



The Groton Independent

Vol. 138 No. 22 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Jan. 27, 2021 ♦ Established in 1889



The Groton Area Dance Team performed at halftime of the boys Northwestern Game. (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM)

The City of Groton crew put up the scenery for the Carnival of Silver Skates. The scenery will have a different look this year as Katie Anderson and her parents, Ron and Doris Anderson, worked on the project this summer. There will be snowflakes added to the scenery.



Groton Area January Students of the Month

Groton Area School works to ensure that all levels of academic instruction also include the necessary life skills teaching, practicing, and modeling that encourages essential personal life habits that are universally understood to facilitate helping our students become good human beings and citizens.

It is learning with our heads, hearts, and hands to be caring and civil, to make healthy decisions, to effectively problem solve, to be respectful and responsible, to be good citizens, and to be empathetic and ethical individuals.

Students are selected based on individual student growth in the areas of: positive behavior, citizenship, good attendance, a thirst for knowledge, and high academic standards.



**82nd Annual
Carnival of Silver Skates**
"Faith, Hope, Love"
Nearly 100 Skaters Performing!
Sunday, Jan. 31, 2021

**Performances at
2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
Groton Ice Rink
(West side of Groton)**

Admission is \$3 for those 13 years and older for the afternoon session. The evening session is free.

The Carnival of Silver Skates Queen will be crowned during the 2 p.m. performance.

**THERE WILL BE NO PARKING
ON THE ICE THIS YEAR!**



Grace Wiedrick
Senior



Alyssa Thaler
Junior



Sierra Ehresmann
Sophomore



Cadence Feist
Freshman



Kellen Antonsen
8th Grade



Rylee Dunker
7th Grade



Kira Clocksene
6th Grade

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

EMPLOYMENT

WELDER/FABRICATOR, full benefits, retirement, vacation, health insurance. Signing bonus. Wage DOE. LEC Inc., Gettysburg, 1-800-568-4324 kevin@loganelectric.biz

CITY OF BRYANT has an opening for a full-time Utility Superintendent. For more information contact Finance Office at 605-628-2931 or bryantsd@itctel.com.

THE CITY OF CHAMBERLAIN is accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Applicants must be 21 years of age, have high school diploma or GED, valid Driver's License, and no felony or serious misdemeanor convictions. Benefits include health insurance, paid vacation/sick leave, South Dakota retirement plan, furnished uniforms and equipment. Schedule includes every other weekend off. Hourly wage is \$19.33 uncertified and \$20.33 + for certified, DOE. Applications may be obtained at the Chamberlain Police Department, 715 North Main Street, Chamberlain, SD 57325. You can also request them via email at chamberlainpd@midstatesd.net. Applications accepted until Feb, 15, 2021.

FULL-TIME CUSTOMER SERVICE position with benefits; great professional work envi-

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

"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild... we can do it all!"

Flarris Auto Body

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

ronment, advancement opportunity. Storm Insurance Agency Inc., 204 S. Main, Suite D, Milbank, SD 57252.

THE KOTA SPORTS Gambling Network is looking for writers, podcasters, social media wizards and gambling personalities to join their team. Find them on social @kotacappers or email kotacapperpace@gmail.com for more information.

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

MISCELLANEOUS

VENDORS WANTED for the 29th annual Farm & Home Show, Saturday, February 27, at Presho, SD. Call 605-895-9445 or email: preshochamber@kennebectelephone.com.

NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Digital employment ad is \$30. Statewide Full Digital Ad is \$300 for 1 week. Call the Groton Independent at 397-7460 for details.

Brown County Jan. 19, 2021 Meeting Minutes

JANUARY 19, 2021 -GENERAL MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to approve the agenda with removal of the prayer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of January 12, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Kippley to approve the following claims and payroll:
PAYROLL: Commission \$4,327.95; Elections (Voucher) \$0.00; Auditor \$8,944.43; Treasurer \$33,222.15; SA \$35,393.24; SVAWA \$1,730.76; Maintenance \$9,441.94; Assessor \$14,636.40; Register of Deeds \$9,124.95; VSO \$4,529.37; GIS \$2,411.38; IT \$7,743.45; HR \$2,423.08; Sheriff \$42,532.66; Jail \$55,772.89; Court Security \$6,490.23; JDC \$24,186.93; Welfare \$2,982.62; Museum \$7,871.76; Parks/Fairgrounds \$3,429.18; Fair Board \$8,653.91; 4-H \$631.60; Weed \$884.14; Planning & Zoning \$4,543.59; Highway \$38,801.00; Dispatch \$26,671.95; Emergency \$4,160.96; Teen Court \$659.70; JDAI \$1,786.92; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,200.44; Landfill \$13,270.92; Matching Benefits: FICA \$22,658.14; MEDICARE \$5,299.10; Discovery_HSA \$325.00.

CLAIMS: Machinery/Equipment: Pierson Ford \$4,000.00. Professional Fees: Avera St. Lukes \$6,345.07; BMI Music License for Local Government \$364.00; Certified Languages International \$958.65; Dependable Sanitation \$30,093.00; Michelle Gaikowski \$95.20; Christopher A. Haar \$43.00; Language Line Services Inc \$1,644.42; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$253.00; Tyler Technologies Inc \$9,759.73; WSP USA Inc \$13,143.89. Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$783.44; McQuillen Creative Group Inc \$340.00. Rentals: Praxair Distribution Inc \$45.39; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$133.20. Repairs & Maintenance: Active Data Systems Inc \$12,406.00; Dakota Doors Inc \$229.03; Day County Treasurer \$2,040.42; Diesel Machinery \$24,770.49; Double A Plumbing LLC \$152.34; Eco-lab Pest Elimination \$118.77; House of Glass \$60.78; Jensen Rock & Sand Inc \$5,166.00; Nelson Sales & Service \$24.05;

Pro Windmill Inc \$95.00; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale \$513.19; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$4,302.96; Tru Green Chem-lawn \$523.80. Supplies: Active Data Systems Inc \$4,016.00; Advance Stores Company Inc \$830.86; AED Market \$172.00; Agtegra Cooperative \$7,854.88; Charm-Tex \$99.90; Diesel Machinery \$1,028.23; Gannett Holdings LLC Ohio \$249.21; Glacial Lakes & Prairie Tourism \$125.00; Kesslers \$59.41; Menards \$101.75; Midstates Printing \$205.00; Northern Valley Communication \$26.76; Pharmchem \$428.25; Pumps Tire Service Inc \$575.45; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$150.00; Redwood Toxicology Laboratory \$49.80; Satellite Tracking of People \$984.75; Share Corp \$90.00; Karen Swank \$360.00; Titan Machinery \$12.46; US Postmaster \$181.90; West Publishing Corp \$1,768.18. Utilities: City of Aberdeen \$314.10; Qwest Corporation \$9.90; City of Hecla \$241.46; Dependable Sanitation \$348.00; State of South Dakota \$99.49; James Valley Telecommunication \$216.30; Northern Electric Coop \$86.00; Northwestern Energy & Communication \$2,748.08; Northern Valley Communication \$1,610.85; Verizon Wireless \$3,491.71; Web Water Development \$78.60. Other: Glacial Lakes & Prairie Tourism \$750.00; SD Association of County Officials \$1,724.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS (BOOTH, CAMPER SPONSORSHIP):

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to authorize the chair to sign booth rental contracts, camper space rental contracts and sponsorship agreements for the 2021 Brown County Fair as they are presented. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the following 2021 Brown County Fair contracts: Reliant Talen Agency (entertainment) @ \$70,000; Paradigm Talen Agency (entertainment) @ \$92,500; WME (entertainment) @ \$40,000; WME (entertainment) @ \$40,000; CCA (entertainment) @ \$40,000; WME (entertainment) @ \$40,000; Artist Performance Contract (entertainment) @ \$25,000; Aberdeen Fire & Rescue (ambulance service) @ \$100 per hour; TMS Production Intergration (backline production) @ \$2,030; Romeo Entertainment Group (consulting service) @ \$12,000; TMS Theatrical Media Services, Inc (Stage Services) @ \$21,000; TMS Production Intergration (Video & Productions Service) @ \$35,300; Artist Performance Contract (entertainment) @ \$25,000. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

GENERATOR SERVICE CONTRACT:

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to authorize chair

sign contract with Interstate PowerSystems for service contract on Kohler Generator in the amount of \$2,418.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SDSU EXTENSION MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to authorize chair sign 2021 memorandum of understanding between SDSU Extension and Brown County, SD for 4H Advisor in the amount of \$20,621. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF REPORTS:

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

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION - REZONE ORDINANCE 183

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Sutton to adopt ordinance 183: Applicant John Koehler requesting to rezone 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 Subdivision" in the SE1/4 of section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (3000 N Baird St). Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Feickert -aye, Sutton -aye, Wiese -aye, Kippley -aye, Fjeldheim -aye. Ordinance Adopted.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION - REZONE ORDINANCE 184:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to adopt ordinance 184: Applicant Marcie Weigel requesting to rezone 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). Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Feickert -aye, Sutton -aye, Wiese -aye, Kippley -aye, Fjeldheim -aye. Ordinance Adopted.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION - REZONE ORDINANCE 185:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to adopt ordinance 185: Applicant Marjorie Dosch requesting to rezone 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). Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Feickert -aye, Sutton -aye, Wiese -aye, Kippley -aye, Fjeldheim -aye. Ordinance Adopted.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION- REZONE ORDINANCE 186:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Kippley to adopt ordinance 186: Applicant Troy Malsam requesting to rezone 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). Roll Call Vote: Commissioner Feickert -aye, Sutton -aye, Wiese -aye, Kippley -aye, Fjeldheim -aye. Ordinance Adopted.

