



The Groton Independent

Vol. 138 No. 24 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 10, 2021 ♦ Established in 1889

Superintendent's Report to the Groton Area School District Board of Education February 8, 2021

To date we've had 95 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 [13.10%] of students or staff members of our District (33 staff members [33.0%], 19 elementary students [6.25%], 15 middle school students [10.7%], and 28 high school students [19.86%]).

Brown County data to date indicates 5,017 infections of total population 38,839 [12.92%]. Statewide data to date indicates 97,406 infections of total population 884,659 [11.01%]. Abbott BinaxNOW Rapid Testing. As of the end of the day, we've conducted 136 tests. 33

have been positive (24.26%).

Quarantine Protocols. We continue to determine school-based close contacts after notification of positive COVID-19 tests. Students quarantine for a five day period and are permitted to return to school on day 6 following exposure provided they agree to wear a mask through day 10. [Attachment]

State Vaccination Plan. Currently, the state is in the early stage of phase 1D in its vaccination plan. The anticipated date for availability of vaccine for school staff has been moved back into March (previously February). No new updates since January.

Federal COVID-19 Fiscal Relief. I believe the SDDOE is working on the grant application and allowable or suggested uses for ESSER-II funds. We believe we will have until December 2023 to spend the funds from this allocation (\$256,913).

Winter Sports. We've received information from the SDHSAA regarding post-season protocols for the winter sports. We are set to host region 1B wrestling in Groton on February 20, 2021. Specific rules for that event adopted by SDHSAA include capacity limits of 50% of our seating capacity and required masking. We're working with the other region schools to determine how to administer the rule on capacity.

NSU Teacher Job Fair. I attended the NSU Teacher Job Fair on Friday, February 8. The modified format of this year's events still included a time for teacher candidates to ask professional questions of the administrators present followed by a job fair event. I was able to meet teacher candidates and collect resumes from those in attendance and hopefully begin to convince them that they should consider applying for teaching positions in our district.

Collective Bargaining Training. To date, I've attended two virtual workshops pertaining to collective bargaining. I have access to the recordings and or slideshow presentations from those trainings, if anyone is interested.

School Board Recognition Week. School Board Recognition Week is next week – February 15-19. Thanks to all of you for your service to our students, staff, and community. We appreciate your willingness to serve in your very important role as elected officials.

2021 Legislative Update.

There are a couple of good websites for you to review if you're interested in following education related legislation during the current session.

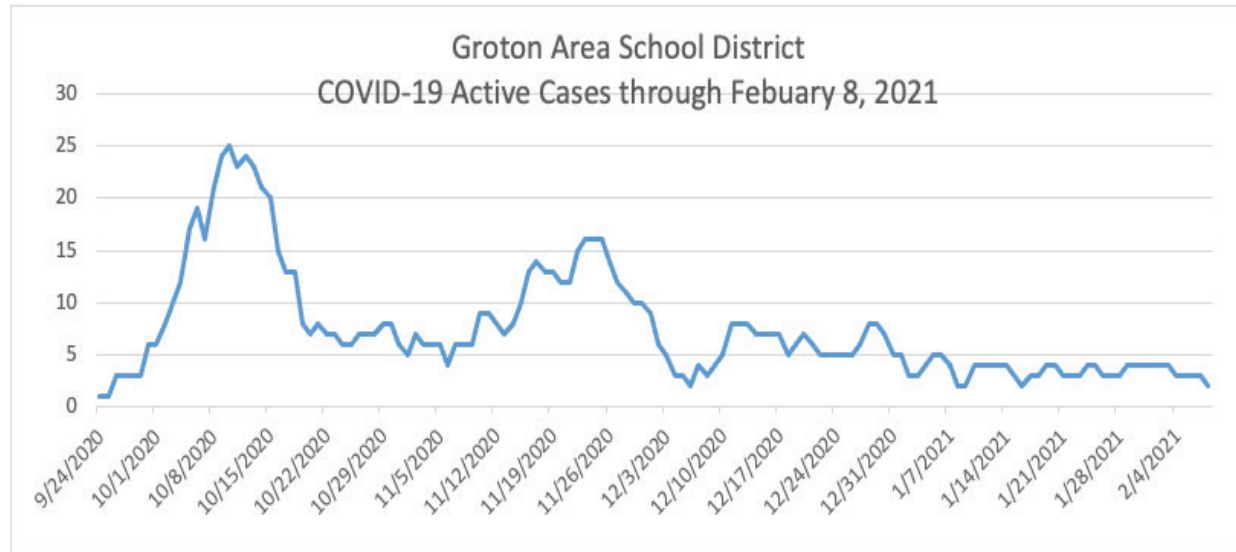
SB46. Allow for the consideration of certain instruction to count toward the minimum number of hours required in a school during a declared state of emergency. [Signed by Governor]

SB49. Revise property tax levies for school districts and to revise the state aid to general and special education formulas (Funding Bill). [Joint Appropriations Committee]

SB177. Revise the provisions of parental choice regarding compulsory school attendance and matters ancillary thereto. [Senate Education, scheduled for 2/9/2021]

HB1046. Limit liability for certain exposures to COVID-19. [Full Senate]

Groton Area School District COVID Data Update.



Groton Area Staff Spotlight!

Name: Deb Winburn

Occupation: Third Grade Teacher

Deb Winburn has been working as an education professional for a span of over thirty years, teaching a variety of subjects from Arithmetic to English. Mrs. Winburn has been teaching at Groton Area Elementary School for thirty-two years. She also has spent time teaching in Watertown for seven years and spent another year teaching in Barnard afterwards. She graduated from Northern State University with degrees in both Elementary Education and Special Education. Although her students may say she prefers talking about Literature, Mrs. Winburn does not prefer teaching one subject over another. Outside of school, Deb enjoys reading historical fiction and tending to her garden.

- Benjamin Higgins

Groton Area Staff Spotlight!

Name: Scott Thorson

Occupation: Social Studies Teacher

Length of Teaching Career: 1990-Present

Scott Thorson has been employed as one of Groton Area High School's resident Social Studies teachers for a total of twenty-one non-consecutive years. He teaches students from 6th Grade, 8th Grade, Sophomore, and Senior classes. Mr. Thorson covers a variety of topics including government functions, how to be a good American citizen, and geography.



Scott Thorson started his career in education by teaching in Waubay for four years, teaching at Groton for twelve years after that, and afterwards began moving his focus

from teaching to reporting. He was a reporter for the local Keloland news station for five years before returning to his teaching career. When Mr. Thorson left journalism behind to return to teaching, he taught in Conde for four years before returning to Groton, where he has been teaching consecutively for the last 9 years.

Scott Thorson has been involved in South Dakota communities for 30 years in total, spanning two careers and several districts of South Dakota. Along the way, he has seen multiple generations of students come and go. Throughout the years, his conversation-based teaching style has endured, even in the face of the COVID-19 epidemic. Thorson said that the teachers of Groton have had to adapt to the new challenges the pandemic has brought, including preparing work for students both in and out of the classroom and following sanitation procedures. However, Thorson has remained optimistic that the community of Groton will endure these trials together and come out stronger than before.

- Benjamin Higgins

One slipped past us in the paper last week. Here is the fifth grade group from the Carnival of Silver Skates.



5th grade

"You Can't Hurry Love"

Camille Craig, Raelynn Feist, Sydney Locke, Chesney Weber, and Journey Zieroth
Instructors: Katie Anderson and Coralea Wolter (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM)

Hey Doc, Who's on First?

Many people are familiar with the classic Abbott and Costello comedy skit "Who's on First?" For those who are not familiar, the routine is a hilarious interaction between the two comedians as they discuss players on a baseball team while using confusing



By Jill Kruse, DO ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

references such as "who's on first" and "what's on second." The audience can see that Abbott believes he is clearly communicating the player names to Costello, but it digresses into a laughable experience of misunderstanding and frustration for both parties. The men become increasingly angry as the conversation goes on and each feel that the other is not listening.

This situation may be funny in the world of entertainment, but it can be disastrous when it happens between doctor and patient. At times, conversation in the exam room can inadvertently go down a similar path of confusion. I recall one such experience when I was showing an x-ray to a patient. I pointed out, "Here is the fracture." The patient looked at me, gave a sigh of relief and said, "Thank goodness doc, I was afraid you were going to tell me that it was broken." At that moment I realized my choice of words had not provided the clarity I intended. Thankfully, this patient spoke out which alerted me to the misunderstanding allowing me to rectify it immediately.

Those of us in the medical field must be always mindful to ensure that we explain things in clear, everyday language. I apologize for our failures, which do happen. I also ask for your help. Doctors are human and we may incorrectly assume that our patients understand what we are saying, especially if our patients do not tell us otherwise.

Healthcare is a partnership which requires communication from both patient and doctor. It is important to recognize that not all cultures and generations feel empowered to question a doctor. Other patients hesitate to ask what they feel might be perceived as a "silly" question. In addition, patients have varying levels of education and experience when it comes to participating in medical conversations. Sometimes it helps the patient to have a family member or friend in the room to help the patient feel at ease and convey information.

