



The Groton Independent

Vol. 138 No. 27 ♦ Groton, South Dakota ♦ Wednesday, March 10, 2021 ♦ Established in 1889

Four vying for two spots on Groton Area Board of Education

Compiled by Dorene Nelson

An election for the Groton Area Board of Education will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021. Four candidates are running for two open positions. The incumbents, Marty Weismantel and Kara Pharis, are being challenged by Anna Schwan and Ryan Tracy.

Each candidate was asked the same set of questions. Their answers are provided in the following paragraphs.

Reasons for Serving on the School Board

Marty Weismantel:

- has officiated high school athletics for over 32 years. This connection has helped him build a large network of school administrators with whom he keeps in contact.

- loves being around young people and is easily able to build relationships with other people of all ages. While on the school board, he has been willing to help in whatever way he can. He still officiates for junior high games and helps with fund-raising.

- was elected to the South Dakota High School Activities Association Board of Directors in 2020, as the small school board representative. Having this spot on the SDHSAA board is beneficial to both our district and to northeast South Dakota.

Anna Schwan:

- is committed to meeting the needs of all students, a top priority for all school board members. With her background in education, it is easy to see why she is invested and interested in this position.

- has many years as a teacher and administrator have given her an authentic understanding of education and how to serve students and foster professional development for administrators, teachers, and staff.

- While working on her many college degrees, she has developed a deep understanding of learning environments, curriculum and instruction, leadership, psychology of learning, and educational finance.

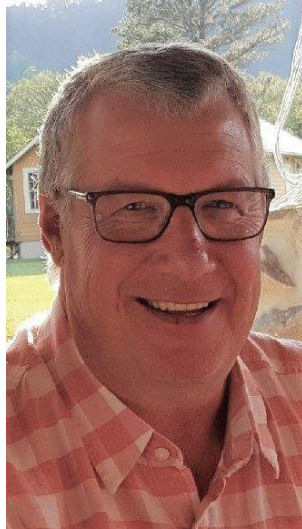
- has a desire to not only serve her community but also to help with making decisions that will improve student achievement. She has been in a school building for over 35 years and believes that her knowledge and experience can contribute to a shared vision that will help in making good student-driven decisions.

Ryan Tracy:

- entire family has been very involved in the community with many sporting and church events, being part of the PAC, running a day-care and owning a building on main street, being on the Groton Fire/Rescue Team, coaching Groton Youth Sports, and volunteering in many other ways.

- job includes working in the Wholesale Distributor Industry in the plumbing, electrical, utility, and HVAC segments of construction. This career path has made him very familiar with all aspects of construction and finance, where he has been heavily involved with many projects, big and small.

- has been selected to serve on many high-level boards and committees, providing him with responsibilities and learning how to fulfill the role of a team board member. This experience will help him to be a good member of the Groton School Board and be able to work



Incumbent Marty Weismantel

Marty Weismantel owns Weismantel Insurance Agency in Columbia. After graduating from NSU, he started his career working in the banking industry. Weismantel is the only candidate who was born, raised, and lives and works in the district. He and his wife Amy have two daughters and live in Columbia.



Incumbent Kara Pharis

Kara Pharis, a graduate of Bristol High School, has lived in the Groton community for over 20 years. After earning an associate's degree in business, she has been employed as a paralegal at Ronayne Law Office. Pharis and her husband Kevin farm north of Groton and have five children.



Ryan Tracy

Ryan Tracy is currently the General Manager of the SD region for an employee-owned company, Dakota Supply Group (DSG) and has lived in Groton for 16 years. He and his wife have four children with three of them currently attending school in Groton.



Anna Schwan

Anna Schwan is currently an Assistant Professor at NSU. Prior to working at the college, Schwan had been a classroom teacher for twelve years and a school administrator for four years. She lives in Groton with her husband and four children.

well with some of the upcoming decisions and challenges in front of them.

- who cares deeply about children and the Groton community, will give 100% to the job and the people he serves. He believes that boards need well rounded people who are willing to be open minded, listen to the others and their ideas, be willing to adapt to change, and yet challenge decisions to be sure that all options are being considered, even if it is not popular, "before" a decision is made.

Kara Pharis:

- Since her children range in ages from early elementary to college students, Pharis has a vested interest in the long-term success of the Groton Area School District. She also has the unique perspective of being currently involved in every level at Groton Area and into college. Pharis is also the only board member who was originally from Bristol. It is helpful for patrons from that part of the district to have a familiar face on the Board.

- Having served on the Groton Area School Board for three years has provided her with an insight into the ins and outs of public education in the state, as well as things that are distinctive to our district. Pharis feels that her strongest attributes are common sense and having high but realistic standards for the Groton School District. Her family is also directly impacted by all decisions the board makes, whether that be personnel, curriculum, or tax levies.

- In addition to this, Pharis' work in the legal system adds more understanding and a unique talent to the board. She is also a youth basketball and soccer coach, a Sunday school teacher, and had been an active member in the school district before serving on the board.
- has served on the district's COVID-19

Back to School task force last summer and is proud of the work that was done to get the kids and teachers back in the classroom and to keep them there as safely as possible and with minimal interruptions.

Job of the School Board Member

Weismantel is currently on the school board for one reason: to assist in maintaining the excellent academic reputation that Groton Area currently possesses. The primary work of the board is hiring and supervising the superintendent, developing policy that supports the mission of the school district, and overseeing the fiscal duties of the school district. Weismantel is objective and makes his decisions on what is best for the school and the students who attend here.

Schwan believes that the job of the board of education is to provide the foundation and to pave the way for schools to serve, without reservation, all students. The teachers, staff, administrators, and students depend upon the board to understand the issues and to spend the necessary time to be well-informed. The members of the board of education must be willing to listen and work together to be active problem solvers.

Tracy considers the school board to be the supervisor and support for the superintendent. As such the board should challenge, coach, provide knowledge, and evaluate performance and decisions of the school leaders. The board members need to lend real world expertise in areas they have knowledge and experience. The board must make sure every angle is looked at carefully, asking the right questions, hearing the whole story, and ultimately making the best decision possible in every scenario.

See School Board on Page 3

Stratford Town Jan. 18, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Town of Stratford Minutes of January 2021 Meeting

Stratford Town Board of Trustees met in regular session on January 18, 2021, at 7:00 PM in the

Community Hall. Those in attendance were Bourassa, L Jark, Prickett, Moen. Prickett called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve December minutes by Prickett, 2nd by Jark.

Water heater in the old basement has been wired. The new sign does not have power. Will need to find out why the power was disconnected. Would like to add an outlet and light for the fireworks section of the sign.

Accounts receivable reviewed. Have been seeing more payments come in since applying finance charges.

FINANCE REPORT:

Bills presented for the month: Dakota Pump & Control (annual contract) \$560, D.Hoeft (snow removal) \$1425, Dept of Health (water testing) \$30, Hanlon Brothers (road grading) \$1236.75, Schmidt Construction (hydrant water leak repair) \$1191.88, SDML (worker's compensation-incorrect amount difference) \$13.51, Water District Maintenance \$408.16;

Automatic Withdrawals: JVC (phone) \$50.83, NESD Economic Corp \$383.71, Northwestern Energy \$748.75 + \$45.66, United Fire and Casualty \$346, Rural Development Sewer Loan \$478, WEB Water \$1989.13.

Motion by Prickett to move \$2,000 to the water fund (as needed), second by Bourassa.

Motion to pay bills by Prickett, 2nd by Jark.

Designated Groton Daily Independent for the newspaper.

Need to look at the issues in the basement back room and North room. May need to contact the insurance company for coverage.

Salaries for 2020: Prickett \$440.00, Jark \$440.00, Bourassa \$815.00, Moen \$642.00.

Motion to adjourn; the next meeting will be February 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM by Jark, 2nd by Bourassa.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$19.98. 19826

Stratford Town Feb. 15, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Town of Stratford Minutes of February 2021 Meeting

Stratford Town Board of Trustees met in regular session on February 15, 2021, at 7:00 PM in the

Community Hall. Those in attendance were Bourassa, L Jark, Prickett, Moen.

Prickett called the meeting to order.

Motion to approve January minutes by Prickett, 2nd by Jark.

Accounts receivable reviewed. Taylor property was sold; need to verify where the bill should be sent.

Electrical - Sign has power. The sensors and bulbs need to be checked when the weather warms up. The light at the hall stays on all of the time. Check with Locke Electric to see if the sensor needs to be replaced.

FINANCE REPORT:

Bills presented for the month: D.Hoeft (snow removal) \$665, Dept of Health (water testing)

\$15, Palmer's Plumbing & Heating (water heater) \$1056.12, Water District Maintenance \$408.16; Re-issued check to Hydro-Klean \$3268.75

Automatic Withdrawals: JVC (phone) \$43.20, NESD Economic Corp \$383.71, Northwestern Energy \$890.40 + \$45.51, United Fire and Casualty \$346, Rural Development Sewer Loan \$478, WEB Water \$1854.41.

Check balance on sewer loans to see how much time is left on balance.

Motion to pay bills by Prickett, 2nd by Bourassa.

Motion to keep Water District Maintenance to perform water sampling by Jark, 2nd by Bourassa. Bourassa to update Smiths on properties previously owned by Mossbrucker and Jensen.

Motion to adjourn; the next meeting will be March 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM by Prickett, 2nd by Bourassa.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$17.63. 19827

Groton City March 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes

March 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, Flihs, Babcock, Blackmun, Cutler and Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Paul Kosel, and Finance Officer Hope Block.

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

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

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

Payroll, \$23,259.05, Employee salaries; Executive, \$577.19; Administrative, \$3,787.56; Public Safety, \$8,997.56; Public Works, \$9,054.71; Culture & Recreation, \$842.03; First State Bank, \$7,527.49, SS and WH; First State Bank, \$495.82, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$650.00, Employee savings; Aflac, \$309.60, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$90.16, Employee insurance; Employers Mutual Insurance, \$82.70, Employee insurance; Guardian Insurance, \$92.73, Employee insurance; Allied, \$9,420.56, Employee insurance; SD Retirement, \$8,331.84, Employee retirement; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$430.00, Employee retirement; Border States, 255.06, Bypass links; Groton Independent, \$126.42, Publishing; Farmer's Union, \$1,212.07, Fuel; Dollar General, \$278.75, Paper products, lights, water, cleaners, hand sanitizer; S&S Lumber, \$173.96, Light bulbs, brush, paint, keys, heater hose, hose clamp; NW Energy, \$26.68, Natural gas; Drew Johnson, \$3,450.00, Legal fees 2/21; Cole Paper, \$68.46, Trash bags; Clark Engineering, \$7,752.61, Engineering cost water tower project; Secretary of State, \$30.00, Notary filing fee; Hope Block, \$219.00, Med flex; Dakota Pump & Control, \$5,144.57, 2 level controls in place of float switches; Heartland Waste, \$8,005.69, Garbage hauling; SD Dept of Health, \$30.00, Water testing; Branden Abeln, \$23.45, Med flex; Wolfcom, \$2,830.00,

Mini dvr in car system with gps-patrol vehicle and interior cam for the mini dvr-night vision built in microphone; Metering & Technology, \$1,078.46, Water frost plates, housing bottoms, endpoints; \$314.00, Endpoints; Grafix Shoppe, \$447.99, Custom graphics for new patrol vehicle; Department reports were reviewed, and Kosel informed the group that the skating rink had been closed for the season.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Kappes to enforce spring garbage routes as of March 9, 2021. All members voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Flihs to rescind the award for the 2021 gravel bid to Krueger Brothers Gravel & Dirt, and award it to Jensen Rock & Sand at \$17.25 per yard. All members voted aye.

Moved by Kappes and seconded by Wells to approve the water tower logo provided by Maguire Iron. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to approve the donation of four baseball season tickets to the Dueling Duo Fundraiser hosted by the Baseball/Softball Foundation. All members voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to approve Mayor Hanlon's declaration for City offices to be closed April 2nd and 5th for Easter. Employees will be paid for this time off. All members voted aye.

The second reading of the 2021 Summer Salary Ordinance #741 was approved with revisions on a motion by Flihs and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

The second reading of the 2021 Supplemental Appropriation Ordinance #742 was approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Flihs. All members voted aye.

The Equalization meeting date was set for March 16th after the regularly scheduled City Council meeting on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Cutler. All members voted aye.

The first reading of the Ordinance Amending Liquor Revenues #743 was approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

Moved by Kappes and seconded by Flihs to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:37pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:30pm.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$45.25. 19828

Groton City Supplemental Appro. Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 742
2021 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota that the following sums are supplementally appropriated to meet the obligations of the City of Groton and shall be effective immediately following passage.

E 101-41920: Buildings & Structures: \$250,000
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS: \$250,000

SOURCE OF FUNDING
R 101-33100 Covid Relief Grant: \$250,000

TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE: \$250,000

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 16th day of February 2021.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
1st Reading: February 16, 2021

2nd Reading: March 2, 2021
Published: March 3, 2021
Effective: March 23, 2021

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$11.10. 19829

Groton City Summer Salary Ordinance

Ordinance No. 741

An Ordinance entitled "2021 Summer Salary Ordinance", An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 733.

BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota, that Ordinance No. 741 be amended to,

read as follows:
Section I: Schedule of Salaries. The salaries and time of payment of employees shall be as follows:

Swimming Pool Manager, \$13.40, Hourly, Biweekly,
Swimming Pool Lifeguard, \$9.45, Hourly, Biweekly
Plus \$.25 per year of service up to 5 years

WSI Lifeguards during Swimming Lessons, Regular salary + \$1, Hourly, Biweekly,

WSI Assist Lifeguard during Swimming Lessons, Regular salary + \$.50, Hourly, Biweekly,
Concessions Manager, \$50 , Daily, Biweekly
Plus 50% net profit, End of Season,

Baseball Coordinator, \$3,000.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$77.32 per year of service up to 5 years

Softball Coordinator, \$1,000.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$25.77 per year of service up to 5 years

Legion Baseball Coach, \$3,000.00, Yearly, Monthly
Assistant Legion Baseball Coach, \$2,000.00, Yearly, Monthly

Jr Legion Baseball Coach, \$2,000.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$51.55 per year of service up to 5 years

Assistant Jr Legion Coach, \$1,000.00, Yearly, Monthly,
Jr Teeners Baseball Coach (if 1), \$2,000.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$51.55 per year of service up to 5 years

Jr Teeners Baseball Coach (if 2), \$1,500.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$38.66 per year of service up to 5 years

Midget Coach, \$1,250.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$32.21 per year of service up to 5 years

Pee Wee Coach, \$1,250.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$32.21 per year of service up to 5 years

Girls Softball Coach, \$800.00, Yearly, Monthly
Plus \$20.62 per year of service up to 5 years

Baseball Grounds Keeper, \$9.45, Hourly, Biweekly
Plus \$.25 per year of service up to 5 years

Baseball Gatekeeper, \$9.45, Hourly, Biweekly
Plus \$.25 per year of service up to 5 years

Public Works Laborer, \$10.40, Hourly, Biweekly
Plus \$.25 per year of service up to 5 years

Cemetery Caretaker, \$13.40, Hourly, Biweekly
Section II: Requirements.

Final payment of wages will be paid after completion of all duties.

of all seasonal employees.
Passed First Reading: February 16, 2021

Passed Second Reading: March 2, 2021

Scott Hanlon, Mayor,
Published: March 10, 2021
Effective: March 23, 2021
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$32.98. 19830

Columbia City Notice of Equalization

City of Columbia
Equalization Meeting Notice
PUBLIC NOTICE TO COLUMBIA PROPERTY OWNERS

Notice is hereby given that City Council, sitting as the Local Board of Equalization, will meet at City Hall for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of property on March 17, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Appeals must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation by 5:00pm Thursday, March 11th in the City Hall drop box or mail appeals to the City of

Columbia, PO Box 43, Columbia, South Dakota. Those appealing will be notified of their scheduled time to meet with the Board. Contact City Hall for more information at 605-396-7099.