2021 BROWN COUNTY ASSESSMENT PLAN:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to acknowledge 2021 Brown County Assessment Plan as presented by Gene Loeschke, Director of Equalization. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY EQUIPMENT :

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent met to give an update on highway equipment rotations. SET BID DATE - USED LOADER:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to authorize advertising and set bid date for used 4 yard loader. Bid opening set for February 9th, 2021 at 8:46a.m. Specifications are on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office and the Brown County Highway Department Office and may be obtained at no charge. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss legal per SDCL 1-25-2(3). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:15

A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor Published once at the total approximate cost of \$93.74. 19688

Brown County Ord. 183

Koehler Rezoning

ORDINANCE #183
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by John Koehler 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):

Lots 1-4, "John Koehler Subdivision" in the SE1/4 of section 6-T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (3000 N Baird 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 December 30th 2020 and January 6th, 2021
Passed First Reading: January 12th, 2021

Passed Second Reading: January 19th 2021

Adopted: January 19th 2021
Published: January 27th 2021
Effective Date: February 16, 2021

Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.28. 19689

Brown County Ord. 184

Weigel Rezoning

ORDINANCE #184

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Marcie Weigel 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, "Weigel and Locken Subdivision" in the NE1/4 of Section 7-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38855137th 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.

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Effective Date: February 16, 2021

Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.28. 19690

*A gift
subscription
to the Groton
Independent
makes a great
gift!*

**Brown County
Ord. 185**

Dosch Rezoning

ORDINANCE #185
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION
BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES,
AS AMENDED
TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED
PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Marjorie Dosch 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, 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)

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.

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Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.28. 19691

**Brown County
Ord. 186**

Malsam Rezoning

ORDINANCE #186
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING
TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION
BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES,
AS AMENDED
TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED
PROPERTY

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Troy Malsam 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):

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

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Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.96. 19692

**Brown County
Used Loader
Bid Notice**

Notice to Equipment Dealers
Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401, until 8:46 A.M. on February 9, 2021. At that time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for furnishing and delivery of ONE (1) Used 4 Yard Loader F.O.B., Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the

Brown County Auditor, Brown County Court House Annex, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401. The bids are to be clearly marked on outside of the envelope: "Bid on ONE (1) Used 4 Yard Loader" to be opened on February 9, 2021 at 8:46 A.M. Proposal Guarantee: The proposal guaranty required, and that must accompany each bid, is a certified check, a cashier's check, or bank draft certified by a national or state bank and payable at sight to Brown County, South Dakota in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total amount of the bid, or in lieu thereof, bidder may furnish a bid bond of ten percent (10%) of the bid, such bond to be issued by a surety company authorized to do business in South Dakota and payable to Brown County, South Dakota. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids, which they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County. Brown County is EXEMPT from all Federal Excise Tax and State Sales Tax.

Specifications are on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office, and the Brown County Highway Department Office and may be obtained at no charge. The bidder must use our bid proposal form when submitting their bid. Please direct any questions regarding the specifications to the Brown County Highway Department at 1-605-626-7118. Brown County Highway Department, Dirk Rogers, Superintendent (0127.0203)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$39.38. 19693

**Frederick Town
Jan. 14, 2021**

Construction Mtg

Town of Frederick
Construction Meeting
January 14, 2021

The final construction meeting pertaining to the Wastewater Sewer Project for the Town of Frederick with Dahme Construction Company, Inc., Helms & Associates, NECOG and USDA-RD for the remainder of this Winter was held on ZOOM January 14, 2021, at Noon.

Dahme Construction Company, Inc., have completed their work until Spring and will remove all of their equipment over the Winter. The project finished about 4 weeks behind schedule. A change order was approved to send to USDA-RD shoring up small water items that have come up and the added days to completion.

The next meeting will be in the Spring. Substantial completion of the project is scheduled for July 31, 2021.

Diane Bruns
Frederick Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.99. 19687

**Groton City
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY
MUNICIPALITY OF GROTON,
SOUTH DAKOTA

The following offices will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term or due to the resignation of office of the elective officer:

- 1, 2-year term
City Council, Alderman-Ward
- 2, 2-year term
City Council, Alderman-Ward
- 3, 2-year term
City Council, Alderman-Ward
- 2, 1-year term
City Council, Alderman-Ward

Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 29th and petitions may be filed in the office of the finance officer located at 209 N Main, Groton, SD between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., central time not later than the 26th day of February 2021 or mailed by registered mail not later than the 26th day of February 2021, at 5:00 p.m. central time.

Hope Block, Finance Officer (0120.0127)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$20.57. 19668

**Claremont Town
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY
MUNICIPALITY OF CLAREMONT

THE following offices will become vacant/or up for renewal due to the expiration of the present term of office:

CLAREMONT TOWN COUNCIL
Frank Rasmussen, 3 year trustee term

Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 26.

If you need a petition, please call the city office and one will be mailed to you. Petitions may be filed with the finance officer at 606 6th Ave. in Claremont SD 57432. Final day for turning in petition is 5 p.m., February 26, 2021.

Charla Rye
Finance Officer
Town of Claremont
(0120.0127)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$16.45. 19670

**Groton City
Gravel Bid
Notice**

INVITATION TO BID
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota, will open bids for the 2021 supply of gravel on February 16, 2021 at 7:00pm (local time) at the Community Center, 109 N 3rd Street, Groton, SD. Received sealed bids will be opened and read aloud.

Bids are invited for 2021 supply of approximately 2,000 cubic yards of crushed gravel delivered to the City of Groton, South Dakota.

The approximate quantity mentioned above is subject to increase or decrease. Questions or requests for further information should be directed to the City Finance Office, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445. 605-397-8422

The City reserves the right to refuse any or all bids, to waive any informalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the City of Groton, SD.

January 27, 2021
(0127.0203)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$21.74. 19686

**Groton School
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY ON
SCHOOL BOARD
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

The following school board positions will become vacant July 1, 2021, due to the expiration of the present terms of office of the following school board members:

- Kara Pharis, 3-year term
- Martin D. Weismantel, 3-year term

Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 29, 2021, and petitions may be

filed in the office of the business manager located at Groton Area High School between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., central standard time not later than February 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., or mailed by registered mail not later than February 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Michael J. Weber, Business Official
Groton Area School District
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$18.81. 19669
(2t. Jan 18 & Jan 25, 2021)

**Frederick School
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY ON
SCHOOL BOARD
FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 6-2

The following school board positions will become vacant due to the expiration of the present terms of office.

- Richard Achen, School Board Member, 3-year term
- Rich Schlosser, School Board Member, 3-year term
- Dan Nickelson, School Board Member, 2-year term

Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 29, 2021 and petitions may be filed in the office of the business manager located at 202 E Main St, Frederick, SD between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., central time, not later than February 22, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., or mailed by registered mail not later than February 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Janel Wagner
(0120.0127)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$19.39. 19672

**Columbia City
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY
MUNICIPALITY OF COLUMBIA

THE following offices will become vacant/or up for renewal due to the expiration of the present term of office:

- COLUMBIA CITY COUNCIL
Ellen Harr, Columbia Board Member, 3 yr term
- Cole Kampa, Columbia Board Member, 3 yr term
- Corey Mitchell, Mayor of Columbia, 2 yr term

Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 29. If you need a petition, please call the city office and one will be mailed to you. Petitions can be left in the drop box at the

city office. Final day for turning in petition is February 26, 2021.

Cara Dennert
Finance Officer
City of Columbia
(0120.0127)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$17.64. 19673

**Frederick Town
Notice of Vacancy**

NOTICE OF VACANCY
MUNICIPALITY OF FREDERICK

THE following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
Troy Millard, Frederick Board

Member, 3-year term
Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 29, and petitions may be picked up and filed in the office of the Finance Officer located at 406 3rd Avenue, Frederick, SD on Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings between the hours of 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM (Central Standard Time). Final day for turning in petition is February 26, 2021 when Finance Office will be open until 5 PM.

Diane Bruns
Frederick Finance Officer
(0120.0127)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$17.64. 19671

FREE COVID-19 AT HOME TESTING

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**Frederick School
Jan. 13, 2021**

Meeting Minutes

OFFICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2
JANUARY 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order on January 13, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Dan Nickelson, Jon Ellwein, Richard Achen and Alex Hart. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kosters and Business Manager Janel Wagner. Guest was Marty Morlock.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members of the public are allowed three minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members wishing to speak, the board moved on with their remaining agenda items.

Action 20-081 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, carried.

Action 20-082 Motion by Ellwein, second by Nickelson to approve consent agenda which included the following items as presented: minutes of meetings held December 14, 2020; December 2020 financial report, district bills and December 2020

payroll. All aye, carried.

Claims approved: December 2020 Payroll - General Fund salaries 75,780.75; Special Education salaries 10,171.34, Food Service 2,984.98. EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 23,269.20; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,105.29; American Funds, retirement 1,115.02; Delta Dental, insurance 1,693.50; The Standard, life insurance 269.79; Security Benefits, retirement 1,100.26; VSP, vision insurance 350.85; Wellmark, health insurance 15,686.00; SD Retirement 13,252.84; SD Retirement Supplemental, 465.26.

General Fund: Aberdeen School District 6-1, 2020 Fall ATEC tuition 4,876.80; Amazon Capital Services, laptop repairs 120.56; Bantz, Gosch & Cremer, L.L.C., legal fees 4,266.00; Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Program/concessions 852.45; Cash-Wa Distributing of Kearney Inc, concessions supplies 278.16; CoachTube, coach training 69.30; Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country, concessions supplies 158.21; Cole Papers Inc, supplies 781.18; Community Store, concessions supplies 85.24; Custodial Account-FASD, Imprest checks reimbursement 63.25; Dakota Outdoors, fitness center repairs 645.00; Farnam's Genuine Parts Inc, repairs 39.96; Foreman Sales & Service Inc, repairs 39.85; GDI News, publishing 164.06; Hauff Mid America

Sports, GBB apparel 90.95; iBoss Inc, subscription 1,495.00; Innovative Office Solutions LLC, supplies 64.24; Istate Truck Inc, repairs 2,562.24; James Valley Telecommunications, telephone 242.41; Jostens Inc, diploma covers 40.73; Kaufman Law Office, legal fees 21,662.45; Kessler's, concessions supplies 101.90; Langley, Sharon, music supplies reimbursement 11.24; Merchant Services, lunch payment fees 34.83; Mertz Lumber & Supply, repairs 95.76; Mid-American Research Chemical, supplies 551.82; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co, electric 4,174.09; Mosyle Corporation, monitoring subscription 539.00; National Education Music Company, supplies 29.40; Nickelson, Donald, coach training reimbursement 35.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 242.40; Podoll, Caitlin, education reimbursement 100.00; Savvas Learning Company LLC, science workbooks 61.94; School Specialty, supplies 78.32; Town of Frederick, utilities 572.35; Total \$45,226.09. Imprest checks: Brown County Sheriff, fingerprinting 20.00; Division of Criminal Investigation, background check 43.25; Total \$63.25. Capital Outlay Fund: A&B Business Solutions, managed print contract 670.70; American Time, clocks 310.24; Hauff Mid America Sports, taping table 1,858.00; Total \$2,838.94. Special Education Fund: Avera St Luke's, occupational/physical

therapy 4,040.56. Food Service Fund: Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, food/supplies 1,576.87; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 82.17; Total \$1,659.04.