Doctors strive to be sensitive to these situations, to welcome and encourage questions, then listen closely when the patient speaks. No doctor I know will intentionally or maliciously confuse a patient. We welcome your participation so both patient and doctor can best understand what care is needed. Let's work together and keep the conversation going to make sure we both know "who's on first" and "what's on second" when it comes to your health."

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

Upcoming Schedule

Thursday, Feb. 11

Parent-Teacher Conference, 1:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Basketball Doubleheader with Milbank in Groton. JV girls (Trent and Heather Traphagen) at 4 p.m. followed by JV boys (White House Inn), Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys.

Saturday, Feb. 12

Basketball Doubleheader at Mobridge. JV girls (Rich and Tami Zimney) at 1 p.m., JV boys (White House Inn) 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).

Tuesday, Feb. 16: Girls Basketball hosts Warner with JV at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity.

Thursday, Feb. 18

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

Friday, Feb. 19

Basketball Doubleheader with Deuel in Groton. JV girls at 4 p.m., JV boys at 5 p.m. followed by Varsity Girls and Varsity Boys.

Saturday, Feb. 20

Regional Wrestling Tournament in Groton, 10 a.m.

Monday, Feb. 22: Boys Basketball hosts Warner with JV at 6:30 p.m. followed by varsity.

Tuesday, Feb. 23: GBB Region

Thursday, Feb. 25: GBB Region

Friday, Feb. 26

Boys Basketball hosts Aberdeen Christian. JV at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity.

Tuesday, March 2: BBB Region

Thursday, March 4: GBB SoDAK 16

Friday, March 5: BBB Region

Tuesday, March 9: BBB SoDAK 16

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Brown County

Feb. 2, 2021

Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY 2, 2021 – GENERAL MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of January 26, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL:

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

Payroll: Commission \$4,327.95; Elections (Voucher) \$0.00; Auditor \$8,956.21; Treasurer \$13,759.89; SA \$23,644.31; SVAWA \$1,730.76; Maintenance \$8,627.49; Assessor \$14,636.39; Register of Deeds \$9,124.95; VSO \$4,474.38; GIS \$2,411.38; IT \$7,247.65; HR \$2,423.08; Sheriff \$40,361.29; Jail \$55,579.04; Court Security \$6,003.43; JDC \$25,408.80; Welfare \$2,982.62; Museum \$8,054.10; Parks/Fairgrounds \$3,429.18; Fair Board \$2,438.38; 4-H \$685.88; Weed \$884.14; Planning & Zoning \$4,448.62; Highway \$37,691.90; Dispatch \$29,713.07; Emergency \$4,160.96; Teen Court \$672.98; JDAI \$1,786.92; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,413.03; Landfill \$13,003.07; Matching Benefits: FICA @ \$20,214.36; Medicare @ \$4,727.65; Discovery_HSA @ \$300; Health Insurance_Wellmark BCBS @ \$119,139.76; Dental Insurance Delta Dental @ \$7,100.10; Life Insurance Dearborn National @ \$1,047.54; Retirement SDRS @ \$43,139.99.

CLAIMS: Insurance: Financial Services of Aberdeen \$2,895.44. Other: NESDCAP \$2,500.00. Professional Fees: Avera St. Luke's \$3,047.04; Drew Becker \$200.00; Carlsen Funeral Home \$200.00; Carrels & Bain Family Dental \$244.02; Charlevoix County \$30.00; Clark Engineering \$6,000.00; Michelle Galkowski \$30.00; Gellhaus & Gellhaus \$160.00; Christopher Haar \$16.80; Kuck Law Office \$23.60; NE Mental Health Center \$1,508.00; Sanford Health \$23.00; State of South Dakota \$7,097.81; Shawn Patton \$20.00. Publishing: Aberdeen American News \$433.84; Blade Empire Publishing \$44.75. Repairs & Maintenance: Auto Glass Solutions \$40.00; B & B Contracting \$5,119.99; Graham Tire \$362.48; Jake's Heating and Cooling \$1,600.00; Lien Transportation \$800.00; Midwest Pump & Tank \$85.37; Pro Windmill \$95.00; Pierson-Ford \$2,039.73; Trinity Services Group \$100.00; Woodman Refrigeration \$175.00. Supplies: Bakken Build Maintenance \$500.00; Bass-Mollett Publishers \$82.35; BPro \$1,200.00; Carlsen Funeral Home \$432.60; Charm-Tex \$530.80; Cole Papers \$706.74; Dakota Mailing & Shipping \$171.99; Dakota Supply Group \$57.25; MB LLC \$454.14; Govconnection \$1,883.04; Great Western Tire \$259.95; Larry Becker \$446.00; Mac's \$43.16; Menards \$610.91; Midwest Pump & Tank \$33.02; Runnings \$38.94; SD Secretary of State \$7.00; Karen Swank \$24.00; Titan Machinery \$479.22; Travel & Conference: Mark Milbrandt \$456.00. Utilities: AT & T \$270.63; Qwest Corporation \$1,407.90; Montana Dakota Utilities \$39.73; Northwestern Energy \$11,243.88. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the HR Office Report, which includes the following:

Acknowledge employment end date for Stacy Ramsdell, Brown County Communications Dispatcher, effective 1/29/2021 and approve request to fill vacancy. Acknowledge resignation of Margo Price, Brown County Building Maintenance Custodian, full-time, effective January 29, 2021 and approve request to fill vacancy. Acknowledge resignation of Sara Bohling, Brown County Jail/JDC Nurse, PRN, effective 1/25/21 and approve request to fill vacancy. Acknowledge resignation of Mary Baird, Brown County Dacotah Prairie Museum Curatorial Assistant, part-time, effective March

26, 2021 and approve request to fill vacancy. Acknowledge resignation as no-show of Luz Diaz, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective January 25, 2021 and approve request to fill vacancy. Approve hiring of Jeffrey Steele as Brown County Building Maintenance Custodian, part-time; starting wage of \$11.61 per hour; effective February 8, 2021. Approve hiring of Jazilynn Risetter as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; starting at \$16.82 per hour; effective February 8, 2021.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL CELL 4 CONSTRUCTION PROJECT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to approve and authorize the Chair sign Contract Agreement and Notice to Proceed for the Landfill Cell 4 Construction Project (Baranko Brothers, Inc). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASES:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Kippley to approve lease agreement with Little Rock Holiness Church for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge July 12-16, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENT:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to authorize Auditor sign documentation to assign claim against an individual to Credit Collection Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT OF ACCOUNTS:

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Auditor's report of account for December 2020 as follows: Total Cash and Checks on Hand 7700 Total Checking Account Balances: 10553588.99 Total Savings Account Balances: 3425447.42 Total Certificates of Deposit: 4951798.16 Grand Total Cash and Balances: 18938534.57 General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund 9252267.94 Road & Bridge Fund 1602449.74 Road & Bridge Fund - restricted 423243.27 911 Service 290076.62 Emergency & Disaster 137077.58 Domestic Abuse 648 Teen Court 31913.95 Grant 32.11 JDAI -23542.64 Richmond Youth 21916.96 24/7 Sobriety 16166.45 ROD M&P 104604.18 Tif Debt Service 913.14 Landfill + cash change 3770535.86 Landfill - restricted 1400479.44 Trust and Agency Funds 1909751.97 GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND CASH AND INVESTMENTS 18938534.57. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CONTRACT – SD DOH COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to authorize chair sign agreement with SD Department of Health for public health services in Brown County in the amount of \$19,617.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENTS:

Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following abatements:

Alexander Mitchell (Solid Waste) \$86.74, American Legion Post #58 (Solid Waste) \$86.74, Patrick Teal (Fire) \$53.40, Craig Larson (Solid Waste) \$33.49, Albert Fischer (clerical Error) \$1,593.27, Blackstone Developers LLC (clerical error) \$11,038. Dan and Barbara Kimball (Solid Waste) \$86.74. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT/WELFARE ASSISTANT:

Erica Coughline (HR Director) and Roxy Hilgenberg (Welfare Director) shared the need for a part time welfare assistant is temporary on an as needed, emergency basis. Discussion to cross train the HR Assistant on emergency welfare services as needed. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising for a full-time Human Resource Assistant at 32 hours per week and recind hiring a welfare assistant. Roll call vote: Commissioners Feickert-aye, Sutton-aye, Wiese-aye, Kippley-aye, Fjeldehim-aye. Motion carried.

