.A. County hospitals." In the Times' story a hospital critical care nurse says, "No one would believe this is the United States." Indeed, they would not.

A story from Wisconsin tells us that a hospital pharmacist deliberately destroyed some 500 doses of vaccine. No reason given, at least none the media have reported. This behavior, I dare say, would have been unheard of in 1947 when New York City managed to vaccinate five million people against smallpox in two weeks.

At the end of 2020, the government's goal of vaccinating 20 million people against COVID by the last day of December fell way short with only 2.7 million doses administered. In some ways that is hardly surprising, given how chaotic the whole COVID affair has been since the beginning. First, we failed to recognize how lethal the virus was; then we were slow to get testing up and running; next came problems with contact tracing because Americans were reluctant to cooperate. Lab results were delayed. Americans flouted the rules and advice to stay home, and on it went until we find our nation in a very unenviable position at the beginning of 2021.

Yet the mythology surrounding our health care system – that it is the best in the world – continues. This year has shown that America, contrary to its self-image, does not have the most effective and efficient health care system in the world. That's a bitter pill for many Americans to swallow.

At the end of December, a new study emerged in the journal JAMA Internal Medicine that further deflates America's standing. It found that wealthy, white Americans generally have better health outcomes than the average U.S. citizen but generally worse outcomes than average citizens in other higher income countries. In other words, the U.S. continues to spend gobs of money on health care but doesn't necessarily get a healthier population for its expenditures. Not a lot of bang for the buck!

Two pieces I wrote this year drove home that point for me. They showed the inadequacy of health care for too many rural Americans even in "normal" times when there's no virus lurking among us. One woman from a sparsely

populated county in central Nebraska recently wrote to tell me about the lack of in-network doctors available to people who join Medicare Advantage plans. Those plans require seniors to use network physicians to get benefits. If they don't, the result is high out-of-pocket bills.

If people in those sparsely populated regions don't have doctors who pass muster with their insurance company, how many go without care?

Another piece I wrote discussed federally qualified health centers, which serve many low-income communities across the country. Doctors at one such health center in western Nebraska serve 17 low-population counties, and patients drive many miles to see a doctor. Those doctors also report that they examine more patients for dental problems than for other medical issues. That speaks to lack of access to oral health care for way too many Americans; another health problem policymakers brush off.

Although the pandemic has exposed serious flaws in America's health care arrangements, maybe, just maybe, it will spark a serious national discussion about the kind of health system we want for everyone when the postmortem on COVID-19 is done.

In the meantime, all of us will have to figure out how to get tested, get vaccinated, and stay safe without a lot of reliable information to guide us along the way. Because so much of the information from the federal government has been politicized, I turned to the website of Britain's National Health Service www.nhs.uk, which I've visited and written about several times.

It is a model of clarity and good information about COVID. For example, the advice for pregnant women and those thinking about becoming pregnant was the clearest I've seen. The website also tells visitors when it was last updated and when the next update will be.

That website shows how much better America could be.

Conde National League

Jan. 4 Team Standings: Cubs 11, Mets 11, Giants 9, Braves 8, Pirates 7, Tigers 2

Men's High Games: Larry Frohling 211, Lance Frohling 209, Russ Bethke 188.

Men's High Series: Ryan Bethke 545, Lance Frohling 527, Butch Farmen 503.

Women's High Games: Vickie Kramp 227, 175; Michelle Johnson 173; Joyce Walter 168

Women's High Series: Vickie Kramp 529, Joyce Walter 482, Michelle Johnson 437.



Gray Wolf Removed from Federal Endangered Species List

PIERRE, S.D. – On January 4, 2021, the gray wolf will be delisted as a federally protected species following 45 years of protection under the Endangered Species Act. This action allows South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) to manage wolves as a predator as defined in state law.

Under GFP's management authority, trappers, sportsmen and women, landowners and livestock producers will have the ability to harvest gray wolves across the state beginning on January 4, 2021. The same license requirements needed for coyotes are needed to harvest a wolf. These include a predator/varmint license, furbearer license or any resident or nonresident hunting license. To trap a wolf, a furbearer license is required. Landowners on their own land and youth under the age of 16 are exempt from the license requirement.

"Over the past several decades, South Dakota has had a handful of gray wolves killed on both sides of the Missouri River," said Keith Fisk, program administrator with GFP. "The department suspects the gray wolves that have been present in South Dakota are likely transient animals that have dispersed from populations east and west of the state."

To gather further information and a DNA sample, the department is requesting anyone who harvests a wolf in South Dakota notify a wildlife conservation officer within 24 hours and that the inspection and sampling by a GFP representative occur within 48 hours.

GFP does not support gray wolf expansion in South Dakota. For more information, please visit gfp.sd.gov/wolf.

The Life of Gary Heitmann



Services for Gary Heitmann, 83, of Groton will be 10:30 a.m., Thursday, January 7th at the United Methodist Church. Pastor Brandon Dunham will officiate. Inurnment will follow at a later date in the Black Hills National Cemetery, Sturgis. Services will be live streamed through GDILIVE.COM

Visitation will be held at the church on Wednesday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Gary passed away January 1, 2021 at his home.