The following reports were presented:

A. Jeff Kosters - Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director

The Back-to-School Plan was discussed with no action taken. Mr. Kosters informed the school board about changes to classroom observations performed by Mrs. Ringgenberg with no action taken.

Action 20-083 Motion by Nickelson, second by Achen to appoint Rich Schlosser as the 2021 ASBSD LAN member to represent the Frederick Area School District. All aye, carried.

Action 20-084 Motion by Achen, second by Hart to approve the addition of a new Assistant Track Coach position for 2021. All aye, carried.

Action 20-085 Motion by Nickelson, second by Achen to approve coaching contract for Jeff Kosters, 2021 Head Football coach at \$4,200.00. All aye, carried.

Action 20-086 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to adjourn at 7:22 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Janel Wagner, Business Manager

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$103.38. 19694

| Ending December 31, 2020 | General Fund | Capital Outlay Fund | Special Education Fund | Food Service Fund | Drivers Ed Fund | Custodial Fund |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Revenue: | | | | | | |
| Taxes..... | \$126,130.94 | \$115,272.24 | \$55,243.13 | | | |
| Local Sources..... | \$740.28 | | | \$2,140.00 | | \$750.00 |
| Intermediate Sources..... | \$429.75 | | | | | |
| Interest..... | \$28.52 | | | | | \$0.19 |
| Federal & State..... | \$75,629.61 | | | | | |
| Total Revenue..... | \$202,959.10 | \$115,272.24 | \$55,243.13 | \$2,140.00 | \$0.00 | \$750.19 |
| Disbursement | | | | | | |
| Bills..... | \$56,975.70 | \$4,081.79 | \$2,644.19 | \$4,229.17 | | \$153.21 |
| Payroll..... | \$127,548.81 | | \$15,023.23 | \$4,673.04 | | |
| Total Disbursements..... | \$184,524.51 | \$4,081.79 | \$17,667.42 | \$8,902.21 | \$0.00 | \$153.21 |
| Total checking balance..... | \$308,582.30 | \$282,096.36 | \$194,506.25 | (\$3,259.81) | \$912.92 | \$4,830.96 |
| Beginning investment balance..... | \$515,609.15 | \$1,933,634.20 | \$1,446,175.05 | | | |
| Interest..... | \$321.10 | | | | | |
| Total investment balance..... | \$515,930.25 | \$1,933,634.20 | \$1,446,175.05 | | | |
| Ending Balance..... | \$824,512.55 | \$2,215,730.56 | \$1,640,681.30 | (\$3,259.81) | \$912.92 | |

Lana's Annals

Greetings to all. This was another preliminary "practice" week. We continue to see bills going into the hopper but have not acted on a lot of them. The ones we have are what are called clean up bills, bills that update the language of old laws. For example, HB1025 is slated to be heard in our education committee on Monday. References are made to "South Dakota State Superintendent." As we no longer have one who serves in the capacity, a need exists to change to "Department of Education." Other committees are dealing with language updates in some fashion as well. That said, we are about to head into the "meat and potatoes" part of the session, the weeks spent reviewing bills that have been submitted on behalf of the Governor, constituents or groups across the state.

This past week in education we heard from three superintendents, Dr. Kludt, Deubrook; Terry Nebelsick, Huron; and Shad Storley, Wagner (formerly Redfield). I requested that each talk about various activities and/or achievements of their schools.

Dr. Kludt spoke of the many, many classes that help give their students knowledge and training in aquaponics, metal works, mechanics, engineering along with regular classroom solids. Dr. Nebelsick focused

on the different world cultures his school has acquired and produced testimony that shows those students are achieving very well in their classes and on testing. He emphasized the term "agape love" which means taking all students who walk through his doors and to let them know they are important and loved despite culture, economic status, or family challenges. Mr. Storley spoke of their JAG program (Junior Achievement Grant) program, which works with disadvantaged, at risk children. The Wagner School District has had this program in effect for several years, and last year a group of their students came and testified how this program has changed their lives. It focuses on classroom learning, counseling, and prob-

lem solving tough issues that these students should not have to deal with (i.e. poverty, drug usage, incarcerations, neglect, assaults within their families). We would all like to think that school-aged children are on the same playing field when they arrive to begin a school day. Such is not the case.

I had also extended an invitation to Dr. Brian Maher, executive director of the Board of Regents, and college presidents to be our Friday education committee guests. I was very pleased that Dr. Maher and ALL 6 presidents from our public universities were physically present. The discussion entailed enrollments, current and future programs, issues due to covid, and of course, needs, in relation to outdated buildings SB55 is one that tasks our colleges to look at enrollment and retention, overlap of degrees, degrees with few graduates, etc. in order to assure taxpayer dollars are being used efficiently on higher education. Earlier this summer, I tasked the Regents to really take a hard look at defining the mission of institutions of higher learning. I emphasized that critical thinking skills are still very essential for people of all ages. I also indicated we do not need so many offices to address everyone's every wish.

Our local government committee had spirited debate on HB1050, which we ended up passing. It was about modification of publishing requirements in local newspapers. Legal notices shall be published in the paper with a link provided to a website where they will also appear. The opposition stated that the legal charges then would rise considerably, but that argument was debunked by Dave Bordewyk, the director of SDNA, when he testified that the average increase would be 2 per cent. He felt it added transparency by doing website publishing. We passed this on a vote of 9-4. It now goes to the House floor.

I just want to mention that our capitol building is still open to the public. Stations for hand sanitizing or temperature checking exist. We never want to discourage people or groups from coming to meetings or to session. Masking is suggested. You knew if you are ill and should stay away from the People's House or any other place. That is common sense. So far only one legislator has reported having covid, and he got it before session began. So, hopefully, we will continue as normal.

I am in the process of asking questions as to why SDPB only aired the State of the State message on their afternoon TV productions and not the chief justice or tribal, messages. SDPB magazine lists the sessions as available to watch. I am hoping that this week will begin their regular 2 P.M. programming of the House followed by the Senate

For those of you who have been asking who were the recipients of CRF small business and health grants and do not know where to look, go to open.sd.gov., then click on checkbook, navigate down to crf grants and begin searching for the categories of your choice. I was surprised at some of the grant approvals and amounts, and you will probably be as well. Hopefully, the grants will help those who really needed them. Oh, and when you see "Greenfields Pub," it is NOT us. I understand there is a business in Lead, SD by that name.

Until next week, take time for family, meditate daily, pray for those who suffer in mind or body or both, and adopt an attitude of gratitude. Life is short; many things we choose to stew about do not even matter.

With that, take care.
Rep. Lana Greenfield
lana.greenfield@sdlegislature.gov

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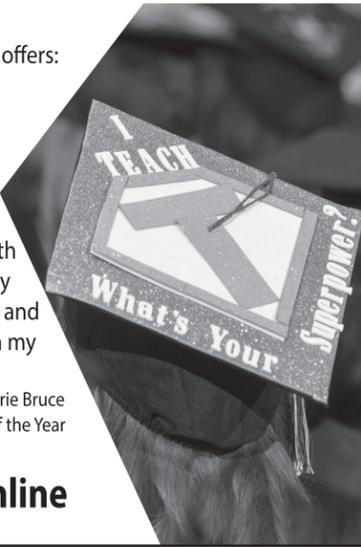
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Answers to last week's Fun Page

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1. milk
2. cheese
3. yogurt
4. ice cream

Plaque Pests
If you don't brush we will be happy to make your teeth as yellow as ours!

Freshening Up!
What will help you to freshen that "morning breath"?

Answers:
1. M O L A B
2. B R U S H
3. D E N T I S T
4. P L A Q U E
5. V I S I T
6. T O O T H B R U S H
7. D R I L L
8. F L O S S
9. E N A M E L
10. F L O S S
11. B R U S H
12. T O O T H B R U S H
13. F L O S S
14. T O O T H P A S T E
15. E
16. D
17. C R O W N
18. H Y G I E N I S T
19. X R A Y

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Glimpses From Greenfield

After two weeks of the Ninety-Sixth Legislative Session, only 81 House Bills and 98 Senate Bills have been introduced. There are, however, dozens and dozens of bill drafts that people are seeking sponsors for and dozens and dozens of other draft requests that are still being worked on by our staff. I am curious how things will shake out, once the deadlines for all legislation to be introduced have passed. There are lots and lots of entirely new legislators who come in with ideas they would like to pursue. There is always a lot of conjecture about what that will lead to in terms of total bill volume. I remember in 2000 when I first got elected, they pundits were predicting way more than the "normal" number of bills, with at least one even predicting that there could be as many as 1,000 bills. Well, there weren't. There were 527 bills introduced that year. The number has ebbed and flowed with a bit of a downward trend line over my years in the legislature. I just randomly clicked on 2017, and I see there were only 390 bills dropped that year. I bring up that narrative because there were all kinds of predictions and projections again this year. Some people actually wanted us to pass a rule to limit the number of bills we could even consider in this "COVID" world. Well, we did not do that, but for us political junkies, it will be interesting to see what reality bears out. My guess...and, frankly, my hope...is that 2021 is as normal as ever.

