



Upcoming Events

Thursday, Sept. 30

Fall Planning Day and Career Expo at Northern State University for juniors

4 p.m.: Cross Country at Sisseton

4:30 p.m.: Junior High Football at Redfield
Volleyball hosting Hamlin (C match at 5 p.m. followed by JV and Varsity)

Friday, Oct. 1

7 p.m.: Football vs. Dakota Hills Coop at Waubay

Saturday, Oct. 2

9 a.m.: Gypsy Day Parade, Aberdeen

2 p.m.: Boys soccer hosts Freeman Academy

3 p.m.: Girls soccer at Dakota Valley with JV game at 1 p.m.

Monday, Oct. 4

State Boys Golf Meet at Madison

Oral Interp at Milbank Invitational

5 p.m.: Junior Varsity Football hosts Sisseton (rescheduled from 9-20-21)

Tuesday, Oct. 5

State Boys Golf Meet at Madison

Soccer Playoffs for boys and girls

Junior High Volleyball at Redfield (7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 p.m.)

Thursday, Oct. 7

10 a.m.-4:30 p.m.: Flu Shot Clinic at school

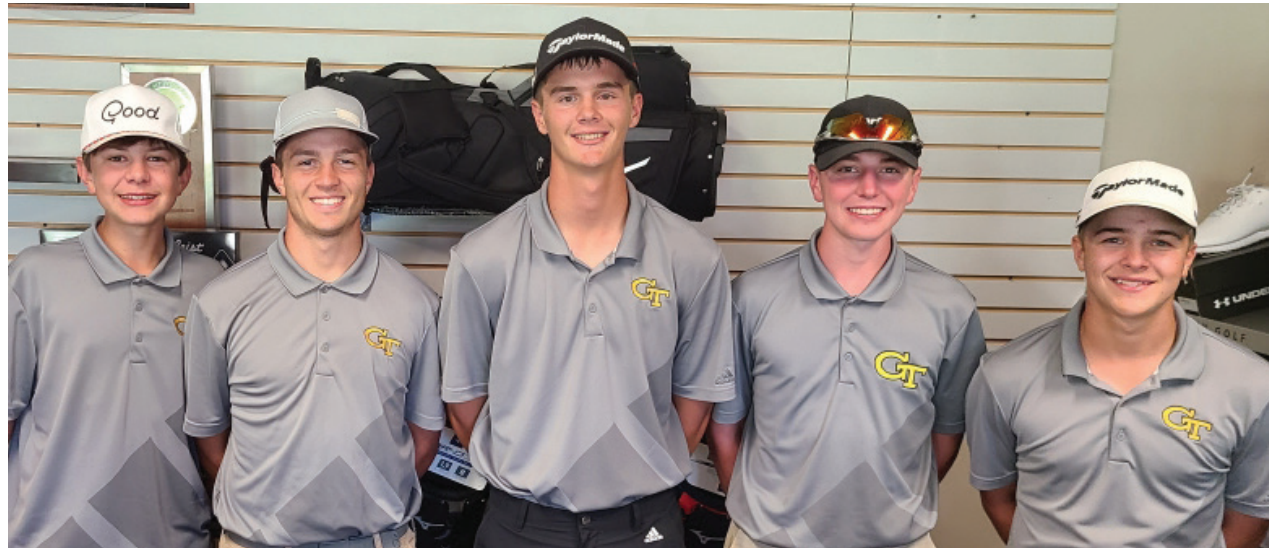
1 p.m.: NEC Cross Country Meet at Webster

4 p.m.-8 p.m.: Parent/Teacher Conferences

5 p.m.: Junior High Football hosting Webster

Fliehs, Simon advance to state golf meet

Brevin Fliehs and Carter Simon have qualified for the state golf meet. Fliehs shot a 91 to place 20th and Simon a 93 for 22nd place. The top 23 advance to state. Also participating in the regional meet were Jackson Cogley with a 107, Cole Simon with a 113 and Tate Larson with a 116.



Region boys team. L to R. Carter Simon, Jackson Cogley, Tate Larson, Cole Simon. Brevin Fliehs. Brevin Fliehs and Carter Simon qualified for state in Madison next week Monday and Tuesday. (Submitted photo)

Two golfers place at Sisseton

Two Groton Area golfers placed at the Sisseton Invite held Thursday. Brevin Fliehs placed 10th with a 93 and Tate Larson placed 13th with a 96. Carter Simon had a 98, Cole Simon a 117 and Jayden Schwan a 120.