Cara Dennert, City of Columbia Finance Officer

Published twice at the total approximate cost of

Cara Dennert
Finance Officer
City of Columbia

25 N Broadway, Columbia, SD 57433

City Hall - 396-2655

Personal Cell - 396-7099

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$12.41. 19831

Frederick City Equalization Meeting Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE TO FREDERICK PROPERTY OWNERS

Notice is hereby given that the Frederick Town Board, sitting as the Local Board of Equalization, will meet at The Frederick Community Center for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of property on March 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm.

Appeals must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation by 5:00 PM Wednesday, March 10th at Frederick Community Center or mail appeals to the Finance Officer, PO Box 546 Frederick, South Dakota, 57441. Those appealing will be notified of their scheduled time to meet with the Board. Contact Finance Officer at 605-329-2242 for more information.

Diane Bruns, Frederick Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.47. 19832

Columbia City March 3, 2021 Meeting Minutes

City of Columbia Council Meeting - March 3, 2021

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

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

Community - none
Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. Minutes were passed out from the February 3rd meeting. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All in favor - motion carried. Minutes were passed out from the February 10th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor - motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: JVT - 125.64; Web Water - 37.91; Northwestern Energy - 695.62; GDI - 62.60; Jeremy Dosch - 419.99; Kelsie Ehresmann - 293.99; Cara Dennert - 823.50; Runnings - 32.97; Great Western Bank - 88.31; Brown County Landfill - 14043.26; GDI - 60.47; Grand Slam - 212.50

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

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE - e-mail from Torian Mitchell - 2020 Financials completed, meeting with Jackie Luttrell from MAP; letter from Brown County Assessor - equalization meeting set for March 17th - 7pm

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - There were no changes to the current suspended Columbia Covid19 ordinance. A couple households will be receiving notice about not complying with dog ordinance/registration.

Nuisances - letter going out to resident about parking violation
Streets - We need to wait a month or two to grade the streets. They are looking good. There are a couple blocks on James St. that will need gravel.

Parks - A community meeting will be held March 21st 5:00 p.m. to get input as to how to proceed - suggestions. Signs will be posted around town and on Facebook.

Lagoon/sewer - lines need to be flushed - council is looking into various companies to get this done

Rubble Site - B&B cleaned up the site and hauled 65 loads to the Brown County Landfill! Going forward, large trees will not be accepted. A letter will go out to residents this spring regarding site & regulations. The council is looking into a possible solar lighting system for dusk to dawn times.

NEW BUSINESS - The city's SAMS status has been updated. There were no new petitions

for city council presented - only those from present board members. There will not be an election.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Cara presented bank balances. She is starting the annual report. Finished working with Rural Development regarding 2020 financial actuals. Emily Eichler made a motion to accept the financial report as given. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

February 28, 2020 balances: SF \$171,297.63; GF - \$171,297.63; FIT - \$13,978.76
Cash on hand - \$95.00

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

Equalization City Council Meeting - March 17, 2021 7:00 p.m.

City Council/Community Meeting regarding ball park - Sunday, March 21, 5:00 p.m.

Next Regular City Council Meeting - April 7, 2021 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$35.56. 19833

Bates Township Notice of Equalization

Bates Township Equalization Meeting Notice:

The Bates Township Board of Equalization will meet at the Clerk's home on Tuesday, March 16th, 2021 at 6:30 pm.

All persons disputing their assessments are requested to notify the clerk prior to the meeting.

Betty Geist
Bates Township Clerk
14523 409th Ave
Conde, SD 57434

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$6.20. 19834

Bates Township Road Right of Way Notice

Bates Township Board of Supervisors reminds all landowners and tenants that the road right-of-way extends 33 feet from the center of the township road. This ditch is to be maintained and mowed. Any crops planted in the road right-of-way will be mowed and expenses charged to the landowner.

Landowner is responsible for spraying all noxious weeds.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors
Betty Geist
Township Clerk

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$12.93. 19835

Groton City Voter Registration Notice

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration for the Municipal Election to be held on April 13th, 2021, will close on March 29th at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the county auditor at 605-626-7110.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at (www.sdsos.gov or a county provided website with a link to a voter registration form - insert one option or the other).

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration.

Hope Block - Finance Officer
City of Groton, South Dakota
(0310.0317)

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School Board Continued from front

Pharis is running for her second school board term because she believes in a quality public education for the community's current and future students. She is committed to listening to parents, staff, students, and the community at large regarding issues and, as a parent, has a personal vested interest in preserving and improving the education that children receive. Her reason for being on the board is her belief that everyone needs to contribute to the continued success of the Groton school district.

Four-or-Five Day Week

Weismantel has not heard from anyone in favor of the four-day week. Students need the good nutritious meals from the school. Some kids ride a bus for well over an hour morning and night. It is definitely in their best interest to have as short a school day as possible.

Schwan believes that school serves so many more purposes for kids than just academics. For some kids, school is the only place where their needs are being addressed and met. School is a time where kids can develop social emotional skills that are modeled by caring adults in a safe, comfortable environment. Shortening the school week decreases instructional time and time on task which is concerning when total learning time is one of the strongest predictors of student success.

Tracy has not formed his final opinion about the issue of a four- or five-day school week. He has been researching this topic and is in favor of a hybrid scenario, if that were possible to set up and support. He has found that older students and their parents really enjoy the four-day school week. The younger children and their parents are more in line with the five-day school week. It appears as if the younger ones are suffering in their education and in personal growth compared to previous years. He feels it is important to learn more of why people feel strongly one way or another on this topic.

Pharis, as a current board member, has received feedback from multiple parents. There have been some very good discussions regarding the pros and cons of both the four- and five-day school week. At this point, her biggest concern is keeping the quality of education that the district patrons are accustomed to at Groton Area, regardless of whether it is

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packaged into a four-day, five-day, or mix of the four-and five-day school week.

Bond Issue

When the timing is right, Weismantel will once again support another bond issue to replace the old section of the high school. He also believes that any remodel project should include the current band/vocal department. He would like to see the stage gym area in the "old gym" to include movable theater style seating to give us a theater type atmosphere.

Ideally a replacement of the '34 building would include a theater similar to what other area schools have included in their new building projects. Groton Area has an outstanding reputation for its fine arts, and the board needs to do something for that department to help instill and maintain more interest in that area.

Schwan believes that the Groton Area School District is in a great position to continue offering a stellar education to all students. She believes that the board needs to revisit and investigate options for bringing the old part of the high school into the 21st century of education.

At this time and with his current knowledge of the situation, Tracy is unable to support or oppose a bond issue for the replacement of the old high school. He would like to educate himself a lot more on the topic, such as current finances, loans, community support, cost of construction, etc.

Pharis admits that eventually that the issues of replacement or remodeling the eighty-year-old portion of the high school will need to be addressed again. However, since everyone is still financially crawling out of the pandemic, she believes that the citizens of this district will need time to economically recover. Ultimately, the Board and area communities will have to agree on a fiscally responsible remodel or replacement plan.

ESTATE SALE - LOG HOMES PAY THE BALANCE OWED ONLY!!!

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- 1) Model # 101 Carolina \$40,840...BALANCE OWED \$17,000
- 2) Model # 203 Georgia \$49,500...BALANCE OWED \$19,950
- 3) Model # 305 Biloxi \$36,825...BALANCE OWED \$14,500
- 4) Model # 403 Augusta \$42,450...BALANCE OWED \$16,500

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BBB
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Middle School Music Department to host 5th Annual Talent Show

On Thursday March 11th, the Groton MS School Music Department will be hosting our Middle School Talent Show. Theme is "The Stage is Yours." The event will be held at the Groton High Old Gym at 7:00 pm. The talent show is a fundraiser for the MS Music Students to earn money for their future music trips. The show will consist of talent acts made up of middle school students and popcorn. For people that purchase tickets in advance there will be a drawing for special prizes at the end of the show. The general admission cost is \$5.00. Tickets will not be sold at the door, but a \$5.00 donation will be requested. The 6th Grade Band, JH Band, and JH Choir will also perform. You can get your tickets from any MS Music Student. Come enjoy a fun-filled night of talent and music. Thank you all for your support!

CITY ADMINISTRATOR/FINANCE OFFICER - City of Gregory, SD

The City of Gregory is accepting applications for a full-time City Administrator/Finance Officer. Duties include but are not limited to overseeing all the City's financial operations, including payrolls; City budgets; financial reports (balance sheet, revenue and expense); fixed assets; accounts payable and receivables; prepare and file necessary State and Federal reports; General and Administrative supervision over all city employees; manage day-to-day operations. Position requires a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in accounting, business administration or an equivalent of 5 years experience in a related field of work. The City of Gregory offers an excellent benefit package - paid health insurance; SD Retirement; vacation; sick leave; paid holidays. Salary range is \$46,000 to \$56,000 per year, depending upon qualifications.

To apply visit the City's website: cityofgregory.com to download an application or email: greg-city@gwic.net to request an application or call 605-835-8270. Completed applications must be received by April 19, 2021. Mail to City of Gregory, PO Box 436, Gregory, SD 57533. EOE.

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By Jordan Wright

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

With the NFL offseason in full swing, it's time to start preparing for free agency. If you read this article last

week, you know this offseason will be unlike any other in recent memory. With the salary cap shrinking, teams are having to cut many players just to get under the cap. Many great players who have big contracts will be cut, which means there will be bargains to be found if a team is willing to look hard enough. Let's take a look at the Vikings' roster, specifically the team's pending free agents, to get a better idea of what to expect over the next few months. This week we'll look at the offense, leaving next week for the defense and special teams.

Before we get too far ahead of ourselves, however, we need to take a moment to recognize Kyle Rudolph, who was recently cut by the Vikings. Rudolph was the longest-tenured Vikings still on the roster, but at 31-years old, the tight end was simply too expensive to keep on the roster. After a decade in purple and gold, the former Notre Dame star will be looking for a new team. Rudolph was a fixture in the Minneapolis area, as the work he and his wife did for the community was second to none. The Vikings saved \$5 million by releasing him.

The Vikings have eight offensive players from last year's roster that are pending free agents. Ameer Abdullah (RB), Chad Beebe (WR), Mike Boone (RB), Dakota Dozier (OL), Rashod Hill (OL), Kyle Hinton (OL),

Brett Jones (OL), and Sean Mannion (QB).

While none of the names listed above are key pieces, the Vikings are still over the salary cap and will need to replace those players somehow. There is a good chance some of them will be back, if for no other reason than they are familiar with the Vikings' system and would be cheap backups. However, if the Vikings are looking to improve upon last year's 7-9 record, the team will have to upgrade some of those positions while also spending very little money. Should be easy, right?

With the top two running back spots filled, the Vikings can replace Abdullah and Boone in the draft. The Vikings also have three quarterbacks still on the roster (Cousins, Nate Stanley, Jake Browning), so it's likely the team has an in-house competition for the backup spot. The biggest cause for concern is going to be along the offensive line. Four players are pending free agents, and two of them have been contributors over the past couple of seasons (Hill, Dozier).

While the Vikings would love to be in a position to bring in one of the top offensive linemen, like Brandon Scherff, Joe Thuney, or Trent Williams, the reality is that the team will need to find solid players for cheap. There are a few older players who might still have a year left in them, like Alex Mack, Richie Incognito, or Jason Peters. The team could also try and sift through the bargain bin and try to find a diamond in the rough (players like Cameron Erving, Joe Haeg, and Forrest Lamp come to mind). At the end of the day, it's going to be hard for the Vikings, and many teams across the league, to be competitive this season because of the salary cap. Luckily, the Vikings have one of the best salary cap gurus in the league in Rob Brezinski. Let's just hope they're able to pull off a couple of miracles.

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Big John's Clothes

Things can slide when you're a bachelor. You do dishes when you run out of forks. When the sock drawer is empty, you buy more. You start drinking out of milk cartons. You carry out the trash every February 29. And there's no one to yell at you.

Like I said, things start to slide.

Things started to slide for Big John some time ago.

He didn't expect interference from my mother.

For three Sundays in a row, Mom drove by John's house on her way to church. And every Sunday, she could see the same flannel shirts and trousers dangling from his clothesline. It troubled her. It's something she couldn't help.

There's a gene that women have—The Orderliness Gene—that is multiplied in strength when they become mothers. As a mother of six, Mom has an Orderliness gene so enlarged it is actually visible to the naked eye.

The Orderliness Gene makes women go to extremes—some actually polish the leaves of their houseplants for crapes' sake. But it's no weirder than the Squalor Gene found in the DNA of men. It fades with marriage but mutates unchecked in the body of a bachelor. Thus you have men who believe a living room carpet comprised of Cheetos and cornflakes is a good thing.

Frankly, I'm amazed that my mom could drive by John's laundry even twice without scooping it off the line, sewing on missing buttons and ironing his underwear. She must be getting old.

Anyway, give her credit for holding out for three weeks. As for John, he claims he was just trying to pack as much of that "fresh air softness" into his dungarees as possible. That's his story anyway. I don't figure it would hold up in court, but us journalists are supposed to tell both sides of the story—even if one is a dang big fib.

But back to our story...

As she drove by John's laundry on the third week, Mom couldn't help herself. She stopped the car and began pulling the clothes off the line.

Technically, you might call it theft, but it's a small town. Even if the town cop had driven by, the conversation would have gone something like this:

Cop: "Hey, Jan, watcha doin'?"

Mom: "Stealing Big John's laundry."

Cop: "Awwright, jest don't git caught."

Of course, once she had John's clothes there was the quandary of what to do with them. I suppose she could have saved them for the next city rummage sale and let John buy them back, but she decided to box them up and mail them back.

Our local U. S. Postmaster was only too happy to help. He encouraged Mom to send the package postage due. So she did.

She had to wait three days before John got around to getting his mail. Like I said, things start to slide.

As he walked away from the Post Office, John began opening the box. When he realized what was in it, he did an abrupt U-turn.

"Who sent this?!" he demanded.

But of course, our postal employees are sworn to uphold the confidentiality of their clients. Collusion is their business.

For weeks, John accused pretty much everyone in town of the chicanery before the truth came out.

My little brother, Mike, the one with the Blabbermouth Gene, spilled the beans. But by then the statute of limitations on clothes heisting had expired.

But trouble may again be brewing.

Just last weekend, Mom mentioned to John that his laundry had been out for an extended period again.