I have spent hours and hours in various meetings over the first couple weeks. My wildest guess is that Appropriations has spent about 50 hours in meetings over the first eight days. On the Republican side of the aisle, we have also had two "Whip group" meetings dedicated solely to talking about funding matters. I have also had countless one-on-one or small-group meetings to discuss anything from providing additional resources to our Community-Based Support Providers (including adjustment training centers, nursing homes, mental health institutions, chemical dependency counselors) to trying to establish some regulations surrounding surrogacy to trying to figure out what we are going to do about the voter-enacted medical and recreational marijuana laws. The proponents of those measures said they were well-developed and implied they were ready for prime-time. To the contrary, they were piles of flaming tinders that are poised to blow up as the political winds blow and as interested parties pour gas on the fire. We're going to do our best, though, to get things figured out, and as I pointed out in caucus yesterday, we really do need to get as many things as possible taken care of this year because right now 1) the voters put the law in-place, 2) law enforcement has virtually no incentive to try to enforce existing laws prohibiting weed, 3) prosecutors will have a next-to-impossible task of getting anything to stick, and that assumes a defense attorney would not simply delay court proceedings until after July 1 when the laws are set to take effect, and 4) failure to provide some sort of framework within our statutes will render us the Wild West of the Great Pot Project!

I have also been working on some of my own legislation, but there will be plenty of time to discuss that further down the road as bills are heard. For now, I'd like to mention one of the beautiful aspects of my job. I get to help people. Once, I had a lady in Castlewood introduce herself to me. She told me we had never met but we had talked on the phone. She said after our conversations, and my subsequent discussions with the Department of Social Services, the issue she called me about had been resolved. I have any number of positive stories I could tell, but I'll spare you ALL the details. And, I'm not going to even begin to suggest I/we always get our way. But with respect to two CARES/CRF (COVID) grants, I had some direct contacts with a few people. I would get a call, which would lead to me calling somebody else and then returning the initial call. Then, there'd be a series of texts and emails. I will point you to the website open.sd.gov where you can see all COVID grants paid out to-date. You can click on "Checkbook" and then navigate the site however you choose. I will not share the one individual's situation, but I will tell you that his business was awarded a much-needed grant because of losses sustained in the wake of COVID shut-downs. I will share the fact that the Turton Fire Department made a very difficult decision to forego their annual fundraiser during the first weekend of the pheasant season. They discovered that they may be eligible for CARES Act grant monies. They applied and they had their paperwork returned, with the decision-makers asking for more information. For a few moments, it appeared there was no course forward. However, the two gentlemen from Turton who contacted me continued to very patiently explain things to me. In the end, we collectively made the contacts that had to be made in order reach a favorable outcome. To be honest, I was thrilled when I got the text telling me of the final decision. On Dec. 2, it appeared the door was closing. Six weeks later, the outcome was better-than-hoped-for! Not every circumstance ends up with a happy result, but I truly love knowing that between our state citizens, our legislators, and our state employees, we work hard to make things work when and where they can.

On a final note: last Thursday, we held our annual Joint Memorial Service to honor the former legislators who have departed the Earthly realm in the past year, along with their families. Of the nine people, I had served with six of them. I was an intern and a friend of the child of another. And I was honored to work for another one as his legislator after his term of service. Milt Lakness and his family have left their mark on Hamlin County and on the state of South Dakota in a profound way. I have also had the honor of calling Milt and much of his family my friends. This was the first year I have ever been one of the legislators involved in the production of the memorial service.

It was humbling and a phenomenal honor for me to place the rose honoring Milt from one vase to the other symbolizing his journey from this life to the afterlife. In this moment, I want to thank every person who has ever endeavored to serve his or her community and fellow man in a leadership position. I also thank their families for their many sacrifices along the way! God bless them, and God bless each of you!
Brock

Groton Prairie Mixed

Team Standings: Shih Tzus 15, Jackelopes 14, Chipmunks 10, Cheetahs 9

Men's High Games: Doug Jorgensen 201, Roger Spanier 200, 197, Randy Stanley 197

Women's High Games: Darci Spanier 180, 174, Lori Wiley 168, Nicole Kassube 168

Men's High Series: Randy Stanley 548, Roger Spanier 542, Brad Waage 513

Women's High Series: Darci Spanier 490, Lori Wiley 452, Nicole Kassube 435

Conde National League

Team Standings: Mets 19, Cubs 18, Giants 15, Pirates 14, Braves 14, Tigers 4

Men's High Games: Collin Cady 218; Butch Farmen 207, 200; Lance Frohling 204

Men's High Series: Butch Farmen 565, Lance Farmen 506, Collin Cady 503

Women's High Games: Tanah Messevou 179, Sam Bahr 176, Nancy Radke 175

Women's High Series: Sam Bahr 489, Tanah Messenou 471, Nancy Radke 468



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20-PHYS-24254

Questions swirl around who qualifies next to get COVID-19 vaccine in S.D.

By: Bart Pfankuch

South Dakota health officials and medical providers have been near the top of the nation in administering COVID-19 vaccines as they become available, but a significant new challenge awaits as the state moves into a much larger, more difficult-to-define population of people who may qualify for a shot.

That upcoming subset of people will include an estimated 80,000 residents with two or more underlying medical conditions as defined by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

With that next group potentially in play as early as February, state officials and health providers as of Jan. 20 did not have a firm plan in place to definitively determine how they, and members of the public, will figure out who qualifies for a vaccine in that population group, how potential vaccine recipients will verify their conditions and whether proof of medical diagnoses will be required before shots are administered.

Health providers across the state have increasingly been fielding questions from residents with existing medical conditions who want to be vaccinated as soon as possible and who so far are unable to get clear answers about when they can get shots.

As of mid-January, the state and medical providers had not developed concrete plans on how to determine who qualifies in the Phase 1D subgroup of patients with two or more underlying conditions, said Scott Peterson, director of pharmacy at Monument Health in Rapid City.



Scott Peterson

"There's been no decision that has been made on that yet," said Peterson, who is leading that system's vaccination efforts. "At this point in time, there is not a definitive plan on that ... that is something that the health department along with the health systems, and with other input, are working on."

The state recently entered the fourth phase of its long-range, seven-phase vaccination plan after completing initial phases that included front-line health-care workers, long-term care residents and staff, law enforcement, EMS and correctional workers and a few other small groups.

After having success in phases 1A through 1C, the state sped up entry into Phase 1D on Jan. 18 by making shots available to a newly created subset of 1D that includes the highest-risk patients within the group — those 80 and older, people with cancer, those on dialysis and very high-risk people in congregate settings.

But once that subset is complete, likely in early February, the state will move into the remainder of Phase 1D, a large, widespread population of people that includes as many as 250,000 residents and one subset in particular that will create diagnostic challenges and likely some controversy over who is next in line to receive the potentially life-saving shots.

In addition to all residents 65 or over, teachers and college staff and funeral service workers, Phase 1D also includes "persons with 2 or more underlying medical conditions," a population estimated at roughly 80,000 people.

The state is basing vaccinations in that group on a list developed by the CDC of 23 medical conditions that are known or believed to put someone at higher risk of complications or death if the person becomes infected with the coronavirus. Like other states, South Dakota is prioritizing vaccinations partially on whether people have two or more of those underlying health conditions.

Verification and communication plans uncertain

Verifying if someone qualifies for a vaccine dose within the two underlying conditions category could be fairly simple for a doctor or practitioner who has extensive experience treating or diagnosing a patient, said Dr. Michael Wilde, vice president and chief medical officer at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls.

But determining whether a person has two of the CDC-listed conditions will be difficult if not impossible for front-line employees who will check in patients at hospitals, clinics or pharmacies where COVID-19 vaccines will be delivered, Wilde said.

Identifying and verifying who qualifies will also be tricky when it comes to patients with rare conditions or those that are not specifically listed on the CDC website but that likely put them at higher risk from COVID-19 complications, experts said.

The underlying-conditions subset will also include people who are at high risk but who do not have a general practitioner, are not affiliated with a hospital system, or who receive medical care only at emergency rooms or urgent-care facilities not affiliated with specific medical systems. That group of people whose numbers are unknown cannot be certain if they qualify and will not be alerted by vaccine providers.

Wilde said he has seen some federal guidelines that recommend that verification of underlying conditions be required at vaccination sites, and other potential guidelines that suggest verification of medical conditions may be unwieldy and could slow down the overall vaccination effort.

Wilde said he expects that someone who makes an appointment or shows up to get a shot in any category within Phase 1D will be vaccinated if doses are available. That includes those who may have questions about whether they technically qualify under the underlying conditions guidelines or not, he said.

"As a clinician it's a pretty clear list," Wilde said. "But I would be hard pressed to think that we're going to sit there and try to verify, especially in gray areas where it's tough to make a determination, that we're going to turn someone away if we have vaccine available based on a lack of verification or a lack of those medical conditions."

On the national level, some experts have said that relying too closely on guidelines and

rules for who qualifies for a shot has slowed the vaccination rates in other states and left some doses in storage rather than being injected into arms.



David Basel

Dr. David Basel, vice president for clinical quality at Avera Health in Sioux Falls, said the five South Dakota health systems tasked with providing vaccines to the public — Sanford Health, Avera Health, Monument Health, Mobridge Hospital and the Northern Plains Health Network — have computer systems that can determine who has underlying conditions and generate a list of patients who qualify for a shot. State data show about 400,000 South Dakotans are estimated to have one underlying condition, and about 80,000 are estimated to have two conditions, Basel said.

"We're trying to take a more proactive approach to a lot of the chronic conditions; we are trying to reach out to those folks rather than have patients try to self-identify," Basel said, adding that the process has been easier with targeted populations so far.

Residents of Native American reservations will receive vaccinations through the federal Indian Health Services, which is also busy prioritizing delivery of the vaccines and notifying those who qualify to sign up for a shot as soon as possible.

As of Jan. 21, South Dakota had administered about 58,500 doses of the two types of COVID-19 vaccines; roughly 11,000 people had completed the two-dose full regimen.

Wilde said people whose medical conditions can easily be verified or whose conditions obviously fit into the CDC list will be notified by health systems that they qualify — either by mail, email, text message or phone call — and invited to sign up to make an appointment to receive a shot.

Health providers are reluctant to create a system where people who haven't made an appointment show up with medical records in hand to wait in line and then potentially be turned away because someone at the vaccination site determines that the patient doesn't qualify for a shot or because there are not enough vaccine doses available, Wilde said.

"For people to just show up and stand in line could be really disappointing for people," Wilde said. "We also don't want to upset people by inviting them and then not having vaccine available."