Groton Area claims share of NEC Title

Battle tested Tigers stun undefeated Roncalli, 26-9

Groton Area put on an impressive second half in shutting down Aberdeen Roncalli and handing the Cavaliers their first loss of the season with a 26-9 lead. The Groton Area win also clinched a share of the Northeast Conference title.

Groton Area and Roncalli now each have one loss. Deuel suffered its second defeat to Redfield. Roncalli still has three conference games left - Deuel, Clark/Willow Lake and Moberidge-Pollock. Roncalli was ranked fifth in the state in the recent coaches poll.

Groton Area had four first downs in the first half and 11 in the second half. Roncalli had eight first downs in the first half and three in the second half.

In rushing, Groton Area had 93 yards in the

first half and 168 in the second half. Roncalli had 73 yards in the first half and 21 in the second half. In passing, Groton Area had 36 in the first half and 31 in the second half. Roncalli had 45 in the first half and one in the second half. Roncalli outscored Groton Area in the first half, 9-6 while Groton outscored Roncalli in the second half, 20-0.

In the pregame interview on GDILIVE.COM, Coach Shaun Wanner said the Tigers are battle tested, emerging from deficits to wins and not giving up during the course of the game.

Kaden Kurtz had his best game of the year with 148 yards rushing, 67 yards passing, eight tackles, three sacks and one forced interception and scored two touchdowns. Favian Sanchez had 64 yards rushing, 64 yards

receiving and scored two touchdowns. Andrew Marzahn had 45 yards rushing. Pierce Kettering had four yards rushing and 12 tackles. Jordan Bjerke had three yards receiving, one sack and 10 tackles. Jackson Cogley had nine tackles and kicked two extra points. Christian Ehresmann had seven tackles, Evin Nehls had one sack and Ethan Gengerke had one interception.

During the halftime interview with Groton Stat Guy Tom Woods on GDILIVE.COM, he said that Roncalli's quarterback Jackson Isakson had not been sacked all year. He had told the team that he would buy a large pizza every time Isakson was sacked. The Tiger defense

Continues on Page 8



The Groton Area Tigers have claimed a share of the Northeast Conference with a 26-9 win over Roncalli Friday night at Doney Field in Groton. (Photo: Tom and Patti Woods Facebook Page)

Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

It was good to be back home in Minnesota. It all kicked off with the legend Jim Marshall narrating a story about Odin, the Viking God of War. As the story was being told, snowflakes began falling from the rafters, and then another Viking legend, Randall McDaniel, got the crowd pumped up with the skol chant and the sounding of the Gjallarhorn. All was right in the land of US Bank Stadium.

First Half:

For the first time all year, the Vikings' offense did not start with the ball. Instead, their defense was the first group to step on the field, having to face the Russell Wilson-led Seahawks. Initially, the Vikings' defense appeared to be a step behind every play. On the first drive alone, Russell Wilson and his favorite wide receiver, DK Metcalf, were able to connect on 3 passes for a total of 55 yards and a touchdown, giving the Seahawks a 7-0 lead. However, the Vikings quickly answered with an impressive drive themselves, ending in a Tyler Conklin touchdown and a tie game at 7-7.

Nevertheless, the Seahawks didn't appear to be slowing down. They put together an 11-play drive that ended in a field goal and—after the Vikings went 3-and-out in their next drive—gained a 17-7 lead thanks to a 30-yard touchdown run from running back Chris Carson. It appeared early that it was going to be a long day for the Vikings' defense.

By the 10:00 mark of the Second Quarter, the Vikings' offense found themselves looking at a 10-point deficit and a 3rd & 3 at their own 22-yard line. As Kirk Cousins dropped back to pass, he was quickly sacked by a blitzing Seahawks' defense. However, the Seahawks were flagged for defensive holding, giving the Vikings an automatic first down and a clear shift in momentum in their favor. The Vikings capitalized on the help from the refs by successfully driving down the field and into the Seahawks' red zone there the Vikings saw themselves in another tough 3rd down situation, this time a 3rd & 13 at the Seahawks' 15-yard line. Needing to get a touchdown to get back in the game, Kirk Cousins fired a pass into the hands of Adam Thielen for a touchdown, cutting the Seahawks lead to 17-14.