Gary Royce was born on October 21, 1937 in Britton to Harry and Mary Alice (Witham) Heitmann. The oldest of 4 children, he attended rural school near Lake

City and graduated from Britton High School. Shortly after high school graduation, he went to U.S. Air Force Basic Training at Lackland AFB, TX and continued his service with 119th Fighter Wing in Fargo, ND as a reservist from 1956 - 1967 and received an honorable discharge. During this time period, Gary continued his education at SDSU where he majored in agronomy. The day following his college graduation, he eloped with the love of his life, Caralee Hagen. They were married on June 4, 1963 in Fergus Falls, MN. The couple made their first home in Ft. Yates, ND where Gary started his career with the Bureau of Indian Affairs as a soil scientist mapping soils on several reservations. Over the years, his career evolved and he was named Director of Natural

Resources. His job led them over the Midwest, living in Nebraska, both North and South Dakota, Montana, and Utah. Gary spent 31 years with the BIA before his retirement in 1994. Never being one to sit idle and wanting to remain connected to agriculture, he continued working at Schuring Farms in Andover for the next 15 years. Being the senior employees at the farm, he and Bob Schuring completed many tasks that nobody else wanted to do - but they thoroughly enjoyed their time working together. Gary was an avid fan of the Minnesota Twins and the Minnesota Vikings so it goes without saying that he never gave up hope. He and his family made numerous trips to watch games in various locations across the country. Throughout his entire life, people, especially his family, always remained the most important aspect of his life. Gary was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Gary was a member of the United Methodist Church in Groton where he held multiple church offices over the years. He served as Groton City Councilman and was also a member of Kiwanis. He also was a driver for the Groton Transit as well as offering to drive people to Aberdeen for appointments. Gary was heavily involved for a number of years with organizing the Schliebe midget baseball tournament and tirelessly volunteered his time to the baseball program as an umpire, scorekeeper, or whatever was needed. Gary's favorite activity revolved around his sons while they were growing up and more recently his grandchildren. He so enjoyed being a proud supporter of all of their many events and attended most of them - near and far. He spent many hours sitting in the bleachers as a proud father and grandfather. Other activities that Gary enjoyed with family and friends included golfing, hunting, gardening and coffee time - four different coffee groups everyday!

Celebrating his life is his wife, Caralee of Groton, three sons, Grady (Bobbi Jo) Heitmann of Faulkton, Greg Heitmann (Angela Sandoval) of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Garrett (Sindi) Heitmann of Snoqualmie, Washington, grandchildren: Kristen (Taylor) Dykema, Kaitlin (Colby) Bunkers, Derek Heitmann, Shayna Heitmann, Estevan Sandoval, Catalina Sandoval, Antonio Heitmann, Alejandra Heitmann and one great-granddaughter Oaklee Bunkers. Gary's siblings: Gay Heitmann of Lake City, Linda Reiersen of Minot, ND and David (Susan) Heitmann of Lake City.

Preceding him in death were his parents Harry and Mary Heitmann and his in-laws Ed and Betty Jean Hagen.

Honorary Urn Bearers will be members of his coffee group: Jim Ackman, Tyke Nyberg, Gordon Nelson, Dave Blackmun, Jerry Bjerke, Jay Johnson, Marc Johnson, Dave McGannon, Randy Stanley and John Wheeting.

James Valley Telecommunications bringing fiber to Groton

Representatives from James Valley Telecommunications came before the Groton City Council Tuesday evening to talk about future plans for the cooperative. Since 2013, JVT has been installing fiber lines in other towns in the cooperative service area. This year, JVT will be installing fiber lines in the city of Groton. All of the lines will be direct bored with some 200 pedestals being installed throughout the city. James Groft, CEO of JVT, said the interduct for the project will arrive in Groton in March. There will be 55,000 feet of fiber installed. Fiber will be brought to the homes only if they need service faster than what the existing cooper line can provide. The entire project is expected to be finished by the end of 2021.

City Attorney Drew Johnson informed the JVT group that the city is currently negotiating a franchise with MIDCO, which is also planning to install fiber line throughout Groton. Johnson said that the contacts with both groups has to be identical so what is negotiated with MIDCO has to be presented to JVT as well.

Four of the six council positions will be up for election this year on the Groton City Council. Terms up are two-year terms for Jon Cutler in Ward 1, Shirley Wells in Ward 2 and Karyn Babcock in Ward 3; as well as a one-year term for Emily Kappes in Ward 2. Kappes was appointed for a one-year term.

NSU Fall Dean's List

ABERDEEN, S.D. – Northern State University in Aberdeen, S.D., has released the dean's list for the fall 2020 semester.