Basel said that at the current allocation of vaccines to South Dakota, about 11,000 doses per week, medical systems have not had difficulty in reaching out to people who qualify for a shot.



Michael Wilde

"I would be hard pressed to think that we're going to sit there and try to verify, especially in gray areas where it's tough to make a determination, that we're going to turn someone away if we have vaccine available based on a lack of verification or a lack of those medical conditions."

-- Dr. Michael Wilde, vice president and chief medical officer at Sanford Health in Sioux Falls

But if vaccination supply increases, as most providers anticipate, Basel said the number of qualifying patients may overwhelm the ability of medical systems to call them all.

"There may come a time where we open it up wider to a kind

Continues next pg.

of honor system," he said, "but it all depends on the supply."

Not a perfect prioritization system

Wilde and others acknowledged that some perceived inequalities may exist among those who qualify under the underlying-conditions category due to poor lifestyle choices or in categories related to living in congregate settings that can include prison or jail inmates.

For example, using the CDC at-risk conditions list as a guide will mean that obese cigarette smokers will qualify for a shot before people with single serious health conditions such as Type 1 or 2 diabetes, sickle-cell disease, Down Syndrome, asthma, liver disease, weakened immune system, chronic pulmonary disease or pregnancy.

Wilde urged the public to be patient and have an understanding that no system of prioritization will be perfect.

"There will be nuances and some of them could be a little bit of a head scratcher, and that's kind of that grace we're seeking from the public," Wilde said.

Vaccinating prisoners, smokers or obese people makes sense from an overall health perspective amid a pandemic, health experts said.

Basel noted that the use of the CDC guidelines is meant to prioritize vaccination of people who have underlying conditions of any type or cause, which can reduce preventable deaths or prevent further taxing of the capacity and capabilities of the state medical system.

Those people are just as likely to spread the virus as a healthy person or someone with any other high-risk illness, and vaccinating as many people as possible as quickly as possible remains the overriding goal of a widespread vaccination effort.

"I'm a physician and I work for a health system and I look at it more from the resources-allocation side, as in 'Who are those more likely to be hospitalized and overwhelm the health-care system? Who has the highest rate of hospitalizations?'" Basel said. "I haven't looked at it as much as the social aspect as I have for the health-care risk."

When it comes to obesity, for example, which is defined by a body-mass index of 30 or higher, Basel said the evidence is overwhelming that COVID-19 patients who are obese are at much higher risk of complications or death from the virus. With that in mind, it makes sense to vaccinate those patients as early as possible, he said.



Daniel Bucheli

Department of Health spokesman Daniel Bucheli said the vaccination plan has worked well so far in South Dakota, and health officials expect to see continued success.

But Bucheli noted that some parts of the plan moving forward will be fluid and open to adjustments, as evidenced by how the state opened the small subgroup of Phase 1D group on Jan. 18.

Bucheli said these adjustments likely will be judgment calls that must be made as to who qualifies under the two or more underlying medical conditions subset. He said the state is still working to develop a process for deciding who fits into that group and how they will be notified, including those whose medical conditions might not appear specifically on the CDC list.

"Someone is going to have to make the call, and we're leaving that to your medical professional," Bucheli said. As far as alerting potential vaccine recipients with two underlying conditions, "that's one of the logistical issues the

health systems are working through right now."

Aside from that, the greatest unknown at this point is how many shots South Dakota will receive from the federal government moving forward, which will play a critical role in determining how many people will qualify for vaccinations and how many can actually get a shot, Bucheli said.

"We have the partners, we have the infrastructure and we have the know-how on how to get shots in arms," he said. "We're waiting for final allocation numbers ... and that is our biggest holdup."

Bucheli and Basel said the state has received mixed signals from the federal government about whether allocations of vaccine doses will increase in the coming weeks and months. Officials are hoping that allocations may rise after new vaccines from AstraZeneca and Johnson & Johnson receive approval for use. President Joe Biden has also vowed to speed up the vaccination process across the country.

New and ongoing challenges lie ahead



Kim Rieger

Determining who qualified for a vaccine in Phases 1A, 1B, 1C and the new subset of 1D was fairly easy, said Kim Rieger, vice president of marketing and communications at Huron Regional Medical Center, the vaccine provider to Beadle and Sanborn

counties in northeastern South Dakota.

In the case of nursing-home residents and staff, for example, it was simple to call the homes and ask for a list of people who wanted to get a shot, and then make appointments. The same is true in regard to checking the age of someone to see if the person is 80 or over, she said.

But Rieger said it will likely require a judgment call to determine who fits into the 1D category of having two underlying conditions. "As someone with a non-medical brain, I would put high blood pressure into that heart-condition category," she said. "But I'm not sure whether that is right or not."

She said there could be some confusion among people who do not have a health-care plan or lack stability in where they received medical treatment or by whom. That could include people who tend to receive medical treatment only in crisis situations at an emergency room or an urgent-care clinic, she said.

"The question I can't answer is if someone doesn't have a primary-care provider and no one has a list of their conditions," she said. "I would encourage them to just call their local clinic and see if they qualify."

The vaccination process has placed a significant staffing and paperwork burden on the Huron hospital, Rieger said, though the hospital is making arrangements to have some vaccinations occur at its five regional clinics to spread out some of the stress on staffing.

The Moderna vaccine can be held in refrigeration for 30 days, but the Pfizer vaccine must be administered within five days of receiving it and within six hours once it is compounded for injection, Rieger said, putting pressure on health providers to make sure they have more than enough people lined up to get a shot once the vaccines are received.

Rieger said state and local health officials have tried to develop solid plans, but providers must remain nimble and flexible because no one is sure how many vaccine doses will be received each Friday.

The most doses the Huron hospital has received in a single week was 325, but the hospital has also seen weeks where only 80 or 100 doses were received, Rieger said.

"The state has put a plan together in theory [of] how this would work, but until we hear that, 'Oh, yes, this many doses are coming next week,' it may be that we said we're go-

ing to do one thing and then, 'Oops, nope, that isn't going to work, we'll have to do this instead,'" Rieger said. "We absolutely do not want to waste any drop of vaccine."

Maintaining the efficacy of the vaccines while transporting doses to rural areas has been a challenge in South Dakota and other wide-open states, providers said. Doses have been transported by ambulance and by airplanes flown by the South Dakota Civil Air Patrol.

Rieger said doses shipped to northeastern South Dakota start at Avera Medical Center in Sioux Falls and then are shipped to Watertown, where they are divided up and shipped again according to population to Brookings, Huron and Madison.

In Rapid City, Monument Health has been administering vaccines from a small set of offices on the lower level of the system's Heart and Vascular Institute, away from the main hospital campus. Peterson said Monument is anticipating an increase in allocation of vaccine doses to South Dakota and in preparation is examining other buildings in the system that could be used to accommodate a significantly expanded vaccination operation.

Peterson said he also expects that Monument may have to hire temporary workers to aid in vaccine delivery without affecting personnel who are already busy with other medical procedures and duties.

Peterson said Monument and other health providers have explored partnerships with other health providers to deliver and administer vaccine doses in rural areas of the state — including, for example, teaming with rural provider Horizon Health care in Mission, Martin and White River, S.D. Health systems may also consider creating temporary "points of dispensing" sites, known as PODs, that have been set up during previous mass-vaccination events.

"We could also partner with EMS services inside of these areas where there are very few people but a lot of square miles to cover," Peterson said.

Rieger said she had received phone calls about twice a week in recent months from a woman in her early 60s in the Huron area who has underlying conditions and is eager to know when she will qualify for a shot so she can get vaccinated as soon as possible.

While health officials were reluctant to acknowledge that being persistent or proactive may increase one's chances of getting vaccinated, they do recommend that people who want a shot should stay tuned to local media, check the website of their local health providers regularly and stay engaged in how the vaccination plan in South Dakota is evolving.

"It's going to be very dynamic; none of us really have experience with something like this," Wilde said. "This is a very significant project that we're doing, and it's incredibly important and we feel that right now we're well-positioned and we'd also ask for the grace to adjust as needed."

He added, "We are absolutely dedicated to getting vaccines to everyone that wants it."

PERCENTAGE OF VACCINES ADMINISTERED BY STATE

Here is a look at how many COVID-19 vaccine doses each state in the Great Plains region has received, and how many had been administered as of Jan. 20, 2021.

| STATE | DOSES RECEIVED | DOSES GIVEN OUT | % USED |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|--------|
| N. Dakota | 78,150 | 57,657 | 73.8% |
| S. Dakota | 95,825 | 62,518 | 65.2% |
| Iowa | 291,075 | 149,850 | 51.5% |
| Montana | 111,625 | 57,270 | 51.3% |
| Wyoming | 62,575 | 29,309 | 46.8% |
| Nebraska | 237,500 | 106,283 | 44.8% |
| Minnesota | 595,775 | 252,548 | 42.4% |
| U.S. | 35,990,150 | 16,552,281 | 46.0% |

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Groton Area girls win, boys lose to Clark/Willow Lake

Groton Area girls hosted Clark/Willow Lake where the varsity team won and the junior varsity team lost; and then the boys traveled to Clark where the seventh grade boys and C team boys won and then the junior varsity and varsity teams lost.

Girls JV: Clark 23, Groton 7

Clark/Willow Lake jumped out to a 13-0 lead before Groton Area scores its first basket with 3:31 left in the first half. The Cyclones went on to win, 23-7. Jaedyn Penning had four points while Laila Roberts had two and Elizabeth Flihs one.

Musonda Kabwe led Clark/Willow Lake with nine points followed by Madison Burke with eight, and Haylee Tormanen, Medina Denoyer and Katelynn Merkel each had two points.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Agtegra.

Varsity Girls: Groton 34, Clark 33

Groton Area never trailed and the Cyclones never threatened as the Lady Tigers won the varsity game, 45-33. Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 11-5, 25-11 and 32-21.

Gracie Alyssa Thaler led the Tigers with 13 points followed by Brooke Gengerke with 11, Gracie Traphagen nine, Allyssa Locke eight and Aspen Johnson and Sydney Leicht each had two points. Thaler made two three-pointers while Gengerke and Traphagen each made one.