BID - RENTAL OF EQUIPMENT:

Time and place as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for furnishing Full/Bare Operation Rental Service of Gravel Trucks and Road Machinery for construction and maintenance repairs on Brown County Road Projects for the year 2021. Bids were received from B&B Contracting, Diesel Machinery Inc, Hanlon Brothers, H.F. Jacobs & Son Construction, Jensen Rock and Sand, Lien Transportation,

RDO Equipment, Webster Scale. Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to award all bids on the rental of equipment based on location and availability, as per tabulation sheet on file in the Auditor's Office (available for public inspection Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

HIGHWAY BIDDING PROCEEDS:

Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent facilitated discussion on streamlining and improving the county bidding process. No action taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Sutton to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:53 A.M. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$92.56. 19728

Groton City Feb. 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2021

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 pm at the Community Center for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Kappes, Wells, Fliehs, Babcock, Blackmun, Cutler and Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Hope Block, Anita Lowary, Deanna Hendrickson, and Stacy Mayou.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1. Anita Lowary and Deanna Hendrickson expressed their opposition on the City's interest in purchasing the building at 120 N Main Street in Groton. Lowary and Hendrickson left the meeting at 7:50pm.

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

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

Payroll, \$21,026.62, Employee salaries; Executive, \$771.11, ; Administrative, \$3,964.95, ; Public Safety, \$7,235.85, ; Public Works, \$9,054.71, ; Dacotah Bank, \$6,810.32, SS and WH ; Dacotah Bank, \$1,495.82, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$650.00, Employee savings; Employers Mutual Life, \$77.30, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$90.16, Employee insurance; Guardian Insurance, \$140.52, Employee insurance; Aflac, \$309.60, Employee insurance; Allied, \$8,341.47, Employee insurance; Maguire Iron, \$88,110.00, Payment request 5 & 6 - water tower improvements; SD Retirement, \$8,078.90, Employee retirement; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$430.00, Employee supplemental retirement; Jarimey Halstead, \$200.00, Roof inspection at 120 N Main; Secretary of State, \$90.00, Notary filing fees; SD One Call, \$28.35, Message fees; Locke Electric, \$612.98, Install circuits in City Hall; SD Dept of Health, \$30.00, Water testing fees; Harry Implement, \$59.49, Hose, end, O-rings; Runnings, \$169.99, Batteries; Menards, \$124.95, Water cut off; Groton Daily Independent, \$110.72, Publishing; NW Energy, \$13.09, Natural gas; Darrel's Sinclair, \$4,137.80, Yellow truck tires; Clark Engineering, \$15,467.90, Water system improvement and water tower staking and admin; DENR, \$42.00, Certification fees; Riteway, \$174.15, Checks; S&S Lumber, \$148.68, Coupler, hitch pin clips, key cuts, chain link, floor dry; Merchant Job Training & Safety, \$550.00, Journeyman book 4; Dakota Electronics, \$144.80, Radio repair; Drew Johnson, \$2,850.00, Legal fees 1/21.

Department reports were read, and Mayou explained the options for a new police vehicle that would be purchased this year.

Moved by Fliehs and seconded by Babcock to approve the Mayor to sign the agreement of sale for 120 N Main Street in Groton. All members voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Kappes to allow Kellie Locke and Hope Block to attend the SD Governmental Human Resource and Finance Officer School in Pierre June 8th through the 11th.

All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Cutler to approve the Replat of the Dohman addition to the City of Groton in the SE¼-Sec. 24-T123N-R61W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock to approve the First Amendment to Revenue Obligation Loan Agreement as read. All members voted aye.

The Amendment No. 2 to the Water System Engineering Report was approved as read on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Fliehs. All members voted aye.

An announcement was made that the City has started to accept applications for summer employment.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Cutler to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-

25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:37pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:11pm.

Moved by Kappes and seconded by Blackmun to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Hope Block, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$41.14. 19729

Groton City Seal Coat 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 resurfacing of City Streets April 6, 2021 at 7:00pm (local time) at the Community Center, 109 N 3rd Street, Groton, SD. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work on this project includes the following:

· Approximately 87,000 square yards of bituminous seal coat.

All work areas are located within the City limits of Groton, SD.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations:

209 N Main, City Hall, Groton, SD

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

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.

February 3, 2021

(0203.0210)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$26.44. 19713

Brown County Seppanen Rezoning Notice

NOTICE

Application has been made by Earl Seppanen to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on February 16, 2021 at 8:46 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1, "Reich Subdivision" in the NW1/4 of Section 8-T126N, R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (11338 389th Ave)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 188

ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0203.0210)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19712

Brown County Konda Rezoning Notice

NOTICE

Application has been made by Kerry Konda to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for a change of zoning. Hearing to be held in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota on February 16, 2021 at 8:46 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agricultural Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1, Richmond Sunsets Addition in the NW1/4 of Section 14-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37807 126th St)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to rezoning the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 187

ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

(0203.0210)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 19711

Frederick Town Jan. 20, 2021 Special Meeting

Special Meeting for New Fire Hall

January 20, 2021 Minutes

The special meeting to discuss the new fire hall was held Wednesday, January 20, 2021 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman R. Scott Campbell, Board member Troy Millard later joined by Board member Jeff Kusters, Assistant Finance Officer Mariah Heine, and Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg. Also attending the meeting were Frederick Fire Department volunteers James King, Rick Adema, Jason Teigh, Dan Nickelson, and Fire Chief Kevin Barton. Members of the Frederick Fire District Miles Bretsch and Todd Ellwein were also present.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Frederick Fire Chief Kevin Barton discussed the plans for a new fire station and the bids collected to determine an approximate cost. The Frederick Fire Department is asking the City of Frederick and the Frederick Fire District to assist in paying for the building by making payments toward the loan and splitting the cost of the utilities each year. The Volunteer Fire Department would pay for what they are able with funds from their yearly fundraiser. The Fire District and City both agreed that the building would better the department and the area it serves and are willing to support the new building. A big concern was that the cost of the building would be significant enough that it would cost an increase in taxes in order to move forward. After some discussion, it appears it would be feasible to support without raising taxes.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Kusters at 8:19.

M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.92. 19730

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AVERA WELCOMES



Mark Hager, MD PSYCHIATRY

Mark Hager, MD, joins Avera Medical Group Psychiatry in Aberdeen to serve the community with compassionate care. He specializes in caring for individuals with mental health needs such as anxiety, depression, obsessive-compulsive disorder, bipolar disorder, developmental disabilities and suicidal tendencies.

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By Jordan Wright

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers are the last NFL team standing after defeating the Kansas City Chiefs 31-9 on Sunday. Tom Brady will be the main storyline in the weeks and months to come after winning his seventh NFL Championship, but it was a whole-team effort for the Bucs in Super Bowl LV – made even more impressive by the fact that there was basically no offseason for all the Bucs’ new pieces because of the pandemic. We’ll break down the game, and if you didn’t watch the game don’t worry, we’ll also talk about the other main event: the commercials!

Tom Brady, who won the Super Bowl MVP award for his performance, was practically perfect against a stout Chiefs defense. He completed 21 of 29 passes for 201 yards and three touchdowns. The stats aren’t mind-blowing, but this game was out of reach by the third quarter and Brady only threw three passes in the final fifteen minutes of the game. At 43-years of age, Tom Brady is still at the top of his game and will undoubtedly be

back next season for a shot at an eighth ring. The Bucs’ offense was well balanced. Running backs Leonard Fournette and Ronald Jones II combined for 150 yards on 28 carries (5.4 yards per carry). Fournette was one of many star players who elected to join Tom Brady in Tampa Bay, along with Rob Gronkowski and Antonio Brown, and all of those players were rewarded with touchdowns on Sunday.

The Buccaneers’ defense was in for a tall task, trying to stop a Chiefs’ offense that was led by Patrick Mahomes, but they held strong all game long. Led by linebacker Devin White, the Bucs’ defense was harassing Mahomes from beginning to end – racking up three sacks and eight quarterback hits. The Bucs also intercepted two passes and broke up eight more. One stat to sum up how good the Bucs’ defense was on Sunday: this was the first game in Mahomes’ career (NFL and college) that his team failed to score a touchdown.

The biggest reason for Mahomes’ struggles in the Super Bowl was the Chiefs’ offensive line (or lack thereof). Down their two starting tackles, Kansas City was unable to stop Tampa Bay’s ferocious pass rush and give their

All-Star quarterback time to throw the ball. Mahomes finished the game with 270 yards, completing 26 of 49 passes for 270 yards, zero touchdowns and two interceptions. With the Bucs focused on stopping the pass, the Chiefs were able to get the ground game going (107 yards on 17 carries), but it was too little too late. This was a poor game for Kansas City, but there is no doubt this team will be competing for championships for many years to come.

The Commercials

Every year, millions of Americans watch the Super Bowl just for the commercials. Here are the top three commercials this year...

Number three – Doritos decided the best way to advertise their 3D potato chips was to make a commercial featuring a one-dimensional Matthew McConaughey. The commercial was slightly unsettling, but there were some funny moments, including when he was in a coffee shop and the barista couldn’t see him because he was standing sideways.

Number two – A commercial with Will Ferrell is almost sure to be a hit, and GM’s commercial didn’t disappoint. Ferrell discovered that Norway sells more electric vehicles per capita than the U.S., so he recruits Kenan Thompson and Awkwafina to travel to Norway in an effort to claim the top spot for America.