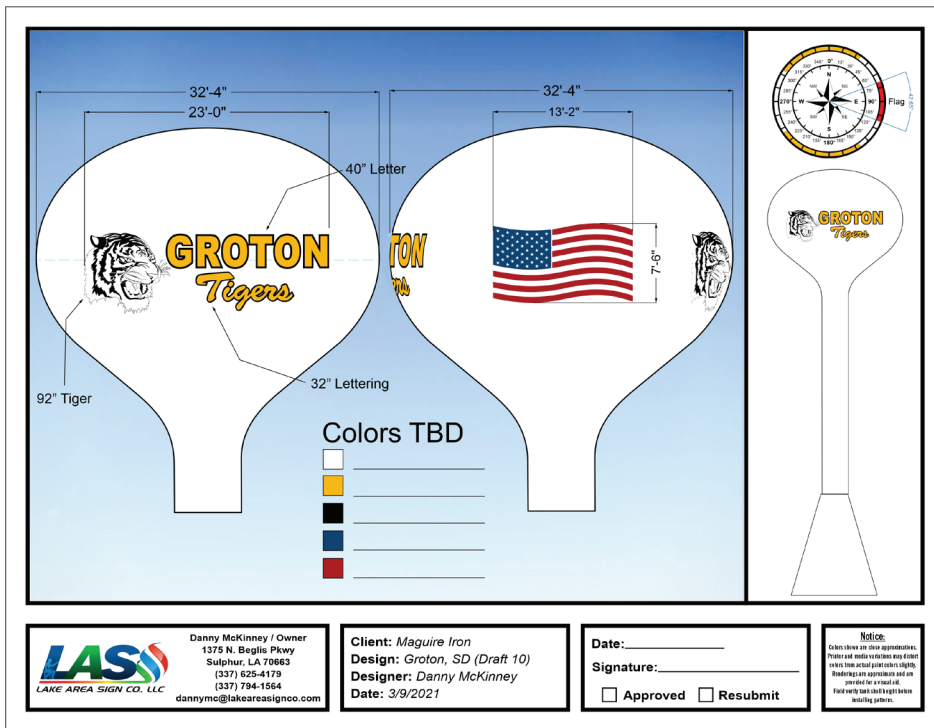
Just a friendly warning.

"They're just rags," he protested. "Don't steal them again!"

Then in that laconic Big John way, he added, "That was a good one..."



That's Life
by Tony Bender



The Groton City Council gave the approval for this design to be put on the new water tower. In addition, the Groton American Legion Post #39 has raised the money to have the flag put on the tower..

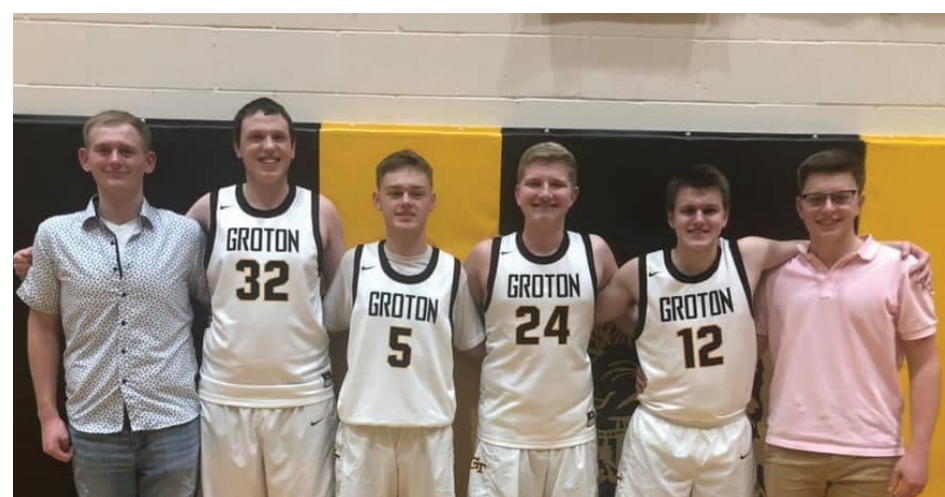


Concrete was lowered down in this carrying device and then released. The floor for the new pump room was poured on Thursday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Work is starting to resume on the Groton Water Tower project. The above shows the footing for the new building that will be put up, just south of the existing pump room.

(Photo by Paul Kosel)



Friday was Groton Area's seniors last night of playing basketball for the Tigers. The seniors are Tristan Traphagen, Kannon Coats, Steven Paulson, Chandler Larson, Isaac Smith and Lucas Simon. (Photo from Shelley Coats facebook page)

Milbank slips past Groton Area in region play

Milbank pulled away win the fourth quarter to slip past Groton Area in regional basketball action played in Groton on Friday, 51-42.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by S & S Lumber, Blocker Construction, John Sieh Agency, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Weismantel Insurance Agency, SD Army National Guard, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting, Groton Ford, J. Simon Photography, Professional Management Services, Kens Food Fair, Groton Vet Clinic, Lori's Pharmacy, Ryan Tracy for School Board, BK customs Ts, Bierman Farm Service.

The game was tied seven times and the lead changed hands 13 times before the Bulldogs got the upper hand late in the third quarter. The Bulldogs led at the quarterstops at 10-9, 22-19 and 37-33. Milbank scored seven straight points late in the third quarter going into the fourth quarter to take a 39-33 lead. The Tigers closed to within five, 45-40, with 1:12 left, but could not get any closer. Milbank made nine of 16 free throws in the fourth quarter to help fuel the win.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 11 points, three rebounds and two assists. Jayden Zak also had 11 points and had two assists and two steals. Tristan Traphagen finished with eight points, five rebounds, two assists, one steal and two blocks. Jacob Zak had six points, seven rebounds, one assist and one steal. Tate Larson had four points, three rebounds and one steal. Lucas Simon had two points, two rebounds and one steal. Wyatt Hearnen had two rebounds. Cole Simon had two rebounds and one steal.

Groton Area made 18 of 53 in total field goals for 34 percent while Milbank was 14 of 32 for 44 percent. Milbank had 14 team fouls which allowed the Tigers to make three of nine free throws for 33 percent. Groton Area had 23 fouls (Jacob Zak and Larson both fouled out) as Milbank made 17 of 30 free throws for 57 percent. Milbank had 14 turnovers, seven of which were steals. Groton Area had 12 turnovers, 24 rebounds, seven assists and two blocks. Jayden Zak made all three of Groton Area's three-pointers.

Bennett Schwenn led the Bulldogs with 25 points while Will Cummins had 10, Stevie Ash six, Mason Riley four and Wylie Mursu two. Ash made two three-pointers while Cummins and Schwenn each made one.

Groton Area finishes the season with a 13-8 record. Milbank advances to the SODAK16 taking on Vermillion at Mitchell and has a 11-10 record.

- Paul Kosel



Work started Monday on the new structure going up for the new pump house.



Finishing touches just went up on the Locke-Karst Field dugouts! Check out the new rail pads. (Photo from Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation Facebook Page)

Foundation Facebook Page)

Glimpses From Greenfield 2021-Week 8

We are getting down to the final days of session when most of the final touches will be put on the budget. This year, due to funding swaps from state general funds to federal funds because of COVID dollars that supplanted a number of funding priorities, we have millions of one-time dollars available to put toward a number of projects identified by various interested parties. Some of them are below.

SB 156 seeks to secure \$19 million in state funds to go along with \$16 million in locally raised dollars for the SD School of Mines and Technology to build a new Mineral Industry Building. This bill passed the Senate, 34-1.

SB 186 passed with an identical vote total. This bill would allocate \$3 million to the City of Sioux Falls to provide for a new behavioral/mental health stabilization unit. SB 144 would provide \$4.6 million to Pennington county for a similar facility. With an increased focus on mental health concerns, we feel these efforts are necessary. Moreover, in these to areas, if there aren't facilities available to deal with crisis situations, they have to seek out available facilities that often result in short-term (up to 5 days) stays in Yankton. It is terribly time consuming and resource-intensive to travel hundreds of miles to stabilize individuals, and then to have to deploy somebody to return to pick up the individual after a handful of days.

SB 99 seeks to provide \$12 million to be coupled with \$8 million in local fundraising efforts to build the Dakota Events Complex (DEX) on the State Fairgrounds to replace the beef barn that burned down and to allow for them to repurpose other facilities for other livestock showcases, most notably the sheep barn. This bill passed, 34-1, as well. I have heard from a number of locals who are very interested in seeing this project through. It will allow for us to really step up our efforts to maintain current offerings, as well as to be more competitive in bringing numerous agricultural showcases, including the Jr. National Finals Rodeo, to SD. Until the fire, there had been an increased focus on utilizing the SD State Fairgrounds for more events throughout the entire year. Should this bill pass, look for us to multiply our efforts many times over.

SB 47 would allocate \$9 million to the Office of School and Public Lands to provide much-needed resources to perform maintenance and repair on dams under their purview. Most notably, the Elm Lake Dam in Northern Brown County is in dire need of immediate attention. It was originally estimated that this project would require \$5 million, but upon further review, it appears the price tag will be upwards of \$7 million. The city of Aberdeen has committed \$1 million to the project, as this dam provides approximately 1/3 of the water to local residents. Of even greater concern is the potential for catastrophic losses of life, livestock, and land if this dam would breach. The bill passed, 35-0.

SB 181 seeks to provide \$1.5 million, to the State Veterans' Cemetery near Sioux Falls. Along with a \$60,000 appropriation in SB 64 for an underground sprinkler system, these improvements would poise our Veterans' Cemetery to be ready to begin laying to rest—in an appropriate setting—those who have served our country and their spouses.

SB 93 would secure \$20 million of state funds to be matched by \$22 million in federal funds and \$42 million in private railroad funds to rehabilitate a very aged rail line from Pierre to Rapid City. Proponents have noted safety concerns along the line, and they have highlighted agricultural and other interests that would be

well-served by these improvements.

Other funding concerns that have met with favorable consideration on the Senate side to-date are construction of a regional nursing facility; restoration of air service lost to COVID at airports in Rapid City, Sioux Falls, Aberdeen, Watertown, and Pierre; a bison center on the grounds of the Buffalo Roundup near Custer; implementation of a regulatory structure for adult-use and medical marijuana; construction of a National Guard Readiness Center in Sioux Falls; a massive undertaking for providing improved access to broadband services to every SD resident; improving/overhauling a rapidly aging technology infrastructure that is under constant cyber attack to the tune of billions of attacks/year; and several others.

I carried a bill to revise our informed consent law for those women seeking to undergo a chemical abortion. Studies have shown that in cases in which a woman has begun the two-drug protocol, if she decides after taking the first drug that she no longer wishes to continue to process, somewhere between 20-35% of the time, she is able to deliver a 100% healthy child. This bill allows for information to be available on the Department of Health's website concerning next steps if a woman decides to discontinue the process.

HB 1228 seeks to revise the law we passed last year regarding the production of industrial hemp. With the growing season upon us, it is necessary that we ensure our law is up-to-date with USDA guidelines. This bill was brought by agricultural producers to ensure that a commitment made by our SD Department of Agriculture would be pursued this session. As the Senate prime sponsor

on this bill, I commend those who worked to educate my fellow legislators and to ensure passage. It flew through the Senate on a 27-6 vote, despite a concerted effort to derail it. Throughout session, we have continued to be in touch with USDA regarding our path forward, and we have received assurance that this bill is consistent with the rules the feds have put in place, and it does not jeopardize the upcoming growing season for SD producers. I reiterate that its aim is to bring us into compliance with the direction provided by the feds.

As I type this, we have look forward to the final four days of the main run. The days will be long, and the debates will be intense, but in the final analysis, we hope to have done our level-best for the people of South Dakota.

God bless you, and thank you for all your feedback throughout session!

Brock

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kevin.owen@grantcountysd.us
with any further questions.



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Give Yourself Permission

Whenever someone is admitted to the hospital, they are asked to stipulate their "code status." Levels of code status include full code, meaning resuscitate and intubate if required; as well as various combinations of do not resuscitate (DNR) and do not intubate (DNI). In simple terms, a code status clarifies what you want the medical team to do in the event your heart stops or if your heart goes into a rhythm that is not compatible with life.

This question is often interpreted as follows: if you are about to die, do you want the medical team to do everything they possibly can to keep you alive? We might also allow ourselves to pose and interpret the question from a different perspective: If you are about to die, do you want permission to pass away peacefully?

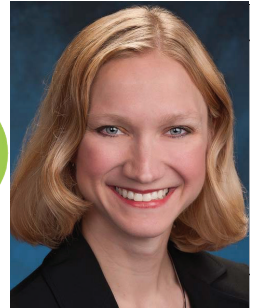
When discussing code status with my patients, the answer I often get is, "Of course I want to live, do everything you can to save me." TV and movies mistakenly portray emergency lifesaving measures working most of the time. In real life, attempts to resuscitate are not as successful. A review of more than 29 different studies involving 400,000+ people over the age of 70, show that only 19 percent survived to be discharged from the hospital. The odds were even worse for those in their 80s or 90s with survival rates of 15 percent and less than 12 percent, respectively. Of those who survived, less than half returned to the same status of living they enjoyed prior to the code. Most ended up not able to care for themselves independently.

Another common response I hear is, "Do everything if you think it will work." Doctors are incredibly optimistic. We are trained to fight against the odds to save lives. Unfortunately, no one can predict the outcome of a code. That is like asking if a slot machine will win before we pull the lever. Sometimes we hit the jackpot and the person does fine, goes home, and everyone is happy and grateful. Other times, like most slot machines pulls, we are forced to admit the loss.

The best person to select your code status is you. There is no "right" answer, there is only your answer. Give yourself permission to make this decision with a calm, clear mind before you are in crisis or admitted to a hospital. It is not in your best interest to make a rushed decision. Nor is it fair to force it upon your loved ones in an emergency room as your health is rapidly declining.

It is okay to give yourself permission to change your answer over time as different circumstances arise. Share your answer with your family and your doctor. Then give yourself permission to be at peace with your answer.

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.prairiedoc.org and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDPB most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



By Jill Kruse, DO ~ Prairie Doc® Perspectives

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BARNARD COMMUNITY CHURCH, LT 1-2 1ST ADD BARNARD NE 13-126-64, CHURCH

#08 SHELBY TWP
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (SHELBY), W2 LT 7 & LT 8 BK 6 HOUGHTON, CHURCH

#10 CLAREMONT TWP
AUGUSTANA CEMETERY/CHURCH, NE CORNER 35-125-60, CHURCH

#19 BATH TWP
BATH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 13-18 BLK 10 BATH, CHURCH

"SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS, INC.", LT 1 SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS MAINTENANCE ADD (W 295' OF 166' N OF S 966' OF SW SW 14-123-63), MAINTENANCE FOR CEMETERY

"SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS, INC.", SUNSET MEMORIAL GARDENS 15-123-63 INC: ALL GARDENS, CEMETERY

#20 ABERDEEN TWP
ABERDEEN AQUA ADDICTS, LT 1 ABERDEEN AQUA ADDICTS SD NW 35-123-64, WATER SKI TRAINING

ABERDEEN AREA HUMANE SOCIETY, OL 1 JANUSZ SW 27-123-64, ANIMAL SHELTER

ABERDEEN MOTOCROSS ASSOC., LT 3 WOLFOTS 1ST ADD 1/2 21-123-64 (1.71 A), MOTOCROSS RACES

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), E 540' OF N 403.33' NE 28-123-64 (5AC), GROUP HOME

AVERA ST LUKES, 500' W OF E 700' OF N 658' NW 11-123-64 EX HWY & EX H1 (4.9 A), HOSPITAL STORAGE & CARPENTER SHOP

FIRST ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH, 1ST ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH LT B CENTURY 21 OL 1 SW 2-123-64 (6.35AC), CHURCH

NORTHERN PLAINS BAPTIST CHURCH, LT 1 BUD SMITH 1ST ADD. SE SE 20-123-63, CHURCH

SPURS THERAPEUTIC RIDING CENTER INC, LT 1 SPURS 2ND ADD NW 6-123-63, THERAPEUTIC CENTER

#23 WARNER TWP
FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH FIREARMS SAFETY INC, N 820' OF SE 15-122-64 E OF RR EX HWY, PUBLIC RIFLE RANGE

MANSFIELD COMMUNITY BETTERMENT, LT 1-3 BK 4 MANSFIELD SE 32-121-64, COMMUNITY CENTER & PARK

MANSFIELD COMMUNITY BETTERMENT, E 18' OF N 20' LT 7 BK 4 MANSFIELD SE 32-121-64, BARE LOT

WARNER TOWNSHIP CEMETERY, WARNER CEMETERY N2 NW 2-121-64 (REFER BK 24 PF 283 & BK 151 PG 344), CEMETERY

#24 GEM TWP
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CEMETERY, EAST GEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CEMETERY LT W2 SE 4-122-62, CEMETERY