Groton Area made 13 of 32 two-pointers for 41 percent, four of 15 three-pointers for 27 percent, Traphagen had nine of the team's 31 rebounds, Thaler had three of the team's assists, and Locke had three of the team's eight steals. Groton Area had 14 turnovers and 10 team fouls.

Maggie Hovde and Jada Burke each had eight points for the Cyclones followed by Charity Kabwe and Alicia Vig with five each, Chayla Vig had three and Haylee Tormanen and Musonda Kabwe each had two points. Clark/Willow Lake made 13 of 50 field goals for 26 percent, was two of two from the line, had 11 turnovers and 16 team fouls.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Sponsors: Bierman Farm Sales, John Sieh Agency, Milbrandt Enterprises, Harr Motors (Bary Keith), Locke Electric, Groton Vet Clinic, Allied Climate Professionals (Kevin Nehls) SD Army National Guard (Brent Wienk) Bahr Spray Foam, Jark Real Estate and ThunderSeed (John Wheeting).

Groton Area is now 4-6 and Clark/Willow Lake is 3-6.

Boys 7th: Groton 35, Clark 27

The seventh grade boys team defeated Clark/Willow Lake, 36-27. The Cyclones led, 17-16 at half time.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Beauty Brew Coffee & Boutique, which will be opening soon in downtown Groton.

Keegen Tracy led the Tigers with 15 points followed by Ryder Johnson with nine, Logan Warrington eight and JD Schwan and Gage Sippel each had two points. Tracy and Johnson each made two three-pointers.

Boys C: Groton 39, Clark 30

Groton Area won the C game, 39-30. After a tie at one, the Tigers never trailed, leading at the quarterstops at 14-11, 24-18 and 34-25.

Taylor Diegel led the Tigers with 11 points followed by Logan Ringgenberg with 10, Cade Larson six, Colby Dunker five, Holden Sippel four and Braxton Imrie three. Diegel made two three-pointers and Imrie made one.

Ryder Jutunen led Clark/Willow Lake with

13 points followed by Tyson Huber with eight, Jack Helkenn six and Aaron Zemlicka two.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Kyle and Tyhe Gerlach.

Boys JV: Clark 37, Groton 24

Groton Area went scoreless for nearly 10 minutes while the Cyclones made 13 unanswered points to cruise to a 37-24 win in the junior varsity game.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Marilyn and Jerry Hearnen from Arizona grandparents of Wyatt Hearnen.

The lead changed hands five times and it was tied twice early in the game. Groton Area had a 12-10 lead with 4:22 left in the first quarter and the Cyclones then took a 23-12 lead with less than three minutes to go in the third quarter.

Wyatt Hearnen led the Tigers with 12 points while Favian Sanchez had five, Colby Dunker four and Cole Simon three. Hearnen made two three-pointers and Sanchez made one. Groton Area was one of five from the line and Clark/Willow Lake was six of nine. Noah Boykin led the Cyclones with 16 points while Kaplan Felberg had nine, Tate Burke six and Mitchell Larson, Cole Brenden and Wyatt Anderson each had two points.

Boys Varsity: Clark 48, Groton 43

Clark/Willow Lake staged off a late rally by Groton Area to post a 48-43 win over the Tigers.

Clark/Willow Lake opened up a 14-4 lead at the end of the first quarter and held a 16-point lead at half time, 27-11. The Cyclones still led by 15, 36-15, at the end of the third quarter.

Groton Area staged a come-back in the fourth quarter, led by Jayden Zak's 11 fourth-quarter points. It was 43-40 with 1:44 left in the game and the Tigers had a chance to tie the game, but Clark/Willow Lake would hang on to win.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Sponsors: Bierman Farm Sales, John Sieh Agency, Milbrandt Enterprises, Harr Motors (Bary Keith), Blocker Construction, Groton Vet Clinic, Allied Climate Professionals (Kevin Nehls) SD Army National Guard (Brent Wienk) Bahr Spray Foam, Jark Real Estate and ThunderSeed (John Wheeting).

Jayden Zak led the Tigers with 11 points followed by Tristan Traphagen with 10, Wyatt Hearnene eight, Tate Larson six, Lane Tietz four and Cole Simon and Jacob Zak with two each.

Groton Area made 13 percent of its shots in the first quarter, 30 percent in the second quarter, 50 percent in the third quarter and 42 percent in the fourth quarter. The Cyclones shot 43 percent in the first quarter, 50 percent in the second quarter, 44 percent in the third quarter and 50 percent in the fourth quarter.

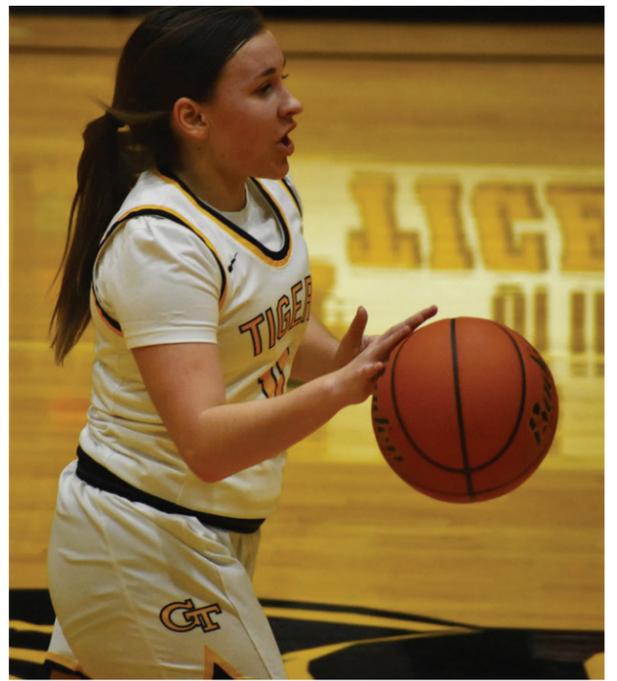
For the game, Groton Area made 16 of 39 two-pointers for 41 percent, was two of 13 in three-pointers for 15 percent, was five of 14 from the line for 33 percent, Traphagen had nine of Groton Area's 21 rebounds, Larson had four of the team's 12 assists and Jayden Zak had two of the team's five steals. Groton Area had six turnovers and 16 team fouls.

Clark/Willow Lake was led by Kalab Marx with 18 points followed by Noah Boykin with 11, Jordan 10, Tyler O'Neill four, Trey Huber three and Cole Brenden two. Clark/Willow Lake made 18 of 39 field goals for 46 percent, was seven of 14 from the line for 50 percent, had 12 turnovers and 12 team fouls.

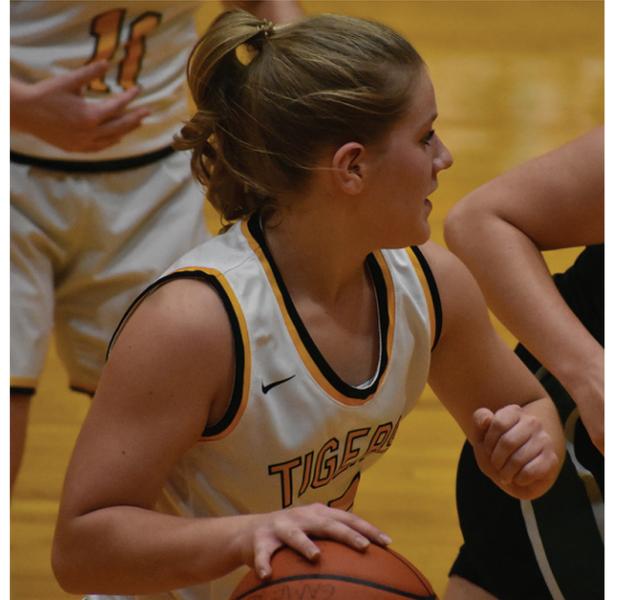
In three-pointers, Jayden Zak had two for Groton Area, and for Clark/Willow Lake, Boykin had two while Jordan, Marx and Huber each had one.

Groton Area is 7-2 and Clark/Willow Lake is 4-3.

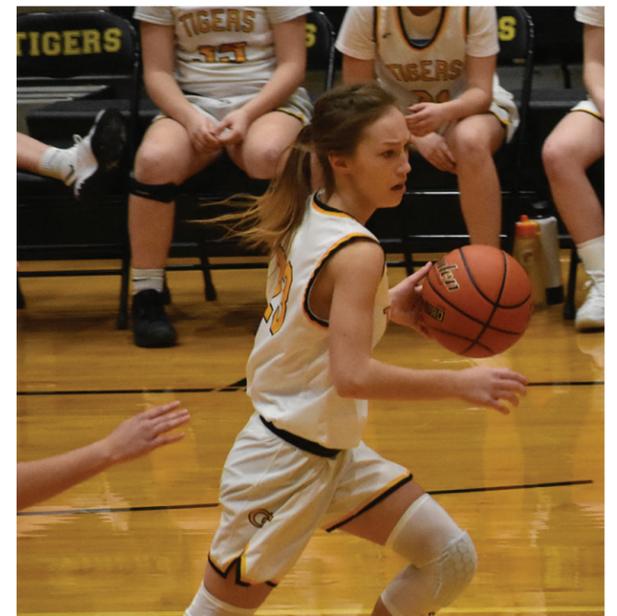
- Paul Kosel



Alyssa Locke
(Photo by Benjamin Higgins)



Brooke Gengerke
(Photo by Benjamin Higgins)



Alyssa Thaler
(Photo by Benjamin Higgins)



Elizabeth Flihs
(Photo by Benjamin Higgins)

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I hope the groundhog sees the...



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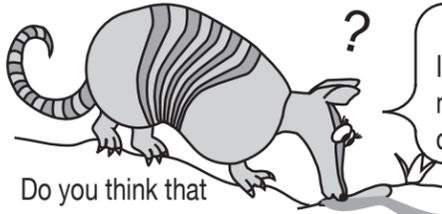
www.readingclubfun.com

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...sun so we can keep having winter fun.



Kids: color stuff in!



Are you awake, Mr. Groundhog? I don't mean to hound you, but maybe you can predict the winner of the Super Bowl, too? Hello!

Do you think that a groundhog can predict the weather? On February 2, some people will get up very early to watch the groundhog come out of its home. They will stand around the groundhog's hole in the ground and study the sky. As soon as they see the groundhog poke out of its hole they will snap pictures. Who do you think will see the funnier sight...the people or the groundhog?