After Seahawks' kicker, Jason Myers, missed a 44-yard field goal, the Vikings got the ball back with a little over 3:00 left in the first half. The Vikings decided to put the ball in the hands of running back Alexander Matti-

son, who got the start because of Dalvin Cook's ankle injury. Thanks to some heavy-hitting runs by Mattison, the Vikings meticulously drove down the field, concluding in a Justin Jefferson touchdown with just 20 seconds remaining in the half, giving the Vikings the lead 21-17 into halftime.

Second Half:

The story of the second half was about time of possession. The Vikings received the ball to start the second half and put together a lengthy 8:26 drive, ultimately ending in a field goal and giving them a lead of 24-17 over the Seahawks. The Seahawks immediately went 3-and-out, having the ball for only 2:46. Again, the Vikings made a concerted effort to chew up the clock in their next drive. With the help of a balanced running attack and clutch throws from Kirk Cousins, the Vikings drove down the field for another field goal, this time using up 5:01 of the game clock.

Facing a tough 27-17 deficit, Russell Wilson and the Seahawks' explosive offense we had seen in the first half was nowhere to be found. On top of that, the Vikings' defense started to figure out how to stifle the Seahawks' offense. The defensive line started to pressure Russell Wilson, and when they couldn't get to him, the secondary picked up the slack. In all, Seattle's offense was unable to score any points in the second half. It didn't help either that they only had the ball for 7:20 out of a possible 30:00 in the second half.

The Vikings move to 1-2 on the season thanks to a 30-17 victory over the Seattle Seahawks.

Statistical Leaders:

Kirk Cousins: 30 for 38, 323 yards, 3 TDs

Alexander Mattison: 26 carries for 112 yards rushing, 0 TDs

Justin Jefferson: 9 catches for 118 yards, 1 TD

The highlight of the day:

Vikings' offense goes 9/14 on 3rd down because of multiple clutch 3rd down throws by Kirk Cousins throughout the game.

The irony of the day:

When Zimmer's defenses were top 5 in the league the past few years, opposing offenses averaged only 17 points per game during the entire season. Today's final score is just what the Zimmer ordered: 30-17.

Next game:

The Vikings remain at home for a Week 4 matchup against the Cleveland Browns. Head Coach Kevin Stefanski returns home after 15 years with the Viking organization. Cleveland brings a tough defense to Minnesota lead by all-pro Myles Garrett at right defensive end. The offense is manned by Baker Mayfield at quarterback and the return of Odell Beckham Jr. at wide receiver. US Bank will need to once again be rocking to keep the momentum going.

When autumn comes



That's Life

by Tony Bender

The sun's just begun creeping above ground in the East and I'm on the patio bundled up like a babushka. The coat I'm wearing is almost a parka, and on my feet, ankle-high fuzzy slippers that look like Uggs. I'm wearing an old UND hat because around here everyone's an NDSU Bison fan, and I'm a contrarian. Besides, UND football coach Bubba Schweigert grew up a hop, skip, and a spit from here.

It's 48 degrees at 7:30 a.m., but my hands are still functioning on my laptop and as long as they do, I'll do my writing outside. I don't know why, but doing this with a steaming cup of coffee, cows bellowing in the morning, coyotes yipping at sunset, seems decadent.

I used to look down my nose at snowbirds. For one thing, making address changes at the newspaper is a hassle, and by the time the mailman in Arizona can find the right RV in a lot full of midwestern gypsies, it's March and I've been chewed out a dozen times. Pro tip: the online version is convenient and delivery is instantaneous. And it's cheaper!

Maybe, they're the smart ones—the snowbirds I mean, not the mailmen. I find myself looking at used campers and thinking about becoming a winter escape artist, myself. Until then, I'll have the generator tuned up and the Bobcat gassed up. Anyway, there's a weird sense of accomplishment at digging out your driveway after a foot of snow despite the impermanence of the path.

My propane tanks were filled last week. There's no getting around it. Winter's coming.

I've become a student of the seasons, of which birds come and go, and I've taken note of which flowers survived the heat and drought and bloomed into late into September. It's a short list. Mostly Marigolds and Morning Glories. I moved the "keepers" inside, the potted plants too nice to let freeze, so many oxygen-producing plants, in fact, that I'm afraid to light a match.