SCANDINAVIA LUTHERAN CEMETERY, CEMETERY IN E2 NE 30-122-62, CEMETERY

SCANDINAVIA LUTHERAN CONGREGATION, LT 2 SCANDINAVIA LUTHERAN CHURCH ADD SE 19-122-62, CHURCH

#25 E HANSON TWP
ST PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (FERNEY/EAST HANSON), S 60' LT 7-12 BK 9 SD BK 9-13 & OL E-F FERNEY SW 31-122-60, PARKING LOT

ST PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (FERNEY/EAST HANSON), BK 15 SD BK 14-16 & OL H-1-J-K FERNEY SW 31-122-60, CHURCH

#30 SAVO TWP
APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN PIONEER CHURCH, 10 ACRES IN SE 3-128-63, CHURCH & CEMETERY

SAVO EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 2 AC NW 27-128-63, CHURCH

SAVO HALL ASSOCIATION C/O CALVIN RAISANEN, 3 ACRES IN SW CORNER SW 22-128-63, HALL

#32 ABERDEEN CITY
ABERDEEN ALLIANCE CHURCH, FRANCIS EVELO ADDN. OL A NE 1/4 19-123-63, CHURCH

ABERDEEN BMX C/O KYLE OSWALD, LT 2 BROWN COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S 2ND SD, BMX AND PARKING

ABERDEEN CATHOLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM, LT 1 RONCOLLI NEARLY NEW ADD (BK 8 NORTH ABDN ADDN), NEARLY NEW STORE

ABERDEEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL FOUNDATION, LT 1

ABERDEEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL-AVERA ADD NW 11-123-64, "K-12 CHRISTIAN SCHOOL REPLAT 13097, 10401, 10402, 10403, 28167"

ABERDEEN CHURCH OF GOD, LT A CHURCH OF GOD ADD (LT 1 NORTHWEST POND ADD (PT L32 AUTO PLAZA), CHURCH

ABERDEEN CORPORATION OF JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES, LT 2 ISIAH'S ADDN (LT 5 & 6 MELROS SOUTHVIEW ADDN) EX H1, CHURCH & PARKING LOT

ABERDEEN DEVELOPMENT CORP, LT 4 JONES NATURAL GOLD SD SE 16-123-63,

ABERDEEN DEVELOPMENT CORP, LT 2 BK 1 CENTENNIAL COMMONS ADD SE 17-123-63, BUSINESS

ABERDEEN DEVELOPMENT CORP, LT 1 MALCHOW'S 1ST ADD (LT 1-5 BK 31 1ST ADD), ADC OFFICE AND PLAZA

ABERDEEN FAMILY Y, LT 1 LINCOLN'S RAR OF LT 9-12 BK 67 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, PARKING LOT

ABERDEEN FAMILY Y, LT 2 LINCOLN'S RAR OF LT 9-12 BK 67 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, PARKING LOT

ABERDEEN FAMILY Y, HAGERTY & LLOYD 7TH SD (PT BK 66 & 67 H&L), LEARNING TREE

ABERDEEN FAMILY Y YDC, LT 3 ISAAC LINCOLN'S RAR OF BK 67 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD,

ABIDING LOVE FELLOWSHIP INC., S 25' LT 5 & LT 6 BK 9 1ST ADD TO HIGHLAND,

ACT 2 INC, #2 MIDWEST CAPITOL PROJECT OF LT 10-12 BK 27 1ST ADD, THEATRE ARTS

ACT 2 INC, #3 MIDWEST CAPITOL PROJECT OF LT 13-18 BK 27 1ST ADD EX MEZZANINE HALLWAY UNIT 3, THEATRE EDUCATION

ACT 2 INC, MEZZANINE STORAGE UNIT 4A #4 MIDWEST CAPITOL PROJECT OF LT 13-18 BK 27 1ST ADD, STORAGE

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), ATC 1ST SD BK 47 BENNETT & THOMAS ADD, PARKING LOTS

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), LT 11-12 BK 47 BENNETT & THOMAS ADD, PARKING LOTS

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), LT 3 BERKSHIRE ADD NW 13-123-64, OFFICES

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), E 77' LT 1-2 BK 19 THOMAS ADDN, GROUP HOME

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), N2 LT 193 & LT 194 -196 MORNING HTS ADD, GROUP HOME

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), W 150' OF N 100' OL B LAWSONS OL'S RPL OF LT 8 BONACCORD HTS 19-123-63, GROUP HOME

ADJUSTMENT TRAINING CENTER (ASPIRE INC), LT 849-852 MORNING HTS EXT ADD, GROUP HOME

ALANO SOCIETY OF ABERDEEN, W 8' LT 3 & LT 4-9 BK 1 THOMAS ADD & LT 12 & W 115' OF S 8.5' LT 13 & E 27' LT 13-14 PIERCES SD OF BK 103 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD & V/A, AA MEETING HOUSE

AQUINAS STUDENT CENTER, N 38' OF E 52' LT 21 & E 52' LT 22 BK 1 NORMAL ADD, PARKING LOT

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 3 AVERALAND-O-LAKES 2ND SD (B72 H&L & OL 2 LANES), AMG EARNOSE AND THROAT/ASC FOUNDATION OFFICE

AVERA ST LUKES, LOT 2 AVERA LAND-O-LAKES 2ND SD, PARKING LOT

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1 AVERA ST LUKES SD (B73&82 H&L), "STATE STREET MEDICAL SQUARE, LOURDES & POWER PLANT BLDGS ONLY"

AVERA ST LUKES, LOT 1 AVERA LAND-O-LAKES 2ND SD, PARKING LOT 2

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 4 HAGERTY & LLOYDS 3RD SD SE 13-123-64, "AMG INTERNAL MED, PODIATRY, DAKOTA MED CLINIC, ASC THERAPY STORAGE, ETC."

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1 AVERA ST LUKES SD (B73&82 H&L), "STATE STREET MEDICAL SQUARE, LOURDES & POWER PLANT BLDGS ONLY"

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1 AVERA ST LUKES 2ND SD (BK 73 & 82 H&L), HOSPITAL BUILDING

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 2 AVERA ST LUKES ADD (SLMRMC LTS) EX H2, PARKING LOT K

AVERA ST LUKES, AVERA ST LUKES WEST ADD (BK 88 H &L), PARKING LOTS I & J

AVERA ST LUKES, "LT 1 AVERA ST LUKES ADD (B86, 87, & 96 H&L ETC)", HOSPITAL BUILDING

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1-7 BK 44 THOMAS ADD, WORTHMORE/NADRIC

AVERA ST LUKES, #1 DAKOTA

PLAINS MEDICAL PLAZA CONDO LOT B OF LOT 2 HOWARDS OL B NE OF 14-123-64, AMG ORTHOPEDIC SPECIALISTS

AVERA ST LUKES, #2 DAKOTA PLAINS MEDICAL PLAZA CONDO LOT B OF LOT 2 HOWARDS OL B NE OF 14-123-64, AMG AVERA DAKOTA PLAINS SURGICAL CENTER

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 3 HAGERTY & LLOYDS 3RD SD SE 13-123-64, POOL/REHAB CENTER

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1-6 BK 95 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, PARKING LOT H

AVERA ST LUKES, LT 1 AVERA ST LUKES 2ND SD (BK 73 & 82 H&L), PARKING LOT

AVERA ST LUKES, PORTION OF BK 83 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD & ETC. (SEE R.O.D. FOR FULL LEGAL DESCRIPTION), MEDICAL CLINIC AND PATIENT BUSINESS OFFICES

AVERA ST LUKES (DAKOTA PLAINS SURGICAL CENTER), #3 DAKOTA PLAINS MEDICAL PLAZA CONDO LT B OF LT 2 HOWARDS OL B NE 14-123-64, SURGICAL & INPATIENT RECOVERY

AVERA ST LUKES (DAKOTA PLAINS SURGICAL CENTER), BOL'S #3 DAKOTA PLAINS MEDICAL PLAZA CONDO LT B OF LT 2 HOWARDS OL B NE 14-123-64, MRI BUILDING/SURGICAL & INPATIENT RECOVERY

AVERA ST LUKES MOTHER JOSEPH MANOR, S 732' OF W 336' HIGHLANDS OL 3 SE 12-123-64, NURSING HOME

AVERA ST LUKES MOTHER JOSEPH MANOR, S 60' HIGHLAND SCHOOL LOT SE 12-123-64, PARKING LOT

BETHESDA HOME OF ABERDEEN, CLARKS 2ND ADD OF MELROS EST EX PART DEEDED TO CITY (11.244 AC), "NURSING HOME &

TOWNE SQUARE"

BETHESDA HOME OF ABERDEEN, PART CLARKS 2ND ADD MEL ROS ESTATES (7.838 AC), PARKSIDE

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN, LT 1 BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ADD SE 18-123-63, CHURCH

BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN, OL 2 BK F EX E 25' OF S 255' LINCOLN & BOYD ADD EX BETHLEHEM EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ADD SE 18-123-63, NEW BEGINNINGS CENTER-LAND

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF ABERDEEN, LT 1 BROWN COUNTY COMMISSIONERS 2ND SD, YOUTH PROGRAM

BPOE ELKS LODGE #1046 INC C/O JAN WEISMANTEL, LT 26 PLAT OF AUTO PLAZA ADD, LODGE

BROWN COUNTY, LT 5-6 BK 15 ORIGINAL PLAT, "IT, EM, 911 CENTER"

CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH, HOWARD'S OL A NE 1/4 14-123-64 & THE STRIP OF LAND IMMEDIATELY E OF SAID OL BETWEEN THE OL & THE W LINE OF RR R/O/W, CHURCH

CALVARY CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH, W 67' LT 7 & S 12' OF W 67' LT 8 & N 38' LT 8 EX S 12' OF E 30' BK 6 NORTH ABD ADD, CHURCH & PARSONAGE

CATHOLIC CHANCERY OFFICE CORP, LT 1-3 BK 1 NORMAL ADD, STUDENT CENTER

CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL, LT 1 CENTRAL CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ADDN, SCHOOL

CENTRAL VILLAGE APARTMENTS, LT 1 CENTRAL VILLAS 1ST ADD W2 NE 30-123-63 (LT M-P HAPI 1ST CENTRAL), HOUSING FOR INCOME QUALIFIED FAMILIES

CHURCH OF CHRIST, LOT 1 BLK 1 GORDER'S REPLAT OF 4TH ADDN, CHURCH

CHURCH OF CHRIST, LT 2 & N 15' LT 3 BK 1 GORDERS RPL 4TH ADD, PARSONAGE

CHURCH OF GOD OF LATTER DAY SAINTS, LT 5 GUGEL'S 1ST SD SW 6-123-63, CHURCH

CONGREGATIONAL BNAI ISAAC SYNAGOGUE, W 66' OF LOTS 13 & 14 BLK 38 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, SYNAGOGUE

DAK CONF WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH/HUB CITY CHURCH, WESLEYAN OL 1 SE 7-123-63, CHURCH

DAK DIST CHURCH OF NAZARENE, LT 1 NAZARENE 1ST SD (B3 MEL ROS 8TH), CHURCH

EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH, LT 1-2 BK 3 GORDERS RPL 4TH ADD EX LT H1 OF LT 1, CHURCH

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, "LT 10 GUGEL'S 1ST SD SW 6-123-63 & PORT V/S Ex H-1&2 H-1 & 2", CHURCH

FAIRVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH, LT 12 GUGEL'S 1ST SD SW 6-123-63, CHURCH

FAITH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 8-9 & W 83' LT 10 UNION SD BK 105 HAGERTY &

LLOYD ADD, CHURCH

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LT 1 1ST RPL SOUTHAVEN 1ST ADD NW 30-123-63, CHURCH

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, LT 1 WELLS-LAWSON INTERCONNECT SD, LAND ONLY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (ABERDEEN), LT 9-12 BK 90 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, CHURCH

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (ABERDEEN), LT 7-8 BK 90 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, PARKING LOT

FIRST REFORMED CHURCH, LOTS 1-3 LAWSON'S REPLAT BLK 10 WOOLVERTON'S ADDN, CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 1-2 BK 29 1ST ADD, PARKING & OFFICES

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 12-13 BK 29 SD OF LT 4-5 BK 29 1ST ADD & LT 12-13 BK 29 2ND ADD, PARKING FOR VANS

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 1 FUMC CORNER SD (BK 30 1ST & 2ND ADD), CHURCH

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 7 BLK 30 1ST ADDITION TO ABERDEEN, PARKING LOT

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 1 FUMC-JOURNEY PARKING SD (BK 28 1ST ADD), PARKING LOT

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, LT 8 BK 2 PARK RIDGE EST 1ST ADD, PARSONAGE

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 8 BK 5 ADDISONS ADD, RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 1 WSA 1ST ADD (LT 7&8 BK 3 ADDISONS), RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 1 APARTMENT ADDITION (BK 35 THOMAS ADD), RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

"FOHO I, LLC", 1ST UNIVERSITY ADD (LT 1 & 50' ADJ LT 1 BK 16 SIMMONS 1ST ADD), RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 6 BK 1 NORMAL ADD, EMPTY LOT

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 2 RANDALL 1ST SD (B1 NORMAL), EMPTY LOT

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 2 JOHNSONS 1ST RPL OF LT 1 JOHNSONS RPL LT 5-6 BK 26 THOMAS ADD, RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

"FOHO I, LLC", LT 7 BK 1 NORMAL ADD, POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT IN FUTURE

FREEDOM WORSHIP CENTER, LT 2 ADC 2005-1 SD NE 16-123-63 (INDUSTRIAL PK EAST), CHURCH

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH, LT 1 GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 2ND SD (B1 1ST HIGHLAND), CHURCH

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH, LT D LT 3 PHEASANT RUN SD SW 11-123-64, CHURCH

HORIZON HEALTH CARE INC, LT 1 MOCCASIN PLAZA ADD (L26 PIERSONS), COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE

HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT, LT 1 ABERDEEN HOUSING AUTHORITY 1ST SD (L7-12 B6 ORIG), SHERMAN APARTMENTS

IMMANUEL BIBLE CHURCH, LOT 14 EASTON'S 1ST SD OF BLK 35 BENNETT & THOMAS ADD, CHURCH

JACKSON HEIGHTS APARTMENTS, LT 1 JACKSON HEIGHTS 1ST ADD, HOUSING FOR INCOME QUALIFIED FAMILIES

JOURNEY CHURCH OF CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE, W 100' LT 1 NW OF NE 25-123-64, CHURCH & NON PROFIT DAYCARE

JOURNEY CHURCH OF CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE, LT 2 FUMC-JOURNEY PARKING SD (BK 28 1ST ADD), RELIGIOUS MEETINGS & HOMELSS SHELTER

JOURNEY CHURCH OF CHRISTIAN & MISSIONARY ALLIANCE E 108.7' OF LT 1 NE 25-123-64 (.999 A), GYMNASIUM

KIDS AGAINST HUNGER (WAGNER HOLDINGS LLC), LT 1 LEE PARK ADD (LT 3 SKYWAG ADD), "THRIFT STORE & MEAL PACKETS"