Read the clues to fill in the crossword puzzle:

- a long winter's nap
- a warm-blooded creature
- another name for the groundhog
- curls into this to sleep
- something people believe in or think will happen without facts or proof
- the groundhog's _____ pumps more slowly when it hibernates
- the groundhog is part of this family
- young are born in this month
- males are about two feet long and weigh about twelve pounds; females are _____
- to tell about an event before it happens

Time to Rhyme!

Find and circle the ten words that rhyme with "ground."

- count
mound
frowned
wound
pound
crowned
groaned
hound
crouch
sound
browned
found
crowd
pounce
round

Our whole family doesn't weigh a pound!



Groundhog Weather Forecaster?

Hey, let me shine!

1. underground
2. squirrel
3. forecast
4. mammal
5. hibernation
6. heart
7. ball
8. spring
9. April
10. superstition
11. Ahhhh...I'm ready for springtime weather!
12. woodchuck

What's that sound? Do I hear cheering?

Look at the mound of dirt!

11. it is said that when the groundhog pokes out of his hole and sees the sun there will be six more weeks of winter, but when he sees clouds, _____ is near

12. where the groundhog lives

Football Fever

Find and circle these football terms:

- touchdown tackle
offense referee
defense kickoff
teams field goal
huddle quarterback

Look at him bound off to watch the game!



Off to watch the Super Bowl...chicken wings, potato chips, veggies and dips...yay!

Is Winter Almost Over?

Why did the groundhogs cheer when they came out of their burrows and saw only clouds? Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks and find out:

^ o #) □ { # ❄

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❄ + ({ # + } ❄

| | | | | | | | | |
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| J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R |
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| S | T | U | V | W | X | Y | Z | |
| (| ^ | * | * | ❄ | > |) | % | |

Yay! It's cloudy.

Weather Superstitions and Forecasts?



Grrrr... Who woke me?

Don't look at me!



Fill in the blanks to spell weather words!

- __ ain __ ow
- cl __ ud __
- met __ oro __ ogis __
- __ liz __ ard
- o __ erca __ t
- cli __ at __
- tem __ era __ ure
- dr __ zzl __

r y e b o \ m p b e z s i v t o t

Match these weather superstitions and forecasts:

(More than 1 superstition can have the same forecast...you'll see!)

- If squirrels store large numbers of acorns
 - When frogs croak louder and faster
 - If March comes in like a lion
 - When tree leaves flip over
 - "Red sky at night, sailor's delight
Red sky in morning,..."
 - If animals grow heavy fur
 - If a groundhog awakens from hibernation and sees sunshine and his shadow
 - When your bones ache
- A. it is going to rain.
B. it will go out like a lamb.
C. it is going to rain.
D. sailors take warning.
E. it will be a long, cold winter.
F. spring is far away!
G. it will be a long, hard winter.
H. rain is coming.

Answers next week



By Jordan Wright

The NFL Conference Championship games have been played, and we finally know the two teams who will be battling for the Lombardi Trophy on February 7. Before we look at how they got there, however, let's check in on the Vikings.

Vikings News and Notes

Last week, Pro Football Writers of America came out with its annual awards list. Dalvin Cook was the only Viking named to the 2020 PFWA All-NFL team, while Justin Jefferson and Cameron Dantzer were named to the All-Rookie Team.

In a move that many had seen coming, Vikings' offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak has officially retired. His absence will be felt, as not only did he implement an offense that was fourth in the NFL this season, he was also someone who Mike Zimmer could lean on when times got tough. The Vikings will now need to replace two coordinators (offensive and special teams).

Conference Championship Recaps

Tampa Bay 31, Green Bay 26

The first game on Sunday featured the Tampa Bay Buccaneers setting sail for the frozen tundra to face off against the Green Bay Packers. The storyline coming into this game was Tom Brady versus Aaron Rodgers, but it was defense that decided this game. Tampa Bay's defense sacked Rodgers five times on Sunday, while on the flip side, Green Bay's defense failed to get a stop when they needed one the most.

Tom Brady will be heading to his tenth Super Bowl, extending his record for most championship game appearances. Against the Packers, he finished the game with 280 yards, three touchdowns, and three interceptions. Amazingly, Brady has only been in the NFC for one season, but he already has as many conference championships as Aaron Rodgers and Drew Brees.

The Buccaneers were not able to get anything going on the ground, with Leonard Fournette and Ronald Jones combining for only 71 yards on 22 carries. Chris Godwin led the team's receivers, catching five passes for 110 yards. On defense, Devin White had 15 tackles, which was more than double the next defender. Jason Pierre-Paul was another standout, finishing with two sacks, two tackles for a loss, and two QB hits. However, the player of the game was Shaquil Barret, who

had three sacks, two tackles for a loss, and four QB hits.

Kansas City Chiefs 38, Buffalo Bills 24

The NFC Championship game was a one-score game that came down to the final minutes. The AFC Championship Game was over in the first half. Even with Buffalo jumping out to a 9-0 lead in the first nine minutes of the game, Kansas City went into halftime with a two-score lead that they never relinquished. The Bills had a great season but just couldn't compete with Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs.

A week after leaving the game with a concussion, Patrick Mahomes returned and was lights out against a stout Buffalo defense, completing 29 of 38 passes for 325 yards and three touchdowns. Mahomes was basically the Chiefs' only offense, as Kansas City's running backs could only churn out 59 yards on 19 carries on Sunday. The Chief's leading receiver was Tyreek Hill, who finished with nine catches for 172 yards. Frank Clark led the defense with two sacks, two tackles for a loss, and two QB hits.

The player of the game for Kansas City was Travis Kelce, who caught 13 passes for 118 yards and two touchdowns. Kelce is the best tight end in the NFL, and it isn't even close after this performance.

Don't miss next week's article, where we will break down this Super Bowl matchup. Skol!

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Learning Pacifism

The late Polish poet Stanislaw Lec once said, "Youth is the gift of nature, but age is a work of art." I'd like to believe that is true because looking back I am convinced that when I was younger, I was a complete moron—probably in all actuality, not even a primate. I'm not sure I am approaching art, either, unless it is something by Jackson Pollock, who got rich by spilling paint. (Somewhere in America there is a young man who just splashed paint all over a drop cloth and is listening to his mother tell him to clean it up when in fact he should sign it and tack it up on the walls of the Louvre.)

Please allow me a bit of navel-gazing in this week's installment. It's hard to ignore my navel since it marches two feet in front of me where ever I go. When it comes to offering insight, a navel is a lot like a crystal ball only with more lint. At my age, if you do any reflection at all, you are likely to realize that what you might believe are isolated behavioral incidents are actually patterns.

Though I consider myself to be a "logical pacifist," the record, which reaches back to childhood, would indicate a regular pattern of defiance in the face of common sense. Any military strategist will tell you that when confronted with superior numbers, a temporary retreat is an honorable option. Somehow, as a child, I imagined that there was more honor in taunting the enemy. In a War of Words, I almost always won. Unfortunately, I typically could not avoid the predictable escalation that followed my witty commentary.

In grade school, I once found myself and my newspaper delivery bag tangled in the handlebars with Mike Butler and Doug Krueger administering a vigorous beat-down after my critique of their masculinity. It started with them pelting me with crabapples as I peddled by on my paper route. They both had pretty good arms, and it hurt, but I yelled out that they threw like girls. But not in those words exactly. That is how I found myself with a black eye and bruised ego on Bernice Rollo's front steps, copies of GRIT blowing in the wind.

This was before I fully immersed myself in the tenets of pacifism, so sometime later, when I found Doug alone on his porch I asked if he wanted to go another round. Just me and him. "No, I'm good," he grinned. However, the only way I am going to fight Mike Butler is if he is in a wheelchair and I have a bat—and can sneak up on him. Even then, I still give him the edge. He probably still has knuckles on his knuckles. Shakespeare said, "Discretion is the better

That's Life

by Tony Bender

part of valor," but I struggled with classical literature not to mention discretion. Once, Kurt Smith, who looked like a pro wrestler, chucked a snowball in my general direction, and true to form, I questioned his manhood. "You throw like Doug Krueger," I said, which would have been hilarious except Doug was with him.

Like Kurt needed the help. Next thing you know, I was tackled next to Harold Schlosser's barn and Kurt was shoving a dried cow turd into my mouth. If you are ever in a fight and are unsure of how it should be scored, here's the deal: if you find a cow turd in your mouth, it is difficult to claim victory. Remember to floss.

Fight fans were not clambering for a rematch, but we had one, anyway. For that contest, Kurt didn't have a wingman, but even if I was equipped with an air-to-surface missile, Vegas wouldn't have taken the odds. It was mano-a-mano. In other words, I was hopelessly outgunned. I made my stand in study hall after Kurt, who sat behind me, poked me in the back one too many times. Furious, I whirled around and snatched his prized gold pen, looked him in the eye, and broke it in half. At that point, logic, running about five seconds later than adrenaline, informed me that this was not going to be a fight but something closer to a suicide mission.

You know the drum solo in "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida?" That's what it sounded like as Kurt dribbled my forehead like a basketball in staccato fashion on my desk. He bounced my head up and down so hard, the desk got a concussion. It felt like the Irish were River Dancing on my face. There was not a darn thing I could do about it. I've seen rag dolls put up a better fight. Still, not ending up with a cow turd in my mouth was a moral victory.

The Book of Proverbs says, "Pride goes before a fall." So does stupidity. And banana peels, too, as long as we're on the subject. But I still believe defiance has its place—like if it is 1776 and you are wearing tights and a wig. Of course, if you are wearing tights and a wig, you're just asking for it. That said, if Kurt Smith ever walks by me in tights and a powdered wig, I shall refrain from discussing fashion. We will talk about the weather, and I will call him "sir." I don't care if he has flowers in his hair and bells on his toes. I'm a pacifist, but common sense can be beaten into you, and I'd like to think I've learned a few things.