I've also contemplated the madness of planting a 30' x 50' garden to go along with five acres of lawn. In that respect, the drought was a godsend. I only mowed twice. Most of the summer the grass crunched underfoot, but late rains have turned the grass emerald green, from a crew cut to a Beatles mop top, but I refuse to mow at the end of September as a matter of principle. I'm not sure what that principle is, exactly.

With an ambitious summer travel schedule, I didn't keep up with weeding the garden, either, and about six weeks ago, I just decided to let them fight it out. The tomatoes were heroic, the cucumbers prolific, and I should have another refrigerator for all of the produce—don't tell me gardening pencils out—so I mostly I give it away. Next year, I'll grow zucchini for the people I hate.

Absolved of more and more lawn care duties as summer wanes, I've turned my attention indoors. Gah! Before India left for college, I was convinced the clutter wasn't mine, however the People's Exhibit A proves otherwise.

Most of my time indoors this summer has been spent napping. Once I woke up with spiderwebs attached to my nose and toes, and Squirrel The World's Grumpiest Cat contemplating how I might taste when the food bowl is empty. Now, I'm spring cleaning. In September. I have a Roomba named RoboCop which is nice for keeping up with pet hair, but there's exercise involved, too, as the dang thing gets hung up, and you end up playing hide and seek, eventually crawling under the bed to retrieve it after it chokes on those missing socks.

I had designs of getting up at 6 a.m. to write this column, but I stayed up late futility cheering against the Packers—damn you, Aaron Rodgers—and hit the snooze bar so many times it started hitting back. I suppose some of that stalling was in hopes that I'd come up with a brilliant topic for this column, but this is it. Contractually, though, I still get paid \$100 a word. That last sentence covered the propane bill.

I usually don't write this close to the deadline. Retired columnist Dean Meyer, a ranching legend, did it all the time. He'd go out and feed the cows, and with any luck, he'd get kicked in the head and come back with an idea. I need to buy some cows.

Well, by my calculations, I have the mortgage covered, so I'm calling it quits until next week. Which will be October. Until then...

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Groton City Cannabis Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 751

AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTION 12.0102, "PERMITTED PRINCIPAL USES AND STRUCTURES" [HC - HIGHWAY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT]; CHAPTER 16.01, "REGULATIONS"; AND CHAPTER 5.01, "DEFINITIONS", ADOPTED BY ORDINANCE 751, AS AMENDED, OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GROTON

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota: that Section 12.0102, "Permitted Principal Uses and Structures" (HC) - Highway Commercial District and Section 14.0102, "Permitted Principal Uses and Structures" (C1) be amended by adding language in bold and underline font:

14. Cannabis Dispensary.
BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota: that Part 16, "SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS" be amended by adding the following Chapter in bold and underline font:

CANNABIS DISPENSARIES.
1. **Permits for Cannabis Dispensaries.**

a. **In the development and execution of these regulations, it is recognized that there are some uses which because of their very nature, are recognized as having serious objectionable operational characteristics, particularly when several of them are concentrated under certain circumstances thereby having a potential deleterious effect upon the adjacent areas. Special regulation of these uses is necessary to ensure that these adverse effects will not contribute to the blighting or downgrading of the surrounding neighborhood. The primary control or regulation is for the purpose of preventing a concentration of these uses in any one area.**
b. **The City of Groton shall allow up to 2 cannabis dispensary provided the time, place, and manner of said dispensaries comply with this ordinance. If more than one application for operating a dispensary is submitted to the Finance Officer, the city council must make the decision as to which applicant receives the license.**

c. **To obtain a permit required under this article to operate a cannabis establishment, the applicant shall submit to the zoning administrator a written application and the required documents.**

d. **The processing fee for the permit will be \$5,000 at time application is submitted. The permit fee shall be refunded if the application is denied.**

e. **Any permit issued under this article shall expire one year after following its issuance, unless sooner revoked, canceled, or otherwise terminated.**

f. **The zoning administrator or designee may renew a permit if satisfied that the applicant has complied with all of the terms and provisions of this article and if the evidence submitted in support of the application meets the conditions precedent to granting the permit. If a license is denied by the zoning official, the applicant may appeal to the city council.**

g. **The planning and zoning board shall not hear appeals of a decision of the city council approving or denying an application for a cannabis establishment under this chapter. An appeal of a decision of the city council approving or denying such application shall be to a court of competent jurisdiction in the manner and time required by law.**