Number one – the Frito Lays commercial that was narrated by Marshawn Lynch was my favorite of the night. It technically premiered before the big game started, but that won’t stop me from putting it on this list. The commercial not only had plenty of hilarious moments, but it was also a perfect segue for the Super Bowl.

Skoll!

FREE COVID-19 AT HOME TESTING

ORDER YOUR AT-HOME SALIVA TEST TODAY!

You *DO NOT* need to have symptoms to get a test delivered to your door. Use it now or keep it on hand for when you need it.

covid.sd.gov/testing.aspx



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Why we watch the game

Tom Brady didn’t need to prove that he’s the greatest quarterback of all time on Sunday but he did so anyway with his seventh Super Bowl title and fifth Super Bowl MVP award. One could make the case that the brilliantly relentless Tampa Bay defense won the game by throttling the Kansas City Chief’s equally brilliant Patrick Mahomes, because, after all, it’s a team game, but it’s a game that requires leadership, and that’s where Brady comes in.

The great ones have an aura about them that makes their teammates to believe that somehow, someday, they’re going to find a way to win. Joe Montana had those intangibles. John Elway had a pocket full of fourth-quarter miracles. But no one’s been as consistently excellent as Tom Brady. Or as despised. Because he’s just too perfect. He’s handsome, rich, got a supermodel wife, always communicates in boring non-controversial jock-speak, and it seems like he’s always in the Super Bowl. His biggest sin was Deflategate when it was discovered that his footballs were under-inflated to give him a better grip. Horrors. In every game, someone’s always looking for an edge. Referees could call holding on every play. But his teammates love him because he leads and wins.

After the Buccaneers defeated the New Orleans Saints on the way to the Super Bowl, Brady walked out to the field after showering and found future Hall-of-Famer Drew Brees with his family. Brees is likely to retire this year. He and Brady embraced and talked as only aging warriors can but before he walked off, Brady tossed a pass to one of Brees’ sons streaking to the end zone. Touchdown. “Be nice to your sister,” Brady said as he walked off.

There was another telling moment last week during a press conference when someone asked Brady to name a hero. “My father,” he said without hesitation, and he began to expand on the reasons why, but got choked up. After biting his lip for a while, his eyes welling, he simply repeated, “My father,” and moved on. Isn’t that why we watch sports? We see these athletes, bigger than life, and then we are reminded that they’re human, too, with feelings and weaknesses and fears.

No one stays on top forever and some stay too long. We remember Willie Mays stumbling in the Mets outfield. Ali losing three of his last four fights, and now we wonder how much longer Brady can go and if he’ll know when to make a graceful exit. But it’s not time, yet. I’m not sure if a 43-year-old quarterback’s arm can get stronger during the season, but early on, Brady’s arm seemed suspect, yet through the playoffs and Super Bowl it was as big and accurate as ever.

Across the field, Kansas City Chiefs Coach Andy Reid labored under an immense weight because just days before the big game, his son Britt, a linebackers coach, was involved in an accident that left a five-year-old girl in a coma fighting for her life. Alcohol was involved. He was convicted of a DUI in 2008. In 2012, Coach Reid, one of the nicest guys in football, lost a son to heroin. These things make the biggest game in all of sports seem awfully small.

So it goes. Heartache and prayers from two families for a little girl. Triumph and vindication for Tom Brady who proved that all those victories with the New England Patriots were not all about the coaching of Bill Belichick, despite his place as the greatest coach in the history of the game. A hard reality check for the spectacular Patrick Mahomes who may well be the most gifted quarterback ever to take the field, but you can’t do it alone. Anyway, Father Time always wins in the end. Even against Tom Brady.

© Tony Bender 2021



That’s Life
by Tony Bender

Glimpses From Greenfield

As I concluded last week's article, I mentioned an issue I was bringing regarding the SD High School Activities Association. I visited with other interested parties and worked on an amendment prior to my bill pitch SB 128 in committee last Thursday. In short, what SB 128 seeks to do is uphold a law passed in 2013 that said public schools could not enter into "exclusive" agreements with media outlets. This had begun to happen, and the legislature clamped down on that, again, with respect to schools that were funded with public dollars. Collectively, we felt that it was inappropriate to allow for winners and losers, thus forcing some media outlets to be precluded from broadcasting and/or covering games. Fast forward to present-day, and the SDHSAA has struck an agreement with the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) that has served as a conduit for the NFHS to claim to have a loophole around the ban on exclusive media rights at our public schools. So, in effect, now an out-of-state organization has a competitive advantage over our in-state media outlets and journalists. In fairness, after a bill was brought last year, the SDHSAA attempted to remediate a couple of the issues that were highlighted in committee testimony. However, issues still remained, and proponents from liveticket.tv, the SD Newspaper Association, and the SD Broadcasters' Association all testified in favor of the bill. SB 128 was held over until a subsequent meeting under the understanding that we are going to continue to work on settling on language everybody can be happy with. I did have a very nice conversation with the Executive Director of the SDHSAA after the committee hearing, and we have both committed to communicating in the next week to resolve the issues that remain.

SB 87 seeks to allow nonprofit agricultural organizations to offer health benefit plans to their members under certain circumstances. This would be akin to benefit plans offered by healthcare sharing ministries. The goal would be to allow people another option for healthcare coverage outside the bounds of normal insurance. We heard from individuals who participate in alternative health benefit plans that their premiums are a fraction of typical regulated insurance policies, and their coverage meets their needs. While the legislation stipulates that the policy is offered under this program would have to identify that it is not insurance and is not regulated, this is not unprecedented. After many people contacted their senators, the bill passed by a margin of 19-15. I look for this issue to continue to be hotly contested as it moves over to the House. While plans such as this are not for everybody, they do offer a unique opportunity for people to obtain potentially more affordable healthcare coverage outside the bounds of the status quo.

SB 101 identifies an issue concerning warranty agreements that has previously been unaddressed. The best way to explain this is to give an example. Take for instance a semi truck that is comprised of parts from several different manufacturers. If the owner encounters issues and seeks repairs, in some circumstances the truck manufacturer says the problems weren't caused by their negligence. Therefore, the owner is left paying for the repairs of the faulty part. This legislation would make clear that all manufacturers of all components they are the burden for ensuring the integrity and honoring the warranty of the parts they were responsible for creating. Over the years, I have seen a number of warranty-related issues that devolved to nothing but controversy. However, this bill did not have any opponents in committee and it passed the Senate floor, 32-0.

Finally, I will say that things aren't always as they are portrayed online. In the past week, I was tagged at least twice in posts on social media about bills that were completely misconstrued. In one instance, I am the Senate Prime Sponsor on a 72-section House Bill seeking to provide the regulatory framework for the implementation regarding Constitutional Amendment A. There are two sponsors because of the technical nature of the bill and our desire to confine the messaging to two spokespersons. The first section is designed to reflect the foundation for the remainder of the bill. It seeks to recognize the very delicate nature of passing legislation of a still-federally-prohibited drug while compelling legislative action because of the vote of support of the people. The second section recognizes that Constitutional Amendment A is being litigated and says if it is struck down, the law will be null-and-void. This helps to bring more legislators into the fold, while recognizing that right now we are under a time crunch to establish a legal framework, whereas if Constitutional Amendment A fails to pass judicial muster, we will have at least one more year to readdress the issue. It is very important that we do our best to get things right as we venture into uncharted waters. That is what the remaining 70 sections of the bill speak to. Whatever a major mainstream news site chose to report on their website, I do not know, but I heard from a strong supporter of Amendment A and the bill I've been speaking of that their story was a hatchet job and did not do the legislation justice. Surprise, SURPRISE! Regarding the other issue, just because six or seven committee members vote a certain way and the headline reads, "Republicans Vote to Reject X", that does not necessarily mean every Republican in the legislature or the state feels the same way. The bill regarding security expenses and the Governor's travel was not before my committee nor was it even introduced on the Senate side, so I had not read it with a fine-toothed comb. Because it was not in front of my committee, I did not hear the arguments for or against it, and I did not vote on it. Since the bill was a House Bill, it would have had a long slog before it was in front of me. I will note the bill was brought by Republicans. My predisposition was that the bill would probably not accomplish its goal, because it would've required a signature of

the very person who had denied previous requests for information, so it was probably nothing but a political statement, but I would have listened to the arguments if it had made its way through the process. However, much to the dismay of the angry left and the self-proclaimed most-conservative-among-us, it did not see the light of day. I cannot take credit for that, so I make no apology if you were offended by the actions of others. Moreover, accusing me on social media of being responsible for this would be similar to giving me the credit for my beloved Cubs winning the 2016 World Series. I was on the sidelines and had a cursory knowledge of what was going on, but I was extremely far-removed from the final disposition of either outcome.