LANDMARK APOSTOLIC CHURCH, LT 2 JUNG'S GOLDEN ACRE ADD (MEIDINGER 1ST), CHURCH

LAWSON VIEW TOWNHOMES, N 300' OF S 600' OL 4A GANJE ADD OF MEL ROS EST, HOUSING FOR INCOME QUALIFIED FAMILIES

LOYAL ORDER OF MOOSE LODGE #590, LT 1-8 & ALL OF VAC ALLEY BLK 5 2ND ADDN, MEETING ROOM & CLUBHOUSE

MASONIC TEMPLE ASSOCIATION ATT: JEROLD BUECHLER, LOT 8-12 BK 30 1ST ADD, MEETING ROOM

MEADOW WOOD TOWNHOMES, LT 1 MEADOWWOOD ADD (LT 1 INMANS 5TH B20 ROCHES), HOUSING FOR INCOME QUALIFIED FAMILIES

BOLS OL 2 BK F EX E 25' OF S 255' LINCOLN & BOYDS ADD SE 18-123-63 (CTR BUILDING), GROUP HOME FOR CHILDREN & OFFICE

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, LT A OF LT 2 HOWARDS OL B NE 14-123-64 (4.63) AC, CHURCH

NEW LIFE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, W 8.75' LT 4 & LT 5-7 & E 15' LT 8 BK 77 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, CHURCH

NORTH HIGHLAND METHODODIST CHURCH, N HIGHLAND UNITED METHODIST BLDG ADD & LT 7 BK 3 1ST ADD TO HIGHLANDS, CHURCH

NORTH HIGHLAND METHODODIST CHURCH, LOTS 11 & 12 BLK 3 1ST ADD TO HIGHLANDS, PARSONAGE

NORTHEAST REGIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, LT 1 HAGERTY & LLOYDS 3RD SD SE 13-123-64, YMCA HOLDING POND

NORTHEAST REGIONAL HEALTH & FITNESS CENTER, LT 2 HAGERTY & LLOYDS 3RD SD SE 13-123-64 (BK 69), YMCA HEALTH CENTER

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY, LT 2 JOHNSONS RPL OF LT 5-6 BK 26 THOMAS ADD,

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY, S 40' LT 2 & N 3' LT 3 SD OF N 421.7' BK 9 SIMMONS 1ST ADD, RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY, LT 1 & N 7' LT 2 SD OF N 421.7' BK 9 SIMMONS 1ST ADD, RENTAL PROPERTY FOR NSU STUDENTS

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY, LT 1 YOUNG RAILROAD ADD (RR ROW), POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT IN FUTURE

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, LT 1 RPL BK 1 HUFFMANS 2ND ADD, CLASSROOMS FOR NSU

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY FOUNDATION, LT 2 STOKES 1ST ADD (LT 1&2 RIDGEWOOD) PRAIRIEWOOD, RESIDENCE FOR NSU PRESIDENT

OLD APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH, W 70' OF N 12.75' LT 18 & W 70' LT 19-24 DAWSON & LOWES RPL BK 21 WEST HILL ADD, CHURCH

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, LT 13-14 BK 9 HAGERTY & LLOYD ADD, PARKING LOT

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH 1ST SD (RPL LT 15-24 BK 9 H&L), CHURCH

PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, LT A NW 25-123-64 & CMSTP&PRC OL 1 & PORT LT B N OF LT 1 BITZ SD, CHURCH

PRAIRIE LAKES DISTRICT CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE, LT 2 EISENBEIS-KULM ADD (LT 511-512 MORNING HTS ADD), PARSONAGE FOR DAK DIST CHURCH OF NAZARENE

PRESENTATION SISTERS COLLEGE, PORT NW 12-123-64 W OF W LINE OF N MAIN ST PRODUCED DUE N TO SECTION LINE 12 & N OF NW 15TH AVE & CMSTPP RR CO 100' WIDE ROW, STRODE CENTER

PRESENTATION SISTERS COLLEGE, BK 1 PRESENTATION HTS ADD (MULTI USE CENTER), STUDENT SUITES

PRESENTATION SISTERS CONVENT, OL A PRESENTATION HTS ADD BK 1 (3.547 AC), CONVENT

PRESENTATION SISTERS CONVENT, LT 1 RUSSO ADDN (NW 12-123-64) (25.42 A), FOOTBALL FIELD

PRESENTATION SISTERS CONVENT, LT 1 BLK 4 HUFFMANS 1ST ADD., RESIDENCE FOR THE PRESIDENT OF PC

PRESENTATION SISTERS CONVENT, BOL'S S 732' OF W 366' HIGHLANDS OL 3 SE 12-123-64, PC SISTERS HOUSING (MOTHER JOSEPH)

QUINT CITY TRADES & LABOR, LT 2 RESTAURANT GROWTH 2ND ADD (B10 HIGHLAND PARK), LABOR UNION BUILDING

SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, LT 1 SACRED HEART 1ST SD (BK 80 & 81 H&L), "CHURCH, SCHOOL, RECTORY, PARKING LOT"

SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, LT 2 SACRED HEART 1ST SD (BK 80 & 81 H&L), PARKING LOT

SACRED HEART ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, PT SW2 18-123-60 KNOW AS ST JOHN BAPTIST CATHOLIC CEMETERY (1.132AC), CEMETERY

SAFE HARBOR/RESOURCE CENTER FOR WOMEN, LT 1 BK 5 HAPI 3RD CENTRAL SD W2 NE 30-123-63, GROUP HOME

SALVATION ARMY

Continued from previous page

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (GROTON), LT 7-11 BK 22 RANDALL ADD GROTON, PARSONAGE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (GROTON), LT 1-6 & 12-16 BK 22 EX .05 A LT 11-12 STATE HWY RANDALL ADD GROTON, "CHURCH, PARKING LOT"

#35 HIGHLAND TWP
"ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS (HIGHLAND)", ST JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OL 1 SE 23-122-65, PARKING LOT & PLAYGROUND

"ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH, LCMS (HIGHLAND)", ST JOHN EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OL LOTS 1 & 2 SW 24-122-65, CHURCH ONLY EXEMPT

#36 FRANKLYN TWP
CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN, "5 AC SE 7-126-65 (CEMETERY) 281/2 RODS EAST&WEST, 28 RODS N&S, BEGINNING IN SW CORNER OF SE (B158 P67)", CEMETERY

#37 RICHLAND TWP
AURLAND CHURCH, .8235 AC E2 SE 33-127-63, CEMETERY

#38 FREDERICK CITY
FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT, N 62' LT 7 & N 62' OF W 40' LT 8 BK 2 ORIG PL FREDERICK, HOUSING FOR SUPERINTENDENT

METHODIST CHURCH, LT 5-6 BK 6 ORIG PL FREDERICK, CHURCH

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH (FREDERICK), LT 5-8 BK 14 CURTIS 1ST RAR SD BK 14 1ST ADD FREDERICK, TENNIS & BASKETBALL COURT

#40 HECLA CITY
PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, LT 4 & E 25' LT 3 BK 32 OF PLAT N2 BK 11 & S2 BK 17-20 & BK 27-34 INC & OL F-L INC HECLA VLG, PARSONAGE

PRINCE OF PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH, LT 4-5 BK 45 SD N2 BK 25 & 35-46 & OL M HECLA VLG EX HWY, CHURCH

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (HECLA), LT 1 & 2 BK 14 SD BK 11-14 HECLA VLG, CHURCH & PARKING

UNITED METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (HECLA), LT 9-12 BK 4 HECLA VLG, CHURCH

#42 CLAREMONT CITY
SERVICE STATION, LT 7-14 BK 12 ORIG PL CLAREMONT, SERVICE STATION

ADA CHAPTER ORDER OF EASTERN STAR, LT 7-10 BK 10 ORIG PL EX NW 25' LT 7 CLAREMONT, MEETING ROOM

AMERICAN LEGION POST #262, LT 11-12 BLK 10 ORIGINAL PL CLAREMONT, MEETING ROOM & LOT

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (CLAREMONT), LT 1 OF OL E DINSMORES 1ST ADDITION CLAREMONT (2.18AC), PARKING LOT

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (CLAREMONT), CLAREMONTS 1ST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH SD DINSMORES 1ST ADD, PARSONAGE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (CLAREMONT), LT 1 LEONARDS SD CLAREMONT, PARKING LOT

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (CLAREMONT), LT 13-18 BK 1 DINSMORES 2ND ADD CLAREMONT, CHURCH

#43 COLUMBIA CITY
AMERICAN LEGION POST #58, "MILL ST. PECK'S 1ST ADDN. LOTS 107,109,111,113,115,117,119,121,123,125,127", PLAYGROUND

AMERICAN LEGION POST #58, "BROADWAY PECKS 1ST ADD LT 102,104,106,108,110,112,114,116,118,120,122,124,126,128", MEETING ROOM

CATHOLIC CEMETERY, BALDWIN'S 3RD ADD S2 BK 21, CEMETERY

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, "BROADWAY PECKS 1ST ADD LT 17,19,21,22,23,25,27,29,31", GRASS LOT OVERFLOW PARKING

C O N G R E G A T I O N - A L CHRISTIAN CHURCH, "LT 218,220,222,224,226,228,230,232 JAMES STREET PECKS ADD COLUMBIA", GRASS LOT OVERFLOW PARKING

CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH, "BROADWAY SMITHS 1ST ADDN.LOTS 301,303,305,307", CHURCH

ST JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN (COLUMBIA), "LT 23,25,27 JAMES STREET PECKS ADD COLUMBIA CITY", CHURCH

ST JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN (COLUMBIA), LT 26 & 28 JAMES STREET PECKS ADD COLUMBIA, PARKING LOT

#44 BATES TWP
ST PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (FERNEY/BATES TWP), CEMETERY LOT IN NW OF NE 6-121-60, CEMETERY

#45 STRATFORD CITY
ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (STRATFORD), LT 5-6 BK 9 STRATFORD, CHURCH

#46 GARLAND TWP
ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CEMETERY (GARLAND), N 23 RODS W 23 RODS NW4 5-125-62 (CEMETERY)(3.3 AC), CEMETERY

#49 WEST HANSON
MEHLHAFF CEMETERY, MEHLHAFF CEMETERY SW 28-122-61, CEMETERY

#51 WESTPORT CITY
SACRED HEART CATHOLIC CHURCH (WESTPORT), LT 6 MATTESONS 2ND SD OF LT 1 WESTPORT (.77AC), CHURCH

#52 WARNER CITY
ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH (WARNER), ST JOHNS ADD (3.08AC) (ST JOHN'S OL1-3), CHURCH

#57 WEST RONDELL
OAKWOOD CEMETERY, 2 AC FOR CEMETERY SE 25-121-63, CEMETERY

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$323.24. 19824

Brown County B.C. Fair Responsibilities

NOTICE OF HEARING OF THE BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION

REGARDING AN AMENDMENT TO SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCE, TITLE 16

A public hearing will be held by the Brown County Commission on the 16th day of March, 2021 beginning at 8:48 a.m. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, to consider an ordinance amending Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, Title 16 Brown County Fair, by amending Chapter 16.02.05 Specific Responsibilities, as follows:

Along with the Fair Manager, the Brown County Fair Board:

1. Works to plan, coordinate and produce the annual Brown County Fair, including:
 - a. Youth and adult competitive exhibiting,
 - b. commercial exhibit opportunities,
 - c. 4-H competition,
 - d. FFA shows,
 - e. Special events,
 - f. Livestock, agricultural, educational and Home Arts exhibits
 - g. Providing quality entertainment and food concessions for the enjoyment of area residents and visitors.
2. Is responsible for long range planning for both future fairs and for future fairground needs.
3. Supervises its various fair committees.
4. Assists the Fair Manager with the various activities and programs held both during Fair Week and during the Fair Off-season,
5. Works with the Fair Manager concerning Fair contract and budget issues,
6. Approves all contracts before they are sent to the Brown County Commission for final approval.
7. Approves all contracts that do not require a formal bid or quote per Brown County Policy Manual under Purchasing Policy and Replacement Procedures for signature by Fair Manager. Contracts that do require a formal bid or quote will be sent to the Brown County Commission for final approval.
8. Meets at least monthly to conduct its business.
9. Helps find, recruit and organize volunteers to work during Fair Week.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Title 16 Brown County Fair, Chapter 16.02.05. - At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Brown County Ordinance No. 189

Dated this 23rd day of February, 2021

ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (0303.0310)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$54.65. 19805.

Brown County Schumaker Rezoning Notice

Application has been made by Dave Schumaker 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 March 16, 2021 at 8:46 A.M. for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.14 Highway Commercial District (HC) to Chapter 4.07

Mini-Ag District (M-AG):
Lot 1, "Dave Schumaker Addition" in the NW1/4 of section 22T123N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (1220 392nd Ave S)

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to zoning of the described property. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Commission may adopt first reading of Ordinance No. 190

ATTEST:
Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (0303.0310)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$23.51. 19806

Brown County March 2, 2021 Meeting Minutes

MARCH 2, 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, Kippley, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Feickert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

MINUTES: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve the general meeting minutes of February 23, 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 \$8,946.98; Treasurer \$13,663.46; SA \$23,018.57; SWAVA \$1,730.76; Maintenance \$8,647.30; Assessor \$14,636.41; Register of Deeds \$9,124.96; VSO \$4,432.38; GIS \$2,411.38; IT \$7,640.87; HR \$2,423.08; Sheriff \$43,385.99; Jail \$56,271.03; Court Security \$6,556.42; JDC \$24,666.41; Welfare \$2,982.62; Museum \$7,982.18; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,117.42; Fair Board \$2,376.66; 4-H \$664.17; Weed \$884.14; Planning & Zoning \$5,251.22; Highway \$39,216.79; Dispatch \$25,816.64; Emergency \$4,160.96; Teen Court \$557.87; JDAI \$1,786.92; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,354.72; Landfill \$14,865.63; FICA \$20,424.65; Medicare \$4,776.79; Discovery_HSA \$325; Health Insurance_BCBS \$120,940.66; Dental Insurance_Delta \$7,122.15; Life Insurance_Dearmor \$1,064.54; Retirement_SDRS \$41,650.22.