2. **Required Separation Distances**
a. **A cannabis dispensary shall be located not less than 1000 feet from a public or private school existing before the date of the cannabis dispensary application;**
b. **A cannabis dispensary shall be located not less than 1000 feet from a church, public park, or daycare facility existing before the date of the cannabis dispensary application;**
c. **Exemption from**

separation requirements. Any separation distance requirement, other than the State requirement from schools (1,000 feet), may be waived, provided:

i. **The applicant provides documentation waiving the setback requirement from the title holder of the land benefiting from the separation.**

d. **Prescribed separation/setback distances from certain existing uses are to be measured from the lot line of the property where the dispensary is proposed**

3. **Other Locational Requirements**

a. **Permanent or temporary dispensaries are prohibited in all other zoning districts and not eligible for a home occupation use.**

b. **It shall be unlawful to operate a dispensary in a building which contains a residence or a mixed-use building with commercial and residential uses.**

4. **Controlled Access - No cannabis establishment shall share premises with or permit access directly from another medical cannabis establishment, business that sells alcohol or tobacco, or, if allowed by law, other cannabis establishment.**

5. **Hours of operation:**
a. **Cannabis dispensaries are allowed to be open between the hours of 8 and 5 on 6 (days of the week).**

6. **Documentation of State Licensure.**

a. **No cannabis dispensary shall acquire, possess, store, deliver transfer, transport, supply or dispense cannabis, cannabis products, paraphernalia without providing documentation of licensure from the State of South Dakota.**

7. **The zoning administrator is authorized to issue permits (building/use) for cannabis dispensaries subject to following:**

a. **Submission of a site plan containing the following:**

- i. **Any information required for applicable building permit.**
- ii. **Ingress and egress plan**
- iii. **Parking plan**
- iv. **Lighting plan (including security lighting)**
- v. **Screening/security fencing plan.**
- vi. **Refuse plan;**
- vii. **Hours of Operation;**
- viii. **Any other information as lawfully may be required by the zoning administrator to determine compliance with this ordinance**

b. **Documentation of ability to meet setback/separation requirements.**

c. **Documentation of State Licensure.**

8. **All Cannabis Establishments are required to be constructed in conformance with the 2021 Edition of the International Building Code and International Fire Code.**

BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota: that Section 13.0102, "Permitted Principal Uses and Structures" (I) - General Industrial District be amended by adding language in bold and underline font:

15. **Cannabis Cultivating Facility**

16. **Cannabis Product Manufacturing Facility**

17. **Cannabis Testing Facility**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota: that Part 16, "SUPPLEMENTARY DISTRICT REGULATIONS" be amended by adding the following Chapter in bold and underline font:

CANNABIS CULTIVATING, PRODUCT MANUFACTURING AND TESTING FACILITIES

1. **Permits for Cannabis Cultivating, Product Manufacturing and Testing Facilities.**

a. **To obtain a permit required under this article to operate a cannabis facility, the applicant shall submit to the zoning administrator a written application and the required documents.**

b. **The processing fee for the permit will be \$5,000 at time application is submitted. The permit fee shall be refunded if the application is denied.**

c. **Any permit issued under this article shall expire one year after following its issuance, unless sooner revoked, canceled, or**

otherwise terminated.

d. **The zoning administrator or designee may renew a permit if satisfied that the applicant has complied with all of the terms and provisions of this article and if the evidence submitted in support of the application meets the conditions precedent to granting the permit. If a license is denied by the zoning official, the applicant may appeal to the City Council.**

e. **The planning and zoning board shall not hear appeals of a decision of the city council approving or denying an application for a cannabis establishment under this chapter. An appeal of a decision of the city council approving or denying such application shall be to a court of competent jurisdiction in the manner and time required by law.**

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Groton South Dakota: that Chapter 5.01, "DEFINITIONS" be amended by adding the following definitions in bold and underline font:

Cannabis (or Marijuana): all parts of any plant of the genus cannabis, whether growing or not, in its natural and unaltered state, except for drying or curing and crushing or crumbling. The term includes an altered state of marijuana absorbed into the human body. The term does not include fiber produced from the mature stalks of such plant, or oil or cake made from the seeds of such plant. The term does not include the plant Cannabis sativa L. (hemp) and any part of that plant, including the seeds thereof and all derivatives, extracts, cannabinoids, isomers, acids, salts, and salts of isomers, whether growing or not, with a delta-9 tetrahydrocannabinol concentration of not more than three-tenths of one percent on a dry weight basis.