Groton Area School 2nd Quarter Honor Roll

Seniors

4.0 GPA: Sage Mortenson, Isaac Smith, Trey Gengerke, Samantha Pappas, Alexis Hanten, Alexa Herr, Tanae Lipp, Hailey Monson, Erin Unzen, Tessa Erdmann, Jasmine Gengerke, Brooklyn Gilbert, Regan Leicht

3.99-3.50: Grace Wambach, Alex Morris, Alyssa Fordham, Grace Wiedrick, Dragr Monson, Eh Tha You Say, Braden Freeman, Chandler Larson, Chloe Daly, Kale Pharis, Lee Iverson, Dylan Krueger, Steven Paulson

3.49-3.00: Connor Lehman, Jaimen Farrell, Trevor Harry, Kenzie McInerney, Tristan Traphagen, Paxton Bonn, Tucker Carda, Kannon Coats, Tiara DeHoet

Juniors

4.0 GPA: Madeline Fliehs, Allyssa Locke, Trista Keith, Travis Townsend, Seth Johnson

3.99-3.50: Jordan Bjerke, Pierce Kettering, Kansas Kroll, Stella Meier, Madisen Bjerke, Alyssa Thaler, Hannah Gustafson, Kennedy Anderson, Megan Fliehs, Julianna Kosel, Lane Krueger, Jackson Cogley

3.49-3.00: Jace Kroll, Brayden Hansen, Torrence Wiseman

Sophomores

4.0 GPA: Ethan Clark, Jackson Dinger, Jacob Lewandowski, Shaylee Peterson, Elliana Weismantel

3.99-3.50: Kaleb Antonsen, Andrew Marzahn, Cadance Tullis, Brooke Gengerke, Aspen Johnson, Gracie Traphagen, Caleb Hanten, Cole Simon, Cole Bisbee, Carter Barse, Sierra Ehresmann, Cade Larson, Brenna Carda, Jackson Bahr

3.49-3.00: Tate Larson, Jacelynne Gleason, KayLynn Overacker, Shallyn Foertsch, Ethan Gengerke

Freshmen

4.0 GPA: Dillon Abeln, Emily Clark, Claire Heinrich, Hannah Monson

3.99-3.50: Holden Sippel, Camryn Kurtz, Ashlyn Sperry, Lexi Osterman, Jaycie Lier, Anna Fjeldheim, Lydia Meier, Sara Menzia, Bradin Althoff, Shea Jandel, Kyleigh Englund, Sydney Leicht, Abigail Jensen, Ava Wienk, Emma Schinkel, Colby Dunker, Anna Bisbee, Lane Tietz

3.49-3.00: Cadence Feist, Jacob Zak, Faith Fliehs, Jackson Garstecki, Logan Ringgenberg, Bryson Wambach, Karsyn Jangula

Eighth Graders

4.0 GPA: Gretchen Dinger, Axel Warrington

3.99-3.50: Payton Mitchell, Elizabeth Fliehs, Fairth Traphagen, Corbin Weismantel, Jeslyn Kosel, Ashlyn Feser, Karrah-Jo Johnson

3.49-3.00: Blake Pauli, Emma Kutter, Laila Roberts, Blake Dennert, Kaden Kampa, Brooklyn Hansen, Easten Ekern, Kennedy Hansen, Korbin Kucker, Aiden Heathcote, Carter Simon, Turner Thompson, Kellen Antonsen, Brevin Fliehs

Seventh Graders

4.0 GPA: Jaedyn Penning

3.99-3.50: Nathan Unzen, Carly Gilbert, Jerica Locke, Natalia Warrington, Talli Wright, Lucas Carda, De Eh Tha Say, Benjamin Hoeft, Cali Tollifson, Keegen Tracy, Logan Warrington

3.49-3.00: Ryder Johnson, Gage Sippel, London Bahr, Rylee Dunker, Olivia Stiegelmeier, Mia Crank, Lincoln Krause, Raelee Lily, Paisley Mitchell, Karsten Fliehs, Jayden Schwan, Noah Theisen

Sixth Graders

4.0 GPA: None

3.99-3.50: Teagan Hanten, Carlee Johnson, Ashlynn Warrington, Colt Williamson, Kira Clocksene, Brody Lord, Liby Althoff, Aiden Strom, Halee Harder, Blake Lord

3.49-3.00: Addison Hoffman Wipf, Emerlee Jones, McKenna Tietz, Claire Schuelke, Kella Tracy, Taryn Traphagen, Walker Zoellner, Avery Crank, Estella Sanchez-Gonzalez

Upcoming Schedule

Thursday, Jan. 28

Girls Basketball hosts Northwestern (JV at 6 p.m. followed by varsity game).
Northeast Conference Wrestling at Redfield, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 30

Groton Area Wrestling Tournament, 10 a.m.
Boys Basketball at DAK12-NEC Clash in Madison

Monday, Feb. 1

Junior High Basketball at Redfield (7th at 5 p.m., 8th at 6 p.m.)

Tuesday, Feb. 2

Boys Basketball at Langford (7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 p.m., JV at 6 p.m. followed by varsity game)
Girls Basketball hosting Aberdeen Roncalli with JV at 6 p.m. followed by varsity.

Thursday, Feb. 4

Doubleheader Basketball hosting Faulkton. Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV at 5 p.m., Girls Varsity at 6:30 p.m. followed by Boys Varsity.

Friday, Feb. 5

Wrestling at Lyman High School, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Girls Basketball at DAK12-NEC Clash in Madison.
Boys Basketball at Tiospa Zina (C game at 1 p.m., JV at 2:30 p.m. followed by varsity.

Monday, Feb. 8

Junior High Basketball hosts Webster. 5:30 p.m.
School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Feb. 9

Girls Basketball hosts Tiospa Zina. JV game at 6 p.m. followed by varsity.

Wednesday, Feb. 10

LifeTouch Pictures in GHS Gym, 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Thursday, Feb. 11

Parent-Teacher Conference, 1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Basketball Doubleheader with Milbank in Groton. JV girls at 4 p.m. followed by JV boys, Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Basketball Doubleheader at Mobridge. JV girls at 1 p.m., JV boys at 2 p.m., Varsity Girls at 3 p.m. followed by Varsity Boys.

Monday, Feb. 15

Junior High Basketball at Aberdeen Roncalli Elementary School (7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 p.m.)

Boys Basketball at Aberdeen Roncalli (C game at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15 and Varsity at 7:30).

Thursday, Feb. 18

Junior High Basketball hosts Mobridge-Pollock in the Arena. 7th at 6 p.m., 8th at 7 p.m.



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Three grapplers place at Kingsbury Tournament

Dragr Monson placed first, Lane Krueger placed second and Christian Ehresmann placed third at the Kingsbury County Invitational Wrestling Tournament held Saturday in Arlington.

113: Dragr Monson (23-0) placed 1st and scored 22.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 23-0 won by fall over Kaleb Johnson (Kingsbury County) 8-10 (Fall 1:01)

Semifinal - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 23-0 won by fall over Hunter Collins (Lyman County) 11-11 (Fall 0:48)

1st Place Match - Dragr Monson (Groton Area) 23-0 won in sudden victory - 1 over Mason Whitley (Redfield Area) 27-3 (SV-1 6-4)

126: Christian Ehresmann (20-3) placed 3rd and scored 16.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 won by fall over Lincoln Dikoff (Faulkton Area) 4-7 (Fall 1:25)

Semifinal - Keaton Rohlf (Redfield Area) 23-7 won by decision over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 (Dec 3-0)

Cons. Semi - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 won by fall over Ethan Johnson (Kingsbury County) 4-7 (Fall 1:00)

3rd Place Match - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 won by fall over Boe Iverson (Sisseton) 6-7 (Fall 2:39)

132: Easten Ekern (7-6)

Prelim - Clayton Dulany (Warner/Northwestern) 9-11 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 7-6 (Fall 0:58)

Prelim - Lane Holland (Kingsbury County) 5-5 won by fall over Easten

Ekern (Groton Area) 7-6 (Fall 1:42)

138: Korbin Kucker (11-9) scored 4.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-9 won by fall over Dassel Davidson (Britton/Hecla) 5-14 (Fall 0:37)

Semifinal - Alec Dobson (Kingsbury County) 14-4 won by fall over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-9 (Fall 0:51)

Cons. Semi - Josh Long (Sisseton) 9-6 won by fall over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-9 (Fall 4:35)

152: Cole Bisbee (10-11)

Quarterfinal - Tathan Headrick (Flandreau) 6-3 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 10-11 (Fall 0:57)

Cons. Round 1 - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 10-11 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Semi - Chase McGillivray (Redfield Area) 10-16 won by fall over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 10-11 (Fall 1:40)

195: Lane Krueger (13-3) placed 2nd and scored 16.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 13-3 received a bye () (Bye)

Semifinal - Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 13-3 won by fall over Caleb Dietrich (Flandreau) 6-4 (Fall 5:27)

1st Place Match - Sean Domke (Redfield Area) 10-3 won by fall over Lane Krueger (Groton Area) 13-3 (Fall 1:52)

285: Adrian Knutson (9-12) scored 5.0 team points.

Prelim - Ethan Skarnagel (Sisseton) 3-9 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 9-12 (Fall 1:22)

Prelim - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 9-12 won by fall over Demery Hood (Lyman County) 20-11 (Fall 2:56)

Cons. Round 1 - Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 9-12 won by fall over Parker Bode (Faulkton Area) 5-14 (Fall 4:24)

Cons. Semi - Gavin Nichols (Redfield Area) 19-7 won by fall over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) 9-12 (Fall 3:56)

Junior High Teams beat Warner

Groton Area hosted Warner in junior high boys basketball action on Tuesday.

Groton Area won the seventh grade game, 46-17. Beauty Brew Coffee & Boutique was the sponsor on GDILIVE.COM while Bob and Vicki Walter sponsored the eighth grade game.

Scoring for the seventh grade game were Ryder Johnson with 18, Gage Sippel eight, Keegen Tracy and Karter Moody with five each, JD Schwan and Logan Warrington with four each and Karsten Flihs added two points. Josiah Baum led Warner with seven points.

Groton Area won the eighth grade game, 46-25. Teylor Diegel led the Tigers with 13 points followed by Ryder Johnson with nine, Turner Thompson seven, Keegen Tracy had three and Carter Simon and Caden McInerney each had two points. Drew Bakeberg led Warner with eight points.

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