CLAIMS: Machinery & Equipment: Aberdeen Auto Center \$17,599.00; Other: Jeff Kippley \$160.00; Melanie Sombke \$225.00; Nancy Radke \$160.00; Derek Ricci \$200.00; State of South Dakota \$103.00. Professional Fees: Devnet \$3,445.31; Michelle Galkowski \$27.20; Christopher Haar \$70.60; Kuck Law \$146.00; NE Mental Health Center \$1,196.00; Scneider Geospatial \$2,475.00; State of South Dakota \$484.88; Kristi Spitzer \$200.00; Mitch Vilhauer \$2,908.82; Yankton County Sheriff Office \$50.00. Publishing: Groton Independent \$162.21. Repairs & Maintenance: Aberdeen Plumbing & Heating \$2,253.76; Benco Equipment \$4,089.40; Custom Sheet Metal \$135.00; Doerr's Tree Service \$9,405.00; Jalene Palmer \$956.36; Pro Windmill \$250.00; Sherwin Williams \$309.96. Supplies: Aramark Uniform \$77.43; Bakken Build Maintenance \$500.00; Century Business Products \$290.79; Cole Papers \$1,335.78; Faulkton Pharmacy \$48.90; Fedex \$36.01; GovConnection \$825.65; Hall Sand & Gravel \$10,902.49; Leidholdt Tool Sales \$144.07; Mcleods Printing \$56.24; Menards \$103.83; Midstates Printing \$445.00; Performance Oil & Lubricants \$249.09; Pitney Bowes \$15,000.00; Plumbing & Heating \$12.98; Runnings \$199.99; SD Department of Revenue & Regulation \$3.00; West Publishing \$1,768.18. Travel & Conference: SD Association of County Officials \$165.00. Utilities: Qwest Corporation \$60.62; Montana Dakota Utilities \$37.19; Northwestern Energy \$1,841.90. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to approve the HR Office Report, which includes the following: Acknowledge resignation of

Donovan Kopetsky, part-time Brown County JDC Correctional Officer effective February 27, 2021. Request to fill. Approve new hourly step increases for full-time Brown County Communications Dispatchers effective March 7, 2021: Erin Spencer \$20.54; Haydn Podoll \$20.86; Paige Smit \$20.86; Shay Potter \$20.86; Jill Crosby \$21.21; Aaron Gasser \$22.93; Dawn Allam \$22.93; Cory Erhardt \$23.28. Approve new hourly step increases for full-time Brown County Communications Shift Supervisors effective March 7, 2021: Candace Rohrbach \$23.21; Jon Sorenson \$25.28; Tonya Walth \$26.00. Approve promotion of Candace Rohrbach from Brown County Communications Dispatcher to Communications Shift Supervisor, effective March 7, 2021 starting wage @ \$23.21/hr. Approve hiring of 4-H intern from May to August. Approve hiring of Fair intern from May to August. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

STATE RADIO UPGRADE GRANT AWARD: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to authorize the chair to sign grant agreement for state radio upgrade. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

STATE RADIO PURCHASE OFF STATE BID: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve purchase of state radio off of State of South Dakota bid. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Kippley to approve the following 2021 Brown County Fair contracts: Dr Sarah Preszler (4-H Judge) @ \$30 and \$0.47 per mile if lives outside Brown County. Said person agreed to provide the service but wished to decline payment. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SD DENR LANDFILL 2020 OPERATIONAL REPORT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to authorize the chair to sign Brown County Landfill 2020 Operational Report and 2020 Annual Compliance Certification Report. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASES: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve lease agreement with Hub City Radio for lease of Expo Building on March 27-28, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEGAL ASSIGNMENT: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to assign claim against individuals to Credit Collection Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITOR'S REPORT OF ACCOUNTS: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Auditor's report of account for January 2021: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700 Total Checking Account Balances: \$14,259,456.72 Total Savings Account Balances: \$3,425,447.42 Total Certificates of Deposit: \$4,951,798.16 Grand Total Cash and Balances: \$22,644,402.30 General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$11,062,648.86; Road & Bridge Fund \$1,721,723.67; Road & Bridge Fund - restricted \$423,243.27; 911 Service 990,386.76; Emergency & Disaster \$138,905.81; Domestic Abuse \$498.42; Teen Court \$29,889.60; Grant \$32.11; JDAI -\$24,301.99; Richmond Youth \$21,916.96; 24/7 Sobriety \$13,775.88; ROD M&P \$105,026.97; Tif Debt Service \$913.14; Landfill + cash change \$3,853,203.45; Landfill - restricted \$1,400,479.44; Trust and Agency Funds \$2,906,059.95; GRAND TOTAL GENERAL FUND CASH AND INVESTMENTS \$22,644,402.30. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID OPENING - MICROSURFACING: Time and place as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for furnishing Microsurfacing. Bids were received from Missouri Petroleum Products Company and Astech Corp. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to defer awarding of bid at a later time of the meeting. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the application for occupancy submitted by WEB Water for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 13, in section 34, Township 124, Range 64, Brown County, South Dakota for a potable water line. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the application for occupancy submitted by WEB Water for occupancy of Brown County Highway Number 11, in section 32, Township 125, Range 63, Brown County, South Dakota for a potable water line. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOAD LIMITS: Commissioner Sutton offered the following Resolution: RESOLUTION #12-21 WHEREAS: Enforce Annual Seasonal Load Restrictions on overweight limits, over width load limits, and speed limits on Brown County Roads. All Brown County oil Roads are posted at 6-ton per axle and truck speed of 40 MPH, with the exception of Brown County Road #10, from Brown County Road #13 (Prairiewood Road) north 2.00 miles is posted at 12-ton gross load limit with truck speed at 40 MPH year round. WHEREAS: The Brown County Board of Commissioners request that the South Dakota Highway Patrol assist and enforce load restrictions on the posted gross limit per axle and truck speed at 40 MPH as posted by the Brown County Board of Commissioners during the February/March/April spring thaw and breakup period that the roads are posted. THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Brown County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Brown County Highway Department Superintendent to work with the South Dakota Highway Patrol to reduce weight maximums due to the thawing and excessive moisture and until the roads are free of frost and become stable. SDCL 32-22-25 Seconded by Commissioner Wiese. Roll call vote: Commissioners Feickert-aye, Sutton-aye, Wiese-aye, Kippley-aye, Fjeldheim-aye. Resolution adopted.

CASE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE PURCHASE: Ernest Thompson, Brown County State's Attorney met to discuss with the commissioner a proposal to purchase updated case management software from Karpel Solutions for their department. Purchase of the said software will help them alleviate the need for another employee. Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to purchase case management software amounting \$61,225 with grant funds being applied for. All members present voting aye. Motion Carried.

BID AWARD - MICROSURFACING: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to award bid to Astech Corp with bid amount of \$806,437.74, rejecting Missouri Petroleum Product Company's bid of \$881,496.10, 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.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Feickert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:31a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Jeannette McClain, Brown County Deputy Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$103.73. 19825

Groton Township Equalization Meeting Notice
Notice of Equalization will meet at the St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney, SD., on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 7 p.m. All persons disputing their assessments are requested to notify the clerk no later than March 15th, 2021.

Betty Schinkel
East Hanson Township Clerk (0303.0310)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$10.58. 19807

Olean Township Gravel, Blading & Mowing Bid Notice
Olean Township is accepting bids for screened and crushed gravel, blading and mowing. Bids must be received by March 15, 2021.

Send bids to:
Sherry Hanson
Olean Township, Clerk
15477 409th Ave
Conde, SD 57434

Successful bidders must name township on insurance certificate. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

(0303.0310)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$12.35. 19809

Groton City Equalization Meeting Notice
PUBLIC NOTICE TO GROTON PROPERTY OWNERS

Notice is hereby given that City Council, sitting as the Local Board of Equalization, will meet at The Groton Community Center for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of property on March 16, 2021 at 7:30 pm.

Appeals must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation by 5:00pm Thursday, March 11th at City Hall or mail appeals to the Finance Officer, PO Box 587 Groton, South Dakota. Those appealing will be notified of their scheduled time to meet with the Board. Contact City Hall for more information at 605-397-8422.

Hope Block, Groton City Finance Officer (0303.0310)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$17.04. 19811

Putney Township Equalization Meeting Notice
Putney Township Equalization Meeting Notice
The Putney Township Board of Equalization will meet at Mark Thompson's shop, on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 5 p.m. Prior notification to the clerk is required.

Mark Thompson
Putney Township Clerk (0303.0310)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$9.40. 19810

State of S.D. School Land Lease Auction
SCHOOL LAND LEASE AUCTION
A school land lease auction will be held at the Brown County Courthouse Annex (Community Room) in Aberdeen, SD on April 7, 2021 at 10:00AM (CT).

A list of tracts available for lease may be obtained at the Brown County Auditor's Office or by contacting the Office of School & Public Lands, 500 E Capitol Avenue, Pierre, SD 57501-5070 or phone (605)773-3303. You may also visit the SPL website at www.sdpubliclands.com. Phone bidding will be allowed on a recorded conference line at 1-848-777-1212 with access code 18892020#. Disabled individuals needing assistance should contact the Office of School and Public Lands at least 48 hours in advance of the auction to make any necessary arrangements.

(0310.17.24.31)
Published four times at the total approximate cost of \$35.53. 19823

Groton Township Equalization Meeting Notice
NOTICE OF MEETING OF GROTON TOWNSHIP EQUALIZATION BOARD

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Supervisors of Groton Township, sitting as a Board of Equalization of Groton Township in Brown County, SD will meet in the office of "Love To Travel" between Ken's and the Avera Clinic in Groton, SD on March 15, 2021 (being the third Monday of March) at 7 PM for the purpose of reviewing, correcting and equalizing the assessment of said Township for year 2021.

All persons considering themselves aggrieved by said assessment are required to submit written notice to Jeff Howard, 40829 131st St, Groton, SD no later than March 10, 2021.

Jeff Howard, Cleric, Groton Township, Brown County, SD
Dated this 3rd day of March, 2021

(0303.0310)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$18.81. 19808

Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Mar. 10, 2021 ♦ 9

Lana's Annals- a report from the House of Representatives

Hello again. I would be first to say that smiles are fading quickly at the Capitol as proposed bills and projects are being torpedoed one by one. One can always tell when the session is winding down as the hours in committees and on the floor increase with our time constraints.

Local Government had a lot of bills on the agenda with nothing too controversial. SB138, which gave 2 more months flexibility to municipalities to budget set, passed unanimously. SB145, an act for filling vacancies of candidates for elected offices was also discussed and passed. If a candidate withdraws or dies after the primary, the state committee chairman can certify a person to be in charge of a meeting to insert a new candidate for the ballot. In multi-counties, a chair will be appointed and each county will have the voting power given to those based by unit representation on each county's number

AUCTIONS

INTERSTATE AUCTION CENTER, Brandon, SD; 3 miles east of Sioux Falls on I-90 exit 402. March 20th Consignment 10:00 AM. 605-331-4550 Jess Donkersloot, Auctioneer. bppagel@gmail.com, auctionzip.com.

BULLS

REGISTERED TEXAS LONGHORN BULLS for sale. Yearlings, 2's, 3's, senior herd sire. Call for catalog. Will hold until May 1. Free delivery 350 miles. 605-466-2238

EMPLOYMENT

MOBRIDGE-POLLOCK SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-2022 Openings: K-12 Technology Coordinator/Integrationist; Elementary Teacher; CTE/Hospitality and Tourism Teacher; HS English/Social Science Teacher; K-12 Speech/Language Pathologist and K-12 School Psychologist. For more information contact Tim Frederick, Superintendent at 605-845-9204. Send resume and Certified Application to Tim Frederick at 1107 1st Avenue East, Mobridge, SD 57601. EOE. Open until filled. Certified Application can be found at mobridge-pollock.k12.sd.us

CDL CLASS A TANKER Truck Driver. Annual Compensation Exceeds \$80,000.00, Home Weekends, and Benefits like no other. We haul our own products! Contact Tony 608-935-0915 Ext 16

HELP WANTED: Grounds superintendent responsible for fertilizer/chemical application, mowing, greens/mower maintenance. Commercial Applicators License required. Pay DOE. Contact Andrew Miller, 507-227-8089 by March 15.

GREAT PAYING JOBS! Statewide construction jobs, \$17.00 - \$23.00 hourly + benefits. Summer or permanent. No experience necessary, great career opportunities. Apply Online www.sdwork.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

BETTER BUSINESS Bureau Student of Integrity Awards. \$2,000 Scholarships. For SD High School Seniors. Application Deadline 3-12-21. Info at bbb.org/south-dakota, or 800-649-6814 #8526.

HERNIA REPAIR? DID YOU RECEIVE A HERNIA MESH PATCH between 2009- present? Did you suffer complications from removal surgery, bowel perforation, infection, abdominal wall tears, puncture of abdominal organs or intestinal fistulae after placement of this device? You may be entitled to compensation. Attorney Charles Johnson 1-800-535-5727

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.

Answers to last week's Fun Page

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day
Upon Catching a Leprechaun!

1. was brought to Ireland as a slave; he escaped and went back years later to teach about Christianity
2. has many Irish boys named after him
3. is a symbol of the Irish "spirit"

1. T F
2. T F
3. T F

SNAKES
St. Patrick's Job

of votes cast for Governor at the last general election.

On the House floor SB178, an act to prevent insurance companies from using genetic information of family members, passed overwhelmingly. Some families are contacted to be a part of genetic study based on hereditary diseases or illnesses. This bill would prevent the information from being used against family members in being possibly denied life or health insurance, long term care, annuities, etc. based upon genetic findings of an earlier generation. I am happy the bill passed resoundingly.

SB134 limited the requirements of green building standards. As I understand it, a project (especially a large one) is rated by points. Those points are attained by the types of windows, air conditioning and hvac, insulation, etc. used for the building. The idea is to create more efficiency; however, some of the items used in approval come with astronomical costs. While we want buildings to be efficient, we are tasked to make sure that tax dollars are not being wasted on project materials not needed or not even helping with efficiency. Testimony pointed out that one project completed was 29 per cent less efficient than a similar building that was not even considered a green project. The bill passed.

On the floor we had a huge discussion on SB177, an act to revise provisions of parental choice regarding public school attendance and ancillary matters. The bill requires the filing of reports with the local school district of intention to home school children. It also warns parents then about truancy should they decide not to fulfill educating their children. The children, if home schooled, must take a minimum requirement of two subjects, math and language arts. These 2 must be taught to mastery. Home school teachers many times teach more classes than the aforementioned, but the instructors do not have to be high school graduates or holders of a GED. The students according to this bill do not have to take state assessment tests. If a student wants to enroll in public school activities such as music, debate, or sports, they need to have their home teacher relay to the school that the student is eligible for those activities and if so, will be allowed in. The pandemic has been a challenge. In some areas students have left the system and are not doing any homework. That said, we do have an obligation to all students, and while many, many of the home schoolers do a fine job, I must consider the 13 year old (as told to me by his grandmother) who is "home schooled." Grandma stated his day is spent playing video games and very little schoolwork. He stays up until 3a.m so is sleeping when his parents both leave for their full time jobs and leave him to set his daily itinerary. This story is not an isolated situation. This bill, if misused, could make it easier for students who struggle with classes but want to play sports to just stay home during the day and show up for practice. We tried to put forth some amendments to get funding of 1/8 FTE to incentivize schools who have home school students who want to participate in extra curriculums. The next amendment said the state would pay for assessment tests of the home schoolers' choosing. The third amendment was that the home school teacher has to have a diploma or equivalent. All of those amendments failed. One proponent mentioned that all pay taxes so this bill was fair. Well, we have students in my district who chose to go to a nearby town to Christian School so they pay both taxes in our district while paying tuition to another entity. They did so because they chose that pathway of education. All in all, it was an interesting discussion. The bill did pass.

We will continue our budget discussions this week. Some of the "wish lists" have already been omitted. It is safe to say the the 50 million dollars in college scholarships, the Elm Lake Dam and Big Sioux Projects, the Biofuel research building at Brookings, SDSMT mineralogy building are alive just to name a few. The DEX building at Huron has found favor, but many have expressed apprehension about its size. A West River Mental Health Stabilization Unit is seeing daylight. Some think we should argue over helping to fund a sewer project for Box Elder. even though they made need help as they create housing plans to get ready for the B-21 Bomber. Then there are the health care workers to remember. One thing for certain: we argue way more when we have money than when we do not!! Go figure.

Until next week, may health and happiness be yours!

Lana Greenfield

Groton Prairie Mixed

March 3 Team Standings: Shih Tzus 14, Jackelopes 14, Cheetahs 11, Chipmunks 9

Men's High Games: Brad Waage 239, 227, 226, Roger Spanier 203, 200, Brody Sombke 186

Women's High Games: Brenda Waage 192, Nancy Radke 166, Lori Wiley 160

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 692, Roger Spanier 583, Ron Beldon 452

Women's High Series: Darci Spanier 432, Brenda Waage 425, Karen Spanier 424

Feb. 25 Team Standings:

Men's High Games: Doug Jorgensen 211, Brad Waage 193, Brody Sombke 187

Women's High Games: Sue Stanley 161, Karen Spanier 159, Brenda Waage 154

Men's High Series: Brad Waage 536, Doug Jorgensen 515, Brody Sombke 498

Women's High Series: Sue Stanley 448, Karen Spanier 420, Hayley Merkel 404

South Dakota dairy industry expands to serve cheesemakers

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

Editor's note: This article is the first in a two-part special report on the rapid growth in the South Dakota dairy industry. The next segment will include a video and photo tour of a fully robotic milking operation and a profile of one of the state's most successful dairy operators.