One parting thought...I have received personal messages from people who have read my articles. I truly appreciate it. I try to provide you with insights as to what is going on with bills that apply to a broad cross-section of the electorate. I respect that we may not always agree. I even acknowledge that from time-to-time I may arrive at the wrong conclusion. Rest assured, though, that I try to be thorough in the decision-making process and cast a well-informed vote.

God bless each of you!

Brock Greenfield

Lana's Annal

Week 4 House of Representatives

Greetings! It may be cold outside, but bills are heating up in the House as they continue to go through committees. Some will go onto the floor for debate while others meet their demise.

In local government we talked about HB1117, a bill that asks approval to have remote council meetings. Now I would be first to say that in this year remote meetings were helpful, especially for legislative decision making meetings vs. in person special session; however, the question is whether this should be the norm or not. I think there may be unintended consequences. Patrons who want to be a part of, for example, a city council meeting may not be able to hook up to join online. No place in the bill provides for a designated physical location. The question then remains: how will this affect transparency? I voted against this, but the bill passed onto the floor 7-6. We will see what others think.

HB1085, redefining classifying ag as land for tax purposes, was first defeated on the floor, was reconsidered, and then passed. The biggest opponent pointed out the many people in his west river home area raise vegetables, chickens, and hay, all of which they can sell at market. The question then becomes whether or not these small acreages should have an ag classification. I felt that some may be trying to use this classification to eliminate paying higher property taxes so I voted in favor of curtailing this. HB1085 passed and will now move over to the Senate government committee.

Our education committee listened to a proposal by LATC, Watertown. They want to build new classrooms and an archway. The claim was that they had to turn away 250 students as they had no room for them to enroll in certain programs. While HB1144 lacked detail or blueprint, it was passed onto the Appropriations Committee to see how this fits into the budget.

Also requested was money for Mitchell Tech for a new precision ag building. They mentioned that it would help 180 students to start with. It calls for funding to be used for an animal and veterinarian unit, soil testing, just name two. They had a precise drawing as to how this building would look. We also passed that onto appropriations as we felt the bill to be worthy of discussion.

I invited Secretary of Ed. Sanderson in to discuss an appropriations item which requests 900,000 dollars to be used for history/civics materials and structured plans for teaching about our foundations. One of the programs, "We the People" (1776 program) could be implemented in schools that want to pilot programs which could start at an early level and have stepping stones which would flow smoothly into every year thereafter. I suggested that we have complete buy in from applicants so schools could teach about our country, the Constitution, and Framers who worked to shape our documents.

We have a limited number of committee meetings left before cross-over day. The homeschool bill will be introduced in the Senate ed. committee on Tuesday. It is SB177, and it should spark interest and discussion.

The premier scholarship program is due also to be discussed. Again, it requires us to match a donated 50 million for college scholarships, followed by another gifted 50 million if we approve our proposal.

HB1053, which I co-sponsored, was also debated on the House floor. The purpose was to assess a fee on electric vehicles as a road repair assessment. The original had been 100 dollars, but it was amended down to 50 dollars. I voted in favor as I thought it was a fairness issue. Electric vehicles use our roads and pay no gas tax money. As people continue to have a mindset of adopting "green" ideas, it may be that those assessments have to increase. Until next week, be warm and safe

Sincerely,

Rep. Lana Greenfield

lana.greenfield@sd legislature.gov

EMPLOYMENT

GOOD, MOTIVATED WORKERS NEEDED! Team players needed for the following positions: Truck Drivers, Heavy Equipment Operators, Roller Operators and Labors. For information call 605-693-5343 or email v_longville@bowesconstruction.com

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Westport Town Feb. 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Town of Westport General Meeting

February 1st, 2021

The Town of Westport met on February 1st, 2021 with Shane Storm, Mitchell Wilson and Doreen Hertel present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General
NWPS (\$402.36), Groton Independent (\$68.01)

Sewer
NWPS (\$44.83), NRWA -loan repayment (\$210.13)

Water
WEB (\$1,454.14), Dept. of Health (\$15.00) & Water Maintenance District (\$408.16)

Mitchell Wilson made motion to pay all bills; second by Shane Storm.

The following deposits were presented:

City General
Brown County Collections (\$123.73), State of SD (\$6,975.5), Interest (\$3.67).

Sewer
Resident Payments - (\$2,100.00).

Water
Resident Payments - (\$3,492.56).

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 13, giving approval to the issuance and sale of bond revenue for the sewer project, was passed and signed.

Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$13.22. 17732

Columbia City Feb. 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting - February 3, 2021

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Cara Dennert, Emily Eichler, Ellen Harr, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints, Corey Mitchell (via zoom)

Community - none

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the January 6th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All in favor - motion

carried.

Warrant Vouchers: JVT - 125.64; Web Water - 37.74; Northwestern Energy - 670.27; Drew Johnson - 4068.00; Productivity Plus -182.40; Jeremy Dosch - 419.99; Kelsie Ehresmann - 279.99; Cara Dennert - 823.50; South Dakota Assoc. of Town and Townships - 199.00; Runnings - 261.95 Great Western Bank - 642.51

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE - e-mail from Torian Mitchell regarding Financial Request letter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - There were no changes to the current suspended Columbia Covid19 ordinance. Cara gave an update on the dog licensing in town. We have had 40 dogs apply for licenses.

Nuisances - Ellen tagged a car in violation with city ordinances and still needs to do a pickup in town. She is taking pictures of the vehicles she has tagged. Corey suggested she keep a written journal as well of violations. Streets - The city is now working with an engineer in regards to the culvert issue. The city pickup is having issues with the power/plow.

Parks - Corey is going to be in contact with B&B in regards to their thoughts about the ball park. The council is beginning to plan a community meeting either the end of February or first part of March to get input as to how to proceed - suggestions.

Lagoon/sewer - The sewer alarm went off. The sewer was plugged. Aberdeen City workers came out and helped fix the situation. Cara is going to check with Groton and other area towns to see who they use for sewer line inspections. Cole has been in contact with Tim Flor from DENR.

Rubble Site - Jeremy and Corey burned the site. Corey is going to talk to B&B about cleaning the site up - moving some debris and making more room.

NEW BUSINESS - The city council has had some difficulty in finding the best dates for monthly meetings because of various other obligations. After some

discussion, a new ordinance was written to change the meeting date from the first Tuesday of the month to the first Wednesday of the month. A second reading of the ordinance will be passed at the next city meeting, Wednesday, February 10th, 2021. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the ordinance as agreed upon by the council. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Cara presented bank balances. She updated the council on the fact that LLCs need 1099s - and that they were sent out to those individuals. Cole Kampa made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

January 31, 2020 balances: SF \$166,551.45; GF - \$178,109.36; FIT - \$13,978.76

Cash on hand - \$150.00

Ellen Harr made a motion to adjourn. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - meeting adjourned.

Next City Meeting - Wednesday, February 10th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$36.73. 19731

Brown County Notice of 2019 Audit

Notice is hereby given that the records handbooks of account of Brown County, South Dakota, have been audited by the Department of Legislative Audit for the year ended December 31, 2019, and that a detailed report thereon, containing additional information, is filed with the county auditor of Brown County and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota for public inspection. This notice is published in compliance with the provisions of SDCL 4-11-12.

Russell A Olson, Auditor General

Department of Legislative Audit
(0203.0210)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$14.69. 19716

Three grapplers place at Big Dakota Conference

Three Groton Area wrestlers placed at the Big Dakota Conference wrestling tournament held Saturday. Dragr Monson took first place while Christian Ehresmann and Lane Krueger each placed fourth place.

113: Dragr Monson (31-0) placed 1st and scored 20.0 team points.

Dragr Monson pinned Tripp Schrempp (Cheyenne-Eagle Butte/Du-pree) 0-4 (Fall 0:48); he scored by decision over Chase Hanson (Stanley County) 24-5 (Dec 7-1); and in the championship match, he decisioned Kellan Hurd (Miller/Highmore-Harrold) 32-5 (Dec 8-2)

126: Christian Ehresmann (27-5) placed 4th and scored 11.0 team points.

Christian Ehresmann pinned Wyatt Wientjes (Moberidge-Pollock) 14-12 (Fall 0:48); he was decisioned by Dominic Santiago (Chamberlain) 32-10 (Dec 12-5) he pinned Lincoln Wickstrom (Harding County) 8-21 (Fall 1:57); and in the third place match, he lost by a major decision to Lucas Lenz (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 17-10 (MD 8-0)

126: Easten Ekern (8-12).

Easten Ekern was pinned by Lincoln Stuwe (Potter County) 5-5 (Fall 0:32); and he was pinned by Lincoln Wickstrom (Harding County) 8-21 (Fall 2:07)

132: Nick Morris (0-3).

Nick Morris was pinned by Trey Frost (Stanley County) 20-8 (Fall 1:39); and he was pinned by Colby Kolda (Miller/Highmore-Harrold) 18-17 (Fall 0:34)

138: Korbin Kucker (13-15).