Cannabis Cultivation Facility: in addition to the definition in SDCL 34-20G-1, this term is further defined as a legally licensed entity that acquires, possesses, cultivates, delivers, transfers, transports, supplies, or sells cannabis and related supplies to a cannabis establishment.

Cannabis Dispensary: in addition to the definition in SDCL 34-20G-1, this term is further defined as a legally licensed entity that acquires, possesses, stores, delivers, transfers, transports, sells, supplies, or dispenses cannabis, cannabis products, paraphernalia, or related supplies and educational materials.

Cannabis Establishment: a cannabis cultivation facility, a cannabis testing facility, a cannabis product manufacturing facility, or a cannabis dispensary.

Cannabis Product Manufacturing Facility: in addition to the definition in SDCL 34-20G-1, this term is further defined as a legally licensed entity that acquires, possesses, manufactures, delivers, transfers, transports, supplies, or sells cannabis products to a cannabis dispensary.

Cannabis Products: any concentrated cannabis, cannabis extracts, and products that are infused with cannabis or an extract thereof, and are intended for use or consumption by humans. The term includes edible cannabis products, beverages, topical products, ointments, oils, and tinctures.

Cannabis Testing Facility: in addition to the definition in SDCL 34-20G-1, this term is further defined as a legally licensed entity legally authorized to analyze the safety and potency of cannabis.

Mayor, Scott Hanlon
Finance Officer, Hope Block
City of Groton, SD
Review & Recommendation of Planning
Commission: August 30, 2021
First Reading: September 7, 2021
Second Reading: September 21, 2021
Published: September 29, 2021
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$134.84. 20426

Groton City Sept. 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

September 21, 2021

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Blackmun via telephone, Bahr, Babcock, Cutler and Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, 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 Blackmun and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

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

Payroll, \$27,813.54, Employee salaries; Executive, \$420.20; Administrative, \$3,819.57; Public Safety, \$10,178.37; Public Works, \$11,244.79; Culture & Recreation, \$2,150.61; First State Bank, \$8,919.78, SS and WH; Dacotah Bank, \$545.82, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$690.00, Employee savings; USPS, \$240.96, Utility billing postage; SD State Treasurer, \$10,602.47, Sales and excise tax; CWD, \$2,238.05, Food for resale; Web Water, \$22,702.94, Water 8/21; JVT, \$843.59, Utilities; EcoLab, \$106.00, Pest control; Dakota Supply Group, \$1,967.24, Electric supplies for water tower; SD Dept of Health, \$135.00, Water testing; Branden Abeln, \$416.42, Med flex; Geffdog, \$531.40, Bookmarks and uniforms; Heartland Waste, \$8,184.40, Garbage hauling 8/21; Runnings, \$9.99, Hitch for bucket truck; Irby, \$40.00, Sweat band for hard hats; Core & Main, \$29.40, Sewer coupling; Farmers Union, \$799.80, Fuel; Auto Zone, \$111.79, Oil filters, starter; Grand Slam, \$89.00, Backup fee; The Library Store, \$1,300.28, Rugs;

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to approve the August finance report. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Bahr to approve the second reading of Ordinance #750 Water Rates. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Cutler to approve the second reading of Ordinance #751 Amending Zoning Ordinances to Regulate Medicinal Cannabis. All members voted aye.

Revised Resolution 20213 was approved on a motion by Babcock and seconded by Cutler. All members voted aye.

RESOLUTION NO. 20213 WHEREAS, a lease agreement has been filed with the city finance officer of the City of Groton and was presented to the city council on the 18th day of August, 2021 asking that the city airport property be leased to Grant Rix, DBA Rix Farms, Inc., with this legal description, starting November 1, 2021 to October 31, 2023: That portion of the Southwest Quarter (SW1/4) of Section 19, Township 124, Range 60, Brown County, South Dakota being 95 acres more or less known as the Groton City Airport land, including all of the building site and landing strip with buffer zone (as described by the SD State Office of Aeronautics - no farming will be allowed directly north or south of runway for approach or along the sides of the runway) located thereon. WHEREAS, the city council held a hearing on the above resolution on the 21st day of September, 2021, at City Hall in Groton, South Dakota, at the time and place for said hearing on the petition, after having the Notice of Hearing published once in the legal newspaper for the City of Groton on 18th day of August, 2021. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by unanimous vote of the city council of the City of Groton, Brown County, South Dakota, that the above foregoing resolution describing the above foregoing city property be hereby leased to Grant Rix, DBA Rix Farms, Inc., with said lease to be approved at the October 5th, 2021 council meeting.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Bahr to approve the first reading of Ordinance #725 Amending Security Light Rates. All members voted aye.