Students who have earned at least a 3.5 grade point average for the semester are eligible for the dean's list. Students who achieved dean's list status. Local students on the list are Paxton Steen, Bristol; Kayla Jensen and Alci Kelly, Claremont; Hattie Weismantel, Columbia; Lauren Geranen, Frederick; Jessica Adler, Katelyn Koehler, Jasmine Schaller, Alyssa Sippel and Audrey Wanner, Groton; Peyton Ellingson and Christine Stoltenberg, Stratford; Jack Braun, Warner; Lucas Fredrick, Trevor Goehring and Jessica Podoll, Westport

Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS
FOOD FAIR • SHELL EXPRESS
www.kenssuperfair.com
• ABERDEEN • GROTON • ELK RIVER • SPSWICH • EUREKA • BRITTON •

Ken's Groceries To Go!

Order Your Groceries and Have Them Delivered!

Order by Email: 605.225.6671
Order by Phone: 605.225.6671
Order by Text: 605.225.6666

APP DEAL OF THE WEEK

John Morrell Sliced Bacon
12 Oz. Pkg. **99¢**
W/\$10 PURCHASE & KEN'S APP
Limit 1 per customer, requires \$10 additional purchase and use of Ken's App

NOW OPEN in Ken's Deli in Aberdeen!

Family Fresh SUSHI

SPRING SPECIALS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

<p>Smithfield Seasoned Pork Tenderloin and Loin Fillets 18.4-27.2 Oz. Pkg. \$4.99 Ea.</p>	<p>USDA Choice Demolita Boneless Bottom Round Roast Per Lb. \$2.99</p>	<p>USDA Choice Demolita Boneless Bottom Round Steak Per Lb. \$3.49</p>	<p>Meat</p> <p>Marinated Bottom Sirloin Steaks Per Lb. \$4.99</p>
<p>Mormel Pork Boston Butt Shoulder Roast Per Lb. \$1.49</p>	<p>John Morrell Chunk Cervelat 16 Oz. Pkg. \$3.99 Ea.</p>	<p>Plumrose Cooked BBQ Pork Babyback Ribs 16 Oz. Pkg. \$5.99 Ea.</p>	<p>Sanderson Farms Chicken Drumsticks Or Thighs Per Lb. 99¢</p>
<p>Jif Peanut Butter 16 Oz. Jar \$1.99</p>	<p>Oscar Mayer Chopped Ham, Ham and Cheese, Smoked and Oven Roasted Turkey 16 Oz. Pkg. \$2.99 Ea.</p>	<p>Smucker's Jam or Jelly 16-32 Oz. Jar \$1.99</p>	<p>Donut Shop K-Cup Coffee 10 Ct. Pkg. \$5.99</p>
<p>Always Save Sandwich Cookies 25 Oz. Pkg. \$1.49</p>	<p>Hunt's Tomato Sauce 15 Oz. Cans or Tomato Paste 6 Oz. Cans 10/\$10</p>	<p>Doritos Frito-Lay Doritos 9.5-10.5 Oz. Pkgs. 2/\$5</p>	<p>Kraft Salad Dressings 16 Oz. Bottles 2/\$4</p>
<p>Betty Crocker Hamburger, Chicken or Tuna Helper 4.7-8.7 Oz. Pkgs. 99¢ Ea.</p>	<p>Campbell's Tomato or Chicken Noodle Soup 10.75 Oz. Cans. 88¢</p>	<p>Nabisco Premium Saltines or Oyster Soup Crackers 9-16 Oz. Pkgs. 2/\$5</p>	<p>Hunt's Tomatoes 14.5 Oz. Cans 10/\$10</p>
<p>Best Choice Russet Potatoes 5 Lb. Bag \$1.99</p>	<p>California Navel Oranges 4 Lb. Bag \$3.99</p>	<p>Deli Fresh Ready to Serve Whole Rotisserie Chickens Ea. \$7.99</p>	<p>Deli Fresh Cheese of the Week! Kreschmar American Per Lb. \$4.29</p>
<p>Sunny Delight 64 Oz. Jug 2/\$3</p>	<p>Maker's Mark 1.75 L. \$49.99</p>	<p>Lord Calvert 1.75 L. \$15.99</p>	<p>Busch, Busch Lt. 18 Fl. 16 Oz. Can \$13.99</p>
<p>Miller Lite, MGD, 64 34 Fl. 12 Oz. \$18.99</p>	<p>Suave Shampoo or Conditioner 30 Oz. Bottle \$1.99</p>	<p>Flora Unscented Bath Tissue 12 Roll Pkgs. \$5.99</p>	<p>Sour Dough Bread 1 Lb. Loaf \$2.99</p>
<p>Heat & Serve Twice Baked Potatoes 2/\$4</p>	<p>Health & Beauty</p>		<p>Household</p>

Ken's Gourmet Coffee
Monday-Friday 7 AM - 6 PM
Saturday 7 AM - 4 PM
Sunday 9 AM - 1 PM
Call 605-225-6671

Raw Honey
\$4.00 OFF

Coffee Drink of the Week
The Grinch Hot or Iced
50¢ OFF

Find us on Facebook and Twitter

PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS: JANUARY 6TH THRU JANUARY 9TH

Web 6 Thurs 7 Fri 8 Sat 9