South Dakota dairy producers have undergone a rapid expansion over the past few years to meet the milk needs of the state's growing cheesemaking industry, bringing a burst of economic prosperity to farm families and farming communities throughout the eastern half of the state.

Milk production in South Dakota rose by 12% from December 2019 to December 2020, and farmers added about 14,000 new dairy cows during that one-year period, according to the USDA National Agricultural Statistic Service. The recent jump in dairy cows and milk production continues a trend of expansion that has evolved over the past decade.

The dairy industry expansion has come in response to South Dakota's emergence as a major player in the burgeoning American cheesemaking industry, which has seen new plants come online and major expansions of existing plants in the state.

Industry experts say the increase in milking cows has come from expansion of longstanding dairies, the launch of milking operations at existing farms that have diversified, and also from the relocation of dairy operations to South Dakota from states such as California.

South Dakota officials have sought for years to strengthen the state's presence in the American dairy industry, and those efforts have dovetailed with the recent expansion of milk-processing capacity at cheese plants and a welcoming regulatory environment to spur the ongoing rise in milk cows in the state.



Marv Post

"We've got a tremendous amount of interest in dairy in South Dakota right now and we're growing to meet the need," said Marv Post, a Volga dairy operator who is chairman of the South Dakota Dairy Producers Association.

The overall economic impact of the dairy industry in South Dakota is difficult to

pinpoint, but it remains a relatively small portion of the state's overall \$32.5 billion annual agricultural industry.

An analysis by a professor at South Dakota State University using 2012 data pegged the direct revenue generation of the state dairy industry at \$427 million a year, with about 2,000 full-time jobs, and estimated the total direct and indirect economic impact at about \$650 million a year. Most dairy operators employ a mix of local residents and immigrant workers on visas.

That report put the value of each dairy cow in the state at about \$7,100 a year, though other reports have estimated the overall economic impact of each dairy cow in South Dakota as high as \$26,000 a year. The industry has grown by nearly a third since the SDSU figures were released.

Even as the number of dairy cows continues to rise in the state, the number of dairy farms is on a steady decline. As in other agricultural



A pair of milking cows take a break from eating silage to nuzzle shortly after being milked at the Drumgoon Dairy near Lake Norden, South Dakota. Dairy farmers in South Dakota have added thousands of cows to their operations in recent years to provide milk for the state's growing cheese industry. Photo: Bart

Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

industries, dairy farmers are increasingly using genetics, data monitoring, technology and robotics to boost the production of each individual animal while implementing an economies-of-scale approach to the size of their farms, raising the efficiency and profitability of their operations.

In 2013, South Dakota had 272 milking operations with about 92,000 cows, compared with 171 farms with 127,000 cows in 2020, representing a 37% reduction in farms and a 38% increase in number of animals. The amount of milk produced rose from 2.0 billion pounds in 2013 to 3.1 billion in 2020, a jump of 55% during that eight-year period.

The amount of milk produced by each dairy cow in the U.S. has risen by 11% over the past decade to almost 24,000 pounds per year, an increase attributed to improvements in breeding, milking technology and animal treatment.

Three major cheese producers in eastern South Dakota have created much of the capacity for the expansion of the dairy industry. The launch of Bel Brands in Brookings in 2014 and major expansions completed in 2019 at the Agropur cheese plant in Lake Norden and at the Valley Queen Cheese plant in Milbank created the need for roughly 115,000 more milking cows to meet the expanded production-capacity needs.

Some farms have sought new or expanded state waste-control permits that allow them to house and milk more animals. The KC Dairies farm operated by Edward Kavanaugh in Elkton, for example, has a concentrated animal-feeding operation expansion permit pending with the state to raise the farm's animal limit to a maximum of 2,250 milking cows and 800 head of dairy calves.

The dairy industry supported a bill this legislative session to double the time period for renewal of concentrated animal-feeding permits from five to 10 years; the bill passed and was signed into law in February.

The dairy industry's efficient response to the expansion of cheesemaking operations is close to fully satisfying the current milk-processing capacity at the state's largest cheese plants. But the ability of dairy operators to provide increasing levels of milk presents even greater opportunities for future expansion or diversification of cheese plants that are seeing no slowdown in the demand for cheese and other dairy products among consumers in America and in other countries around the world.

"The milk growth has certainly got our attention, and I can tell you that we're not done

growing yet," said Doug Wilke, CEO of Valley Queen Cheese.

Demand for cheese driving dairy growth

Even though consumer consumption of liquid milk has been on a steady decline in the U.S., falling by 28% from 2000 to 2019, America's appetite for dairy products overall has been on a rapid rise and reached record levels in 2019, according to data from the USDA Economic Research Service.

Per-capita consumption of all dairy products in the U.S. rose by 16% over the past 30 years, from about 560 pounds per year in 1989 to about 650 pounds per year in 2019, according to the USDA. In the past decade alone, per-capita consumption of butter is up 24%, yogurt consumption has risen by 7% and, most important to South Dakota and its cheesemaking industry, per-capita cheese consumption in the U.S. has risen by 19% in the past 10 years.

South Dakota has worked on several fronts to strengthen its dairy industry, which peaked at about 250,000 dairy cows on thousands of mostly small farms in the 1960s, but fell to only about 80,000 cows on a few hundred farms two decades later. The industry began a steady rebound in the early 2000s.

State governors, agricultural commissioners and economic development officials have worked with strong support from educators at SDSU to lure new dairies and producers of dairy products to the state and also to train future farmers to run them.

The recent expansion has been boosted significantly by expansion of milk-processing capacity by several cheesemaking plants in the eastern part of the state.

A big boost to the South Dakota cheesemaking industry came in 2014 when Bel Brands opened its \$140 million, 170,000-square-foot plant in Brookings that can produce 22 million pounds of Mini Babybel cheese rounds each year. The plant requires milk from about 15,000 cows.

The need for milk rose again when two existing cheese plants underwent significant expansions.

Valley Queen spent about \$53 million to expand its capacity by about 25% in 2019, and Agropur underwent a \$252 million expansion that nearly tripled its capacity.

The South Dakota Dairy Drive has been part of the industry stimulation effort and has seized on opportunities to draw the interest of farmers to speed growth of existing dairies or lure new producers to the state.

FEWER DAIRIES BUT MORE COWS IN SOUTH DAKOTA

As with most agricultural industries, economies of scale, consolidation of farms and improved production efficiency have led dairy operations in South Dakota to become fewer in number but larger in terms of animals and milk produced. This chart shows the number of operating dairies in the state, the total number of milking cows and amount of milk produced in pounds over the past eight years.

YEAR	FARMS	DAIRY COWS	lbs. MILK
2020	171	127,000	3.1 billion
2019	180	122,000	2.8 billion
2018	207	119,000	2.7 billion
2017	21	116,000	2.6 billion
2016	233	110,000	2.5 billion
2015	256	99,000	2.3 billion
2014	260	95,000	2.1 billion
2013	272	92,000	2.0 billion

Source: S.D. Department of Agriculture



The Valley Queen Cheese factory in Milbank, South Dakota recently underwent a \$52 million expansion that created the need for millions more pounds of milk from dairy farmers in South Dakota. Photo: Courtesy Valley Queen Cheese

The program has provided opportunities for South Dakota milk producers to attend events such as the World Dairy Expo and World Ag Expo and participate in regional educational forums sponsored by the American Dairy Association. Visits to South Dakota were also arranged for farmers considering relocation to the state.

Dairy farmer Rodney Elliott of Lake Norden said such state programs gave him information about the South Dakota dairy industry and local opportunities for development when he was considering a move from Northern Ireland to the United States. Elliott said he went on a state-sponsored trip to South Dakota in 2004 and moved here to buy land and farm in 2006.

Elliott said the state did not give him financial incentives to relocate to South Dakota, but did offer information and technical assistance.

Since then, Elliott has continued to expand his operation, called Drumgoon Dairy, growing from 1,400 milking cows initially to about 6,000 now. His farm produces about 360,000 pounds of milk each day.

Elliott underwent a significant expansion recently, including the addition of robotic milking machines, to produce more milk to accommodate the increases in capacity at both Agropur and Valley Queen.

Elliott said he sees greater opportunities for growth in the South Dakota dairy industry in the future.

"It's a young, vibrant dairy industry that is populated by good, passionate people," he said. "We look at the dairy industry and we can see a bright future here because many of the dairies are new and using the latest technology and very efficient and built for where we live."

Tom Peterson, executive director of the South Dakota Dairy Producers Association, said his group has helped several farmers start new or dairies move their operations to South Dakota, including from California, now the nation's leading state in milk production.

"We've had several that have relocated from that California market, which has been prevalent of late," Peterson said. "We've had a lot of growth as far as new dairies but many of our existing farmers are adding on, too."

Peterson said farmers who relocated to South Dakota from other states were reluctant to be interviewed because they did not want to discuss their relocation efforts so soon.

The recent growth in the South Dakota dairy industry has also been spurred in part by streamlining of permitting processes for farms and what is seen as a friendly regulatory environment for agricultural operations, Peterson said. Furthermore, the state's strong row-cropping industry provides a ready source of feed for milking cows, he added.

"In South Dakota, we have had a good balance of milk-processor expansion and farmers coming in for a lot of reasons, for regulatory climate and also a close proximity to feed inputs such as soybean meal or corn silage," Peterson said. "A lot of those things they need for animal care are close by in adjacent farms, so it's been kind of a win-win all the way around."

When any agricultural industry or operation expands, the agricultural industry and businesses that support it all benefit in some way, from farmers who grow corn and soybeans as feed for cows to implementation-sales centers to trucking companies.

But beyond the direct impact on farmers and the agricultural industry, Peterson said growth in the dairy industry has a wider tangential boost for communities across the state.

"That money rolls around in communities; it helps local restaurants on Main Street, it helps strengthen schools that would be seeing decreasing populations," Peterson said. "It's just a big overall community benefit."

Cheesemaker sees opportunity ahead

Valley Queen Cheese in Milbank has significantly ramped up production and its need for milk over the past few years.

The cheesemaker completed the \$52 million expansion in 2019 that increased milk-processing capacity by about 25%, or roughly by 1 million pounds per day, said Wilke, the CEO. The plant now produces about 200 million pounds of cheese each year.

The plant added about 40 jobs during the expansion and now employs about 315 people with an annual payroll of about \$20 million, Wilke said.

The expansion created a significant need for more milk, and the dairy industry in South Dakota has responded by rapidly increasing production, Wilke said. Most of the increased milk production by producers who serve Valley Queen took place through expansion of existing dairies, Wilke said, though the plant has also had inquiries from farmers outside South Dakota who are considering relocation.

Valley Queen has been in operation for more than 90 years, and for much of the 2000s, the company saw steady production with little significant growth, Wilke said. Demand for cheese was strong and rising, but production growth was held back by limited local supplies of milk.

Valley Queen began its expansion at roughly the same time as the Argopur cheese plant in Lake Norden embarked on a major expansion that tripled the milk-processing capacity at its plant from 3.3 million to 9.3 million pounds per day.

The Agropur expansion was estimated to require milk from about 85,000 more cows within its service area; Valley Queen added capacity for about 15,000 more area cows during its expansion, raising the total need to about 90,000 cows, according to the companies. Valley Queen now processes about 1.8 billion pounds of milk each year from dairy farmers in South Dakota and Minnesota.

Wilke said he was curious and a bit concerned to see if the dairy industry in South Dakota could respond adequately for the increased need for milk for the three large plants and other smaller producers, such as Dimock Dairy.

In the three years since, he said he has been pleasantly surprised by the rate of expansion of dairies and the increase in the number of milking cows in the state.

"Valley Queen historically has had limited growth as a result of the milk supply being limited in South Dakota, but now we've got an abundant supply of milk and it is growing in our region," he said.

The company thought it would take South Dakota dairies until 2023 to ramp up production to meet the full need for milk at Valley Queen, but now the capacity requirement ap-



Rodney Elliott, operator of Drumgoon Dairy in Lake Norden, said efforts by the state of South Dakota to educate farmers about opportunities for starting a farm in the state helped him decide to move from Northern Ireland to the Rushmore State in 2006. Elliott recently expanded his milking operation to accommodate expansions by local cheese plants. Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

pears likely to be reached in 2022, Wilke said. "Milk production is running ahead of our forecast," he said.

With a consistent, strong supply of milk, and growing consumer demand for cheese and cheese byproducts such as whey and lactose, Valley Queen may soon see options for future expansion, Wilke said. Whey is used in protein bars and drinks, and lactose is an ingredient in candies and infant formulas, he said.

"What that next growth cycle looks like depends on how milk production continues to grow in the region and what our customers desire in terms of products," he said.

South Dakota dairy farmers are taking steps to support their industry in the long run, said Post, the Volga dairy farmer who recently accepted a leadership position in the national dairy industry.

Post said many dairy producers in South Dakota participate in the American Dairy Association checkoff program in which farmers donate 10 cents for every 100 pounds of milk produced to be set aside and used for marketing and promotion. That program has generated about \$3.2 million in marketing funds in the past year that can be used to promote dairy operations and products to consumers and potential entrants into the market, Post said.

Post said he was unable to provide details but said another expansion of milk-processing capacity is likely to occur soon in South Dakota that will require milk from another 30,000 to 40,000 cows.

Post said he expects South Dakota milk producers will be able to fill that need for more milk if it arises.

"We've proven that every time there's been an expansion in processing, that we will produce the milk to fill that need," he said.

SOUTH DAKOTA 17TH AMONG U.S. STATES IN MILK PRODUCTION

The U.S. dairy industry produced about 218 billion pounds of milk in 2019. Here is a look at top states and Great Plains states in national rank and amount of milk produced.

Source: USDA

STATE	RANK	POUNDS
California	1st	40.6 billion
Wisconsin	2nd	30.6 billion
Idaho	3rd	15.6 billion
Minnesota	8th	9.9 billion
Iowa	12th	5.3 billion
South Dakota	17th	2.8 billion
Nebraska	25th	1.4 billion
North Dakota	35th	326 million
Montana	36th	259 million
Wyoming	40th	147 million

Source: USDA

EarthTalk®
From the Editors of E - The Environmental Magazine

Dear EarthTalk: What is a so-called "passive solar" house and can I retrofit my existing house accordingly?

-- Bill C., Raleigh, NC

A passive solar house is typically designed from scratch factoring in several considerations to boost the structure's ability to naturally keep the interior living spaces a comfortable air temperature without using conventional emissions-spewing HVAC appliances.

The concept hinges on having lots of insulation, no air leaks, and large, strategically-oriented south-facing windows that "collect" heat energy (in the form of sunlight) during the day and store it in "thermal mass" (concrete slabs, brick walls, tile floors or other building materials with heat retention capacity). This stored solar energy is then naturally distributed throughout the interior space by natural convection caused by ventilation and the dynamics of colder and warmer air reacting differently to gravity.

While the concept has been kicking around since at least the 1950s, it wasn't until 1991 that Dr. Wolfgang Feist, an Austrian physicist and subsequent founder of the Passivhaus Institut, turned the dream into a reality with the design and construction of the world's first passive solar house in Darmstadt, Germany.

This three-story home was designed from the ground up with thick walls and copious amounts of efficient insulation, and no holes large or small where hot air could escape. The Feist house was also designed to be free of any potential "thermal bridges," where heat could travel through walls to get outside, unlike conventional homes which are framed with wood 2x4s and 4x4s with insulation laid or sprayed in between. Conventional framing typically comprises about 25 percent of the interior walls' surface area. Unlike the insulation around it, the framing sections provide zero insulation value and therefore act as thermal bridges whereby hot air can escape. Passive houses, on the other hand, are designed with solid slabs or with denser framing materials to cut off this insidious form of heat loss.