Korbin Kucker was pinned by Josh VanHeuvelen (Sunshine Bible Academy) 12-12 (Fall 1:29); and he lost by a major decision to Gunner Brueggeman (Miller/Highmore-Harrold) 11-16 (MD 11-3)

160: Cole Bisbee (16-16) .

Cole Bisbee pinned Jimmy Burma (Sunshine Bible Academy) 2-15 (Fall 0:23); he was pinned by Levi Stover (Stanley County) 17-8 (Fall 1:10); he pinned Roger Duba (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 1-9 (Fall 2:45); and he lost by a decision to Garret Ristau (Chamberlain) 24-19 (Dec 7-0)

195: Lane Krueger (18-6) placed 4th and scored 7.0 team points.

Lane Krueger lost by a major decision to Charley Pravecek (Winner) 15-10 (MD 11-1); he pinned Cole Wellner (Moberidge-Pollock) 16-7 (Fall 2:31); and in the third place match, he was pinned by Noah Hutmacher (Chamberlain) 32-8 (Fall 2:39).

285: Adrian Knutson (10-17).

Adrian Knutson was decisioned Aiden Schoenard (Moberidge-Pollock) 26-8 (Dec 1-0); and he was pinned by Dylan Endres (Stanley County) 3-4 Fall 1:53).

Tri-Valley beats Groton Area Lady Tigers

Tri-Valley outscored Groton Area, 20-4, in the second quarter en route to a 52-32 win in girls basketball action played Saturday in Madison. It was part of the NEC-DAK XII clash.

The game was tied at six after the first quarter and the Mustangs took a 26-10 lead at half time and a 32-21 lead at the end of the third quarter.

Gracie Traphagen had a double-double with 15 points, 10 rebounds and three steals. Allyssa Locke had four points, one rebound and four assists. Alyssa Thaler had four points, nine rebounds, one assist and one block. Sydney Leicht had four points and one rebound. Brooke Gengerke had three points, three rebounds and one assist. Anna Fjeldheim had two points.

The Lady Tigers were eight of 26 in two-pointers for 31 percent, two of 15 in three-pointers for 13 percent, made 10 of 13 free throws for 77 percent, had 29 rebounds, 12 turnovers, seven assists, three steals, 11 fouls and one block shot.

- Paul Kosel

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 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m., or mailed by registered mail not later than February 26, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Janel Wagner
Business Manager
(0203.0210)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$19.98. 19718

Answers to last week's Fun Page

Happy Valentine's Day!
Elio's Secret Message to You!

BE MY VALENTINE

OR BREAK MY HEART

A Sweetheart of a Flower!
The ROSE is a popular flower.

SAINT
L O V E
P A R T Y
F L O W E R S
P O E M
P I N K
H E A R T S
C U P I D
C A N D Y
R E D

Through Wind, Snow or Rain!

The heart is the organ that pumps blood throughout the body. It is so important to our lives that we use the word "heart" to talk about feelings or warmth.

Have a heart! Say that you'll be my Valentine.

A Hearty Puzzle!

It'll bug us if you won't be our Valentine.

I have such a big heart!

Slow and steady I deliver cards and Valentines. Some have funny poems. Some have just a line:

R A I N O R S H I N E
X • 7 Δ ○ ? L 7 Δ ○
P L E A S E B E M I N E
□ ○ • ? ○ □ ○ X 7 Δ ○

When you need assistance, we have you covered.

Dakota at Home is the one resource for older adults and people with disabilities. Don't scurry around. Call today.

SD's Aging and Disability Resource Center
1-833-663-9673

Dakota at Home
One Call
Countless Resources

DakotaAtHome.org

Monson, Krueger win three matches with a pin at Lyman County

Dragr Monson and Lane Krueger scored three pins at the Lyman County quad wrestling meet held Friday. Christian Ehresmann wrestled one match and won by pin, winning the other two by forfeits. Eastern Ekern won one match by forfeit and he won one by a pin. Nick Morris won one by forfeit and he was pinned in a match. Korbin Kucker won a match by a pin, one by a major decision and one by forfeit. Cole Bisbee won a match by a major decision and was pinned in two other matches.

Groton Area 42, Bennett County 36

106: Gavin Risse (Bennett County) wins by forfeit

113: Dragr Monson (Groton Area) over Neil Hicks (Bennett County) (Fall 1:20)

120: Tyce Gropper (Bennett County) wins by forfeit

126: Christian Ehresmann wins by forfeit

132: Easten Ekern over Ethan Harris (Bennett County) (Fall 0:39)

138: Nick Morris wins by forfeit

145: Korbin Kucker over Trey Tetrault (Bennett County) (Fall 1:08)

152: Haden Chase Alone (Bennett County) wins by forfeit

160: Ty Allen (Bennett County) over Cole Bisbee (Fall 5:41)

170: Mason Heath (Bennett County) wins by forfeit

182: Ace Hahn (Bennett County) wins by forfeit

195: Double Forfeit

220: Lane Krueger over Alex Baker (Bennett County) (Fall 1:20)

285: Adrian Knutson wins by forfeit

Lyman 54, Groton Area 28

106: Braydon Oldenkamp (Lyman) wins by forfeit

113: Dragr Monson over Hunter Collins (Lyman) (Fall 1:37)

120: Easton Robbins (Lyman) wins by forfeit

126: Christian Ehresmann over Kellen Griffith (Lyman) (Fall 3:30)

132: Shilo Mowry (Lyman) over Nick Morris (Groton Area) (Fall 0:05)

138: Korbin Kucker wins by forfeit

145: Tristan Penny (Lyman) wins by forfeit

152: Rory McManus (Lyman) wins by forfeit

160: Tance Wagner (Lyman) wins by forfeit

170: Cole Bisbee over Isaac McManigal (Lyman) (MD 8-0)

182: Gunner Johnson (Lyman) wins by forfeit

195: Lane Krueger over Ayden Brakke (Lyman) (Fall 1:19)

220: Louie Thiry (Lyman) wins by forfeit

285: Demery Hood (Lyman) over Adrian Knutson (Groton Area) (Fall 0:18)

Marion/Freeman/Freeman Academy/Canistota/Menno 48, Groton Area 34

106: Riley Tschetter (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

113: Dragr Monson over Keaton Prehiem (M/F/FA/C/M) (Fall 0:51)

120: Finley McConniel (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

126: Easten Ekern wins by forfeit

132: Christian Ehresmann wins by forfeit

138: Korbin Kucker over Zac Saylor (M/F/FA/C/M) (MD 16-2)

145: Tim Epp (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

152: Owen Eitenmiller (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

160: Ethan Ortman (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

170: Chris Kessler (M/F/FA/C/M) over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) (Fall 1:08)

182: Grant Anderson (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

195: Lane Krueger over Jeremy Waldner (M/F/FA/C/M) (Fall 3:44)

220: Clayton Smith (M/F/FA/C/M) wins by forfeit

285: Adrian Knutson wins by forfeit

Tiger loss to Wambdi creates 6-way tie in NEC

Groton Area suffered its second Northeast Conference loss Saturday to the hands of Tiospa Zina at Agency Village, 49-44. The loss creates a six-way tie for first place in the Northeast Conference.

The varsity game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bierman Farm Service, Jark Real Estate, Harr Motors - Bary Keith, Bahr Spray Foam, Allied Climate Professionals- Kevin Nehls, S.D. Army National Guard, John Sieh Agency, Groton Vet Clinic, Blocker Construction, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting, Milbrandt Enterprises, Inc, Groton Ford, S & S Lumber & Hardware Hank, Jamie Simon Photography.

The Wambdi jumped out to a 6-0 lead and the Tigers never led in the contest. Tiospa Zina took a 13-9 lead at the end of the first quarter and a 21-14 lead at half time. The Wambdi started off the third quarter with a tree-pointer to take a 10-point lead, 24-14. Groton Area closed to within four, 26-22, but trailed by five at the end of the third quarter, 32-27. The Tigers scored first in the fourth quarter and made it a three-point game, 32-29, but Tiospa Zina would regain a 10-point advantage with 3:14 left at 39-29. Every time Groton would get a basket and Juron Adams would answer for the Wambdi in a matter of seconds as he scored nine of 17 points in the fourth quarter. Groton Area made it a four-point game, 45-41, with less than a minute left in the game, but was unable to close the gap any further.

Groton Area made three of 16 in three-pointers for 19 percent and was 13 of 36 in two-pointers for 36 percent. Tiospa Zina made 19 of 42 shots for 45 percent.

Groton Area had 17 turnovers while the Wambdi had 14 with nine being steals (Wyatt Hearnen 3 and Jayden Zak 3).

Three players hit double figures for the Tigers with Lane Tietz and Jacob Zak each having 13, Tristian Traphagen had 10 while Jayden Zak had six and Wyatt Hearnen two. Groton Area had 31 rebounds with Hearnen having 12, Traphagen seven and Jacob Zak six. Jayden Zak had three of the team's seven assists and Traphagen had one block. Groton Area had 11 team fouls while allowed the Wambdi to make eight of 16 free throws for 50 percent. Tiospa Zina had 14 team fouls which called the Tigers to make nine of 12 free throws for 75 percent.

Tiospa Zina won the junior varsity game, 33-24. The game was tied twice and there were two lead changes before the Wambdi took a 10-9 lead at half time and a 26-11 lead at the end of the third quarter.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Jim and Shirley VanDenhemel of Woonsocket, grandparents of Cade and Tate Larson.

Colby Dunker, Cole Simon and Jackson Cogley each had five points while Holden Sippel and Teylor Diegel each had two and Logan Ringgenberg added one free throw. Juan Rios led the Wambdi with 10 points.

The Wambdi made it a clean sweep on the night with a 51-40 win in the C game. The game was tied three times in the first quarter before Tiospa Zina took a 15-7 lead after the first quarter, a 25-21 lead at half time and a 35-32 lead at the end of the third quarter. The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by the Imrie family in memory of Grandpa Jay.

Teylor Diegel led the Tigers with 14 points followed by Colby Dunker with 10, Dillon Abeln had five, Braxton Imrie and Holden Sippel each had four points and Logan Ringgenberg added two points.

Tate Never Misses A Shot led the Wambdi with 14 points while Austin Kohl had 13, Nate Thompson 10, Juan Rios, Jayvyn Adams and Storm Sierra each had five points.

- Paul Kosel

Groton	6-2
Milbank	5-2
Hamlin.....	5-2
Sisseton	4-2
Tiospa Zina	4-2
Clark/Willow Lake	4-2
Redfield	4-3
Roncalli	4-4
Webster.....	1-8
Deuel	1-7
Britton-Hecla.....	0-5

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Proposed health plan for S.D. farmers would fall outside state and federal regulations

By: Bart Pfankuch

South Dakota lawmakers have passed a bill that would allow agricultural industry groups to develop their own health-benefit plans that would be outside the purview and regulation of the state Division of Insurance and which would sidestep some federal consumer protections.

The measure is being pushed by the South Dakota Farm Bureau Federation, a powerful agricultural industry group that is seeking to create a new health plan for its 13,500 members and other farmers and ranchers across the state.

Opponents of the bill — including independent insurance companies and health groups including the American Cancer Society — argue it would be “dangerous” for consumers who buy into the plan, would weaken the stability of the overall insurance marketplace in South Dakota and lead to higher premiums for



Gary Cammack

people on traditional insurance plans across the state.

The measure, Senate Bill 87, was passed by the South Dakota Senate on Feb. 3 on a 19-15 vote; it passed in the House of Representatives by a 50-16 vote on Feb. 10. The bill now moves to Gov. Kristi Noem for consideration.

Backers of the measure say it would allow for creation of affordable health plans that would provide a new coverage option for those in the agriculture industry who mostly are independent operators or contractors and do not qualify for employer-based plans. They note that an estimated 80,000 residents of South Dakota under 65 do not have any form of insurance.

Many farmers and ranchers also make too much money to qualify for subsidies that make traditional insurance plans offered within the Affordable Care Act marketplace more affordable. The bill would allow the Farm Bureau to create its proposed health plan but also opens the door to creation of similar plans by other established agricultural groups in the future. By law, the group health plans are not technically defined as insurance.

“The plan would assist in reducing the number of uninsured and support rural health care and further enhance quality of life in rural America,” said Senate Majority Leader Gary Cammack, R-Union Center, a Meade County rancher and store owner who is the lead sponsor of the bill. “We’ve got a real crisis when it comes to being able to access and afford health care insurance ... this particular plan gives an option to those folks to be able to afford something that will give them some protection and protect them from catastrophic issues that happen in life.”

Opponents say the plan puts individuals or families who buy in at risk of losing money or being denied coverage because they will not receive the consumer protections, guarantees of coverage, or proof of health-plan financial stability that state and federal laws require of traditional insurance plans. Fraud also becomes more likely without state oversight of the third-party contractor that will provide the benefits and run the plan, opponents said.

“This is terribly unfair to the health insurance industry, because we have this whole stack of rules and regulations and statutes that apply to them and now we’re going to put a com-

petitor out in the marketplace that doesn’t have to follow any of them,” said Randy Moses, a lobbyist for the Independent Insurance Agents of South Dakota. “We’re talking about a substantial amount of law, and this bill just throws it all way, no protections whatsoever for consumers.”



Nick and Bekah Ihnen of Tulare are a farming family that has had to make tough choices to ensure they have health insurance. Nick Ihnen recently testified in favor of Senate Bill 87, saying it would create a more affordable option for health care coverage for farm families.

Photo: Courtesy Red River Farm Network

In testimony before the Senate and in press releases issued on the bill, opponents said that without state and federal regulation, the new plans could exclude or charge higher premiums on consumers with pre-existing conditions, could drop patients who contract complex and costly illnesses, and may not cover preventive tests or some costly services such as treatment for mental health and cancer. The plans theoretically could have annual or lifetime caps on benefits, which would force major out-of-pocket costs onto customers who become afflicted with serious illnesses, said David W. Benson, lobbyist for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network of South Dakota.

“This could leave people with cancer and other expensive illnesses with massive medical bills or force them to forgo needed medical treatments,” Benson said. “These plans would likely attract younger, healthier individuals, segmenting the individual marketplace risk pool in South Dakota, and leaving it with older and sicker enrollees. This would result in increased prices on everyday South Dakotans like cancer survivors.”

Similar plans are already allowed in Iowa, Michigan, Kansas, Indiana and Tennessee, which has the most experience with the benefit plans and whose program is the model for the proposed South Dakota plan.

During debate on the bill in the Senate Commerce and Energy Committee, farmer Nick Ihnen of Tulare, S.D., said his family has had to make difficult decisions in order to maintain health insurance.

Ihnen said he and his wife have four children and farm on about 2,000 acres in Spink County. Ihnen said that for 13 years he was able to buy health insurance through his employer in the agriculture industry, but lost that option when he broke away to launch his own retail and crop-consulting business.

The family then had to buy insurance from the ACA marketplace that cost about \$16,000 a year, Ihnen said. The prohibitive cost led his wife, Bekah, to take a job off the farm in order to get employer-provided insurance, which he said has reduced the time he and his wife have

for both farming and raising their children.

“As you can imagine, juggling a farming operation, my own retail business, four children and Bekah having an off-farm job makes it challenging to get the work done on our farming operation, to say the least, let alone to have a family life,” Ihnen said.

Ihnen said the Farm Bureau benefits plan could provide his family a way to afford health insurance and remain committed to their farm.

“Plain and simple, this option would help my family,” Ihnen said. “This will give the next generation confidence of staying on the farm and continuing our strong agricultural tradition.”

Sen. Wayne Steinhauer, R-Hartford, said he was paying about \$18,000 a year for private health insurance before joining Medi-share, a Christian medical sharing plan that is similar to the proposed Farm Bureau health plan. Under that plan, Steinhauer said his annual premiums dropped to about \$7,000 and he still feels well covered. Steinhauer voted to approve the bill in committee and the full Senate.

Sen. Troy Heinert, D-Mission, is a rancher who said he initially supported the bill as a co-sponsor but changed his mind after learning that some coverage under the plan could be restricted because it would operate outside state and federal guidelines.

“I thought that sounds good; low-wage ranch hands or farm hands might qualify,” Heinert said. “[But] I can’t risk someone thinking they are going to have coverage and something happens in a farm accident or ranch accident and they don’t have the coverage.”

Heinert voted against the bill in the Senate.

Ryan Brown, an administrator with the Farm Bureau Health Plan of Tennessee, said his organization has been offering health benefits since 1947 and has operated the type of plan South Dakota is considering since 1993. The plan that is the model for the South Dakota Farm Bureau plan has about 100,000 members across the state, he said.

Brown said the plan operates outside the purview of state insurance regulators in part so it can avoid coverage mandates that add administrative and benefit costs.

“Because it’s not insurance, it’s a membership service organization, we’re allowed to do some things that result in lower costs and lower premiums, and we pass that onto the members,” Brown said.

Brown said the Tennessee plan has coverage that compares well with health benefits provided by traditional insurers in the Affordable Care Act marketplace. He noted that the Tennessee plan covers both preventive testing and medical treatments, including mental health treatments. The plan does not have lifetime benefit limits, and does not allow for further underwriting or removal from the plan if a patient is sickened by an illness with expensive care or treatments.

He said potential customers are made fully aware of the limits on coverage and their upfront and co-pay costs.

In many cases, Brown said, lower premiums offset the higher co-pay costs incurred by customers.

Brown rejects the idea put forward by opponents of the South Dakota legislation that the Farm Bureau health plans push sicker patients into traditional insurance or that premiums for traditional insurance will rise if the new plans are offered.

“We believe that our effect is not really on the insurance marketplace, but on the uninsured population,” Brown said. “This plan is not for everyone; it’s for a niche population. We are covering people who otherwise would not have any form of coverage and are now able to pay their medical bills because they have this plan.”