Siting is also a major design consideration for any passive solar house. Picking a spot that can harvest lots of sunlight (via large south-facing triple-glazed windows) and also take advantage of neighboring shade (like large trees and buildings) to cool the structure off in the heat of summer is also key. Indeed, it is of paramount importance to the building's success in maintaining consistently comfortable indoor air temperatures without electricity or gas/oil no matter the weather outside. Another important aspect of the passive solar design is the incorporation of some kind of heat recovery ventilation (HRV) system that can let fresh air into the building without letting any of the heat out.

Given all of the design, siting and construction factors involved, it's usually not practical to convert a pre-existing conventional house into a passive solar one. But that said, there's no reason not to upgrade what you can at home to at least take advantage of increased efficiencies where it's easy and get as close to passive solar as possible. Upgrade your insulation. Plug holes and other air leaks. Put weather-stripping around doors and windows. The list goes on... While you might not be able to do any and everything to make your house greener, remember that a walk of 100 miles starts with one step.

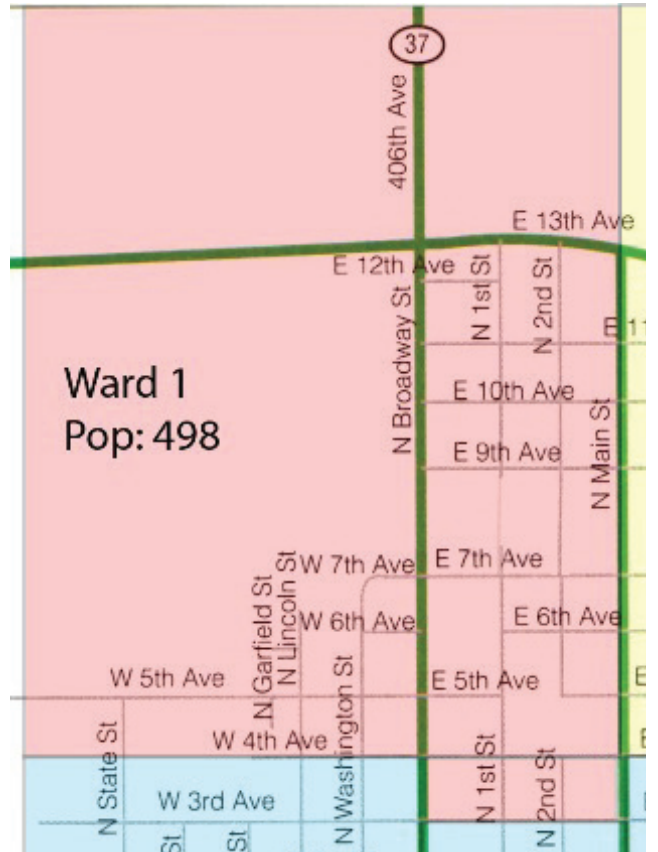
CONTACTS: Passive House Institute, passivehouse.com; Passive House Accelerator, passivehouseaccelerator.com; International Passive House Association, passivehouse-international.org.

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Dr. Wolfgang Feist and family pose in front of the world's first passive solar house, constructed in 1991 in Darmstadt, Germany.

Credit: International Passive House Association.



Correction

Election slated for Ward 1

The election is slated for Ward 1, not Ward 2. It will be between incumbent Jon Cutler and challenger Mitchell Locke. The pink area on the map represents Ward 1.

Groton School Voter Registration Notice

NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

Voter registration for the Groton Area School District School Board Election to be held on April 13, 2021 will close on March 29, 2021. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the Brown County Auditor at (605) 626-7110, the Clark County Auditor at (605) 532-5921, Day County Auditor at (605) 345-9500, Marshall County Auditor at (605) 448-2401, or Spink County Auditor at (605) 472-4580.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact your county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in form at www.sdsos.gov.

Voters with disabilities may contact the county auditor for

information and special assistance in voter registration, absentee voting, or polling place accessibility.

Michael J. Weber, Business Official
Groton Area School District
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$29.97.
19837
(2t. March 8 & 15, 2021)

Conde National League

March 8 Team Standings: Giants 34, Mets 34, Pirates 28½, Braves 27½, Cubs 25, Tigers 7

Men's High Games: Butch Farmen 202, 192; Lance Frohling 202, 201, 194; John Lowery 192, 176; Collin Cady 177

Men's High Series: Lance Frohling 597, Butch Farmen 564, John Lowery 509

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 190, Mary Larson 186, Joyce Walter 185

Women's High Series: Nancy Radke 504, Michelle Johnson 478, Mary Larson 475

March 1 Team Standings: Mets 31, Giants 30, Braves 26½, Cubs 25, Pirates 24½, Tigers 7

Men's High Games: Russ Bethke 208, Brody Somke 207, Topper Tastad 181

Men's High Series: Russ Bethke 562, Brody Somke 529, Topper Tastad 493

Women's High Games: Mary Larson 187, Sam Bahr 180, Vickie Kramp 162

Women's High Series: Mary Larson 443 Sam Bahr 410, Vickie Kramp 404

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2021 Groton Area Elementary Kindergarten Roundup (Screening) for children turning 5 on or before September 1, 2021

Friday, March 12, 2021

If your child is currently attending Junior Kindergarten at Groton Area Elementary school, please DISREGARD this notice. Your teacher will be sending information if necessary.

Packets are being sent home this week with information regarding KG Roundup. These would apply to families who have children eligible for KG and JK this coming 2021-2022 school year who are not currently enrolled in our school. Please contact the school if you do not receive a packet by the end of this week.





National Honor Society

2021 National Honor Society Inductees back row left to right: Kansas Kroll, Madeline Flihs, Regan Leicht and Travis Townsend; front row left to right: Alyssa Thaler, Allyssa Locke, and Trista Keith. (Courtesy Photo)

Groton area High School will be inducting National Honor Society members from the 2020 school year as well as members from the 2021 school year. The ceremony will be held in the Groton Area High School Gymnasium on March 15, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Flihs Earns Top State Honors in National Corn Yield Contest

ST. LOUIS - The National Corn Yield Contest, sponsored annually by the National Corn Growers Association, recognizes farmers from across the country for their efforts and exceptional results. Although the past year posed numerous tests for all sectors of the American public, farmers continued to drive agricultural production in the face of incredible obstacles. Through their efforts, NCGA members contributed valuable data that will help all growers face current challenges and those still to come.

Whether entrants set a national record or strive to beat their personal best, every NCYC participant contributes to the body of agronomic research. This valuable information helps farmers feed and fuel the world while preserving natural resources for Americans in rural and urban areas alike. We are proud of our agricultural community and growers and salute this year's winners.

Jeffery Flihs of Groton, SD, placed Third in the state in the C:No-Till Non-Irrigated Class Class with a yield of 255.3137 bushels per acre. The hybrid used in the winning field was Pioneer P9880AMTM. The winning field was located in South Dakota.

Jeffery Flihs was one of 506 state winners nationwide. The 2020 contest participation included 7,844 entries from 48 states. Of the state winners, 27 growers – three from each of nine classes – were named national winners, representing 12 states.

The average yield among national winners was more than 346 bushels per acre – greater than the projected 2020 U.S. average of 175 bushels per acre. While there is no overall contest winner, yields from first, second and third place farmers' overall production categories topped out at 476.9052 bushels per acre.

"In hindsight, 2020 looked much different for all of us. For farmers, the year brought unique challenges, true tests of their determination, grit and ability to persevere. As always, America's farm families did not waiver in optimism or commitment. That dedication, along with eyes holding the future steadily in their gaze, allowed farmers to find abundance, opportunity and success in an unforeseeable time," said NCGA President John Linder, a corn grower from Edison, Ohio.

"Farmers relied upon an innovative nature and ability to adapt practices while adopting technologies. They did more with less. They planned for the future, focusing on both environmental and economic sustainability. Drawing from knowledge rooted in tradition while exploring ever-evolving choices, farmers used the best of both old and new to provide food, feed and fiber for the world."

Farmers are encouraged through the contest to utilize new, efficient production techniques. Agronomic data gleaned from the contest revealed the following:

- Average planting population for the national winners was 38,425 seeds per acre, compared to 34,163 for all entrants.
- National winners applied an average of 277.9525 pounds of nitrogen, 92.5185 pounds of phosphorus and 108.7837 pounds of potassium per acre.
- Average commercial nitrogen use per bushel of yield was 0.88 pounds for the national winners and 0.84 pounds for all entrants.
- 23 percent of the national winners applied trace minerals, compared to 19 percent of all entrants.

- 15 percent of national winners applied manure, the same percentage of all entrants.

The National Corn Yield Contest began in 1965 with 20 entries from 3 states. At that time, the highest overall yield was 218.9 bushels per acre, while the national yield average was in the mid-60 bushel-per-acre range.

All 2020 contest winners were invited to attend the first ever virtual Commodity Classic. For a complete list of winners and for more information about NCYC, visit the NCGA website at www.ncga.com.

The National Corn Growers Association represents our nearly 40,000 members, 50 affiliated state corn grower and checkoff organizations, and over 300,000 corn farmers who contribute to state checkoff programs.

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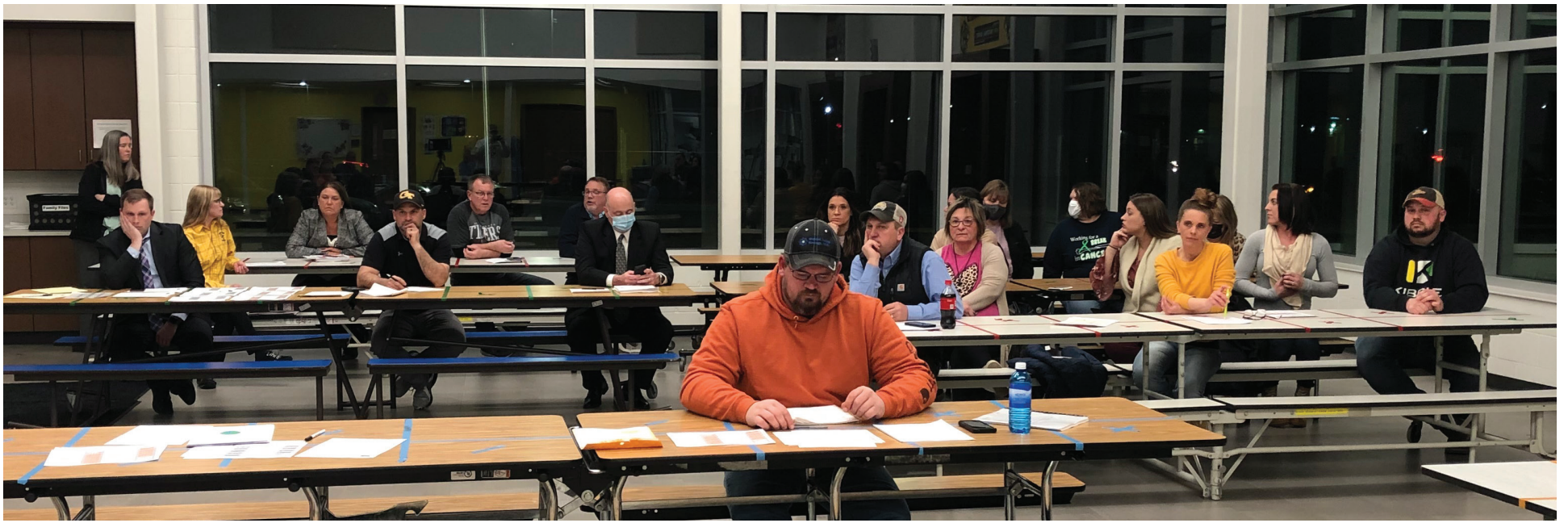
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School Calendar brings in district patrons

The debate over the Groton Area School calendar has been in the forefront of a debate with 4-day a week vs. 5 day a week. The Groton Area Board of Education listened to the patrons for over two hours at the board meeting Monday night. The current school year has just barely above state minimum with the four-day week. There is discussion of extending the school year from 147 student contact days to 160 or 165 days for the upcoming year. In the 2019-20 school year, Groton Area had 169 student contact days.

But the four-day vs. five-day week is up for debate. The board has been grappling with this for three board meetings and as of Monday night, no decision was made, except to have 160 or 165 days of school. Now Superintendent Joe Schwan has to put together a calendar upon that recommendation which will be presented at the next school board meeting. To date, six different school calendars have been proposed. In the equation is the contract with the teachers which are under contract for 180 working days.

Schwan said, "Based on input from the board at last night's meeting, we'll be developing calendar options with contact days between 160 and 165."

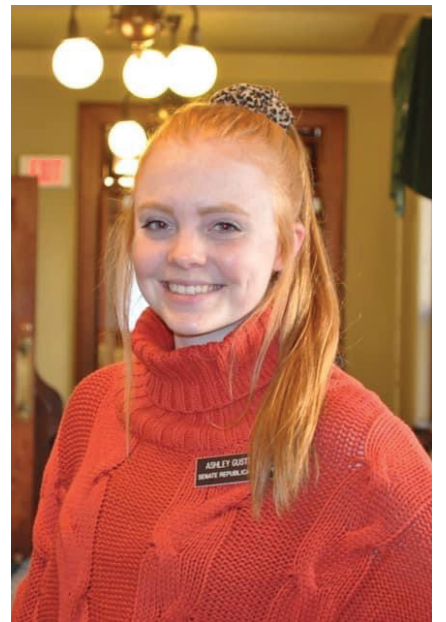
Gustafson featured as intern

INTERN SPOTLIGHT: Ashley Gustafson is from Langford, SD, and is a freshman honors student at USD, majoring in Political Science with minors in History and English. She serves as Senate Majority Leader Gary Cammack's intern.

As we approach the end of week eight, Ashley reflected on her time in Pierre. "I'm going to miss it here. Because I work for the majority leader, I've seen a lot of the behind-the-scenes action and have been able to contribute my perspective to the legislative action."

Ashley serves as the USD College Republicans Communications Director. She said she likes to keep busy, and certainly did so during the 2020 election.

Ashley volunteered for local candidates in Vermillion and Sioux Falls, as well as for Rep. Dusty Johnson and Sen. Mike Rounds. When asked if she'd ever consider serving in the legislature, Ashley said, "Someday, sure. I would consider it, but I have a lot of life ahead of me. I really have enjoyed my experience here at the State Capitol."



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

West Hanson Equalization Notice

WEST HANSON TOWNSHIP EQUALIZATION MEETING
Notice is hereby given that the West Hanson Township Board of Equalization, will meet on Monday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Charles Dirks, 40305 138th St., Groton, SD. Persons wishing to appear regarding their assessment should notify the clerk by Thursday, March 11, 2021.
Jennifer L. Dirks
Clerk, West Hanson Township
40305 138th St.
Groton, SD 57445
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Best Choice Red Potatoes **\$1.99** 5 Lb. Bag

Whole Boneless Pork Loin **\$1.49** Per Lb.

Sanderson Farms Split Chicken Breast **99¢** Per Lb.

Van De Kamp's Breaded Fish Asst. **\$3.99** 18-24.6 Oz. Pkg.

Crisco Oil **\$4.99** 1 Gallon Jug

Kellogg's Bite-Size Frosted Mini-Wheats **\$3.99** Your Choice

Betty Crocker Hamburger, Chicken or Tuna Helper **99¢** 4.7-8.7 Oz. Pkg.