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U.S. Presidents

Well, it's certainly cuddlier than a real bear.



Who was the first president of our country? Why George Washington, of course! President Joe Biden is our 46th president. How much do you know about the presidents? **Read each clue below and fill in the crossword with the last names of each president:**

- During the American Revolution, as a child in South Carolina, this president was taken prisoner by the British. He was wounded by a sabre (sword) cut from a British officer when he refused to clean the officer's boots.
- This president's wife, Dolley, saved a portrait of George Washington before the British attacked the city of Washington and burned the White House.
- While this man was president, the government made Washington D.C. its new home. He and his wife were the first to live in the White House.
- As a young soldier in battle, our nation's first president escaped uninjured even though his uniform had bullet holes in it and two horses were shot out from under him.
- This president loved the outdoors. He even lived as a cowboy for a while. The much-loved toy, the teddy bear, is named after him.
- This lawyer was known as "Honest Abe." When he was president, he declared that the slaves were to be freed.
- This 5-star Army general was first president to travel in a nuclear-powered submarine.
- This president drafted the Declaration of Independence. He felt strongly about each person's rights and freedoms.
- This president never married. He invited his niece to the White House to be his hostess.
- This Governor of Texas became president eight years after his father left the presidency. He owns a ranch where there are cows, dogs and cats.

Can you fill in the blanks to spell the names of these 4 U.S. presidents?

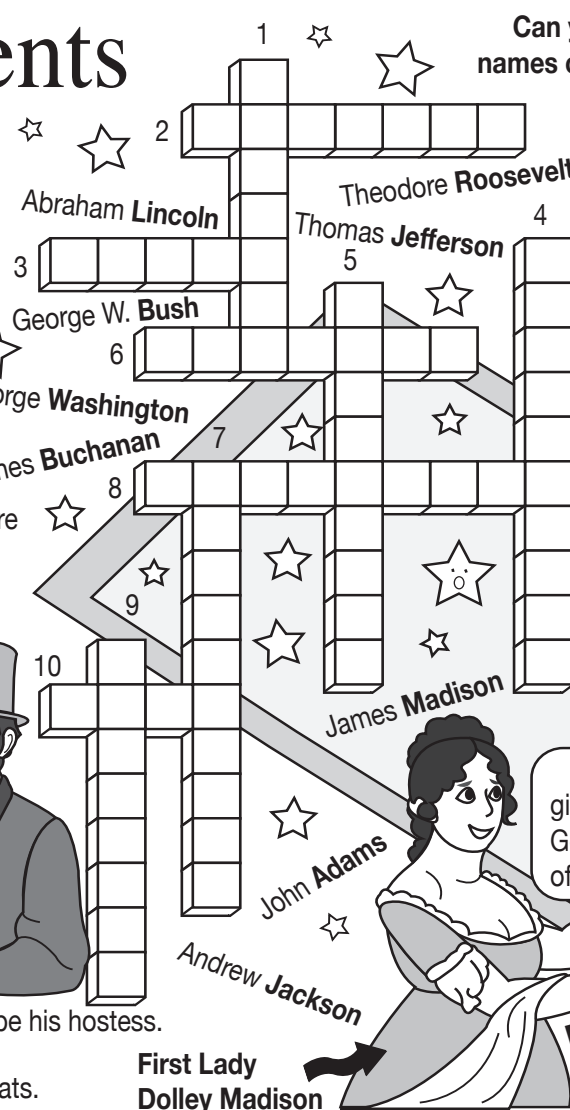
- __ osep__ h __ iden
- __ onald J. __ rump
- __ arack __ bama
- __ eorge W. __ ush

During the War of 1812, the British marched on Washington, D.C. They burned the White House, and other buildings. They were only there about one day.

Dolley Madison saved the giant portrait of our first president, George Washington, with the help of staff at the White House.

Fill in the blanks to spell the names of these U.S. First Ladies?

- Dr. __ ill __ iden
- __leanor __ oosevelt



Do You Ever Think about Running for President?

Presidents Day is a good time to think about the leaders of our country. Do you ever wonder about the jobs they did before they held the office of the presidency of the United States?

Well, they were soldiers, lawyers, teachers, farmers and writers. Some went to private or public colleges and some were self-taught!

Does this sound like any of the people you know? Do you think that they could become President of the United States if they wanted to seek this important office? Or...maybe it is **your** dream?


What? I still like cherries.

I like reading about the kinds of things the presidents did when they were kids.

Check out your library for cool books about the presidents.

Find and circle the words below connected to the Presidential Office:

President	Constitution
Vice President	elections
First Lady	Inauguration Day
White House	oath
West Wing	serve
Oval Office	lead
Pennsylvania Ave	duty
Marine Sentries	campaign
Washington D.C.	Air Force One
public tours	Camp David



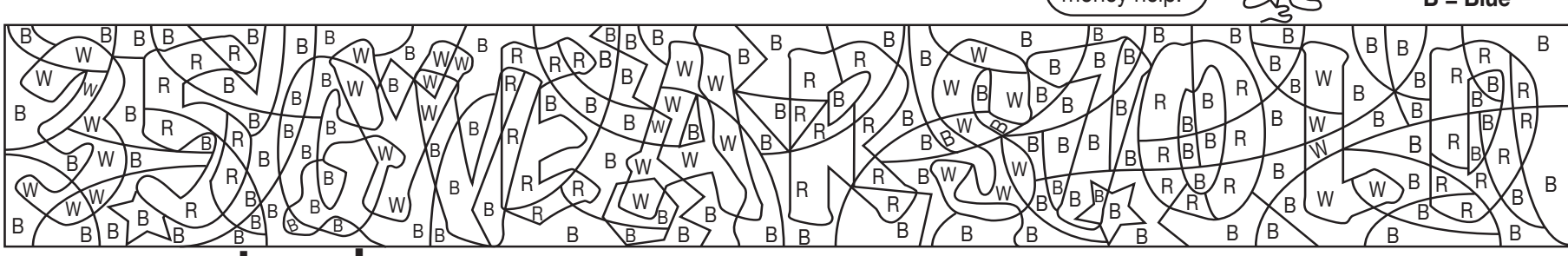
What Do You Need to Run for the Office of U. S. President?

According to the U.S. Constitution, to run you **need** to:

- be a "natural born Citizen"
- have lived here at least 14 years
- be at least...

...and a staff and lots of money help!

Use this color key to see the answer:
R = Red
W = White
B = Blue



Answers next week

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Women's High Games: Brenda Madsen 193, Brenda Waage 186, 183, Darci Spanier 175
Men's High Series: Brad Waage 538, Doug Jorgensen 507, Alfred Tastad 466
Women's High Series: Brenda Waage 520, Darci Spanier 490, Brenda Madsen 443

Conde National League

Team Standings: Mets 22, Giants 19, Cubs 19, Braves 17, Pirates 14, Tigers 5
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Men's High Series: Jeremy Reyalts 531, Tim Olson 529, Butch Farmen 520

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 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

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 177; Vickie Kramp 165, 159; Sam Bahr 155
Women's High Series: Vickie Kramp 451, Nancy Radke 439, Sam Bahr 426

Columbia City Ord. 2021-1 Council Dates

ORDINANCE No. 2021-1
 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1-1: CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH DAKOTA, AS FOLLOWS:
 Section 1. Columbia Revised Ordinances Section 1-1, City Council Meetings, is amended to read as follows:
 1-1-1 Regular Meetings. The regular monthly meeting of the City Council of the Town of Columbia shall be held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the City Hall. In the case of the regular meeting day falling on a holiday, said meeting will be rescheduled. Any person or person(s) who wish to be heard at the Town Meeting must be put on the agenda the Friday prior to the meeting.
 CITY OF COLUMBIA, SOUTH DAKOTA
 Corey Mitchell, Mayor
 Passed First Reading: 2/3/21
 Passed Second Reading: 2/10/21
 Adopted: 2/10/21
 Published: Feb. 10, 2021
 Effective: 2/10/21 at 12:00 a.m.
 ATTEST:
 Cara Dennert,
 Finance Officer
 (seal)
 Published once at the total approximate cost of \$14.04. 19733

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Columbia City Feb. 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting Minutes - 2nd Reading Ordinance 2021-01
 February 10, 2021 7:00 p.m.
 Call Meeting to Order/Roll Call - Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Ellen Harr, Emily Eichler (via zoom), Trevor Meints
 Unfinished Business - City Meeting Date Ordinance
 The Council reread the Columbia City Meeting Date Ordinance presented at last week's meeting. There was no further discussion.
 Cole Kampa made a motion to pass the City of Columbia Meeting Date Ordinance effective February 10th, 2021 at 12:00 a.m. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.
 Trevor Meints made a motion to adjourn. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor - meeting adjourned.
 Next Meeting - March 3, 2021 7:00 p.m.
 Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.70. 19734

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