Sealed bids for safe deposit boxes that were declared surplus will be opened at the next Council Meeting - October 5th at 7:00pm.

The Aeronautics Commission

approved funding in the amount of \$8,841.20 for Groton Airport improvements to redo the landing strip for better functionality.

Maguire Iron's Pay Request #10 for \$95,412.40 was approved on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

The time extension request from Maguire Iron was approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Blackmun. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Cutler to close Main Street and a portion of Railroad Avenue on October 29th from 4pm-6pm for Trick or Treat on Main Street. All members voted aye.

Pumpkin Fest will be October 9th from 10am-3pm at the City Park. No additional insurance cost was needed.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Babcock to adjourn into executive session for personnel and

legal items 1- 25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:30pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:10pm.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Bahr to approve the first reading of Ordinance #753 - 2022 Salary Summary as read implementing a 3% raise for all full time employees except the Electric Superintendent and also implementing on call time for up to two public works employees at \$100 each per week (only employees eligible for the additional on call time are: Public Works Coordinator, Wastewater Superintendent, and Assistant Street Superintendent). All members voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$56.71. 20427

Netters challenge Falcons in all three sets

Groton Area's volleyball team played its best match of the year, according to Coach Chelsea Hanson. The Tigers faced a very tough Florence/Henry squad Tuesday in Henry. The Falcons swept the series in close games, 25-23, 25-19 and 25-20.

There were seven ties and five lead changes during the night.

Elizabeth Fliehs had five ace serves and two kills, Madeline Fliehs had five kills, Anna Fjeldheim had four kills and an ace serve, Aspen Johnson had three kills and a block, Sydney Leicht had four kills, Megan Fliehs three kills and Alyssa Thaler had one kill.

Caylin Kelly led the Falcons with 12 kills and two blocks, Carlie Moe had six kills, three blocks and an ace serve and Macey Lane had three kills and five ace serves.

Groton Area won the junior varsity match, 23-25, 25-20 and 17-15. Anna Fjeldheim had four kills and two ace serves, Emma Schinkel four kills, Faith Traphagen three kills and an ace serve, Lydia Meier four kills and three ace serves, Laila Roberts five kills and two ace serves, Shallyn Foertsch one kill and three ace serves, Hollie Frost one block and one kill, and Aspen Johnson had five kills, three ace serves and a block.

Groton Area won the C match, 2-0.

Netters lose to Faulkton Area

Groton Area's volleyball team lost a three-set match to Faulkton Area on Monday in Groton. Game scores were 25-14, 25-16 and 25-11.

Sydney Liecht had seven kills, one ace serve and 11 digs. Madeline Fliehs had six kills and two digs. Anna Fjeldheim had three kills and three digs. Aspen Johnson had three kills and one dig. Alyssa Thaler had one kill and 15 digs. Maddie Bjerke had one kill. Elizabeth Fliehs had five digs, Carly Guthmiller had seven, Trista Keith five and Allyssa Locke five.

Groton Area won the junior varsity match, 26-24 and 25-22. Aspen Johnson had four kills and a block, Faith Trahagen had five kills Lydia Meier had four ace serves and a kill, Marlee Tollifson had three kills, Carly Guthmiller two ace serves, Emma Schinkel an ace serve and a kill, Anna Fjeldheim had a kill and Laila Roberts an ace serve.

Faulkton won the C match, 23-25, 25-23 and 15-10.



The Groton Independent

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Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday]

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Brown County Sept. 21, 2021

Meeting Minutes

SEPTEMBER 21, 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, Wiese and Kippley. Commissioner Sutton was absent. Commissioner Fjeldheim led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

FIRST READING – ORDINANCE 202: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve first reading of proposed ordinance 202. Applicants Tom Barber and Seth Anderson request rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lots 1 & 2, "Barber's Subdivision" and Lot 1, "Barber's Second Subdivision" in the SW ¼ of Section 31-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38216 130th St., 38220 130th St. & 38232 130th St.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

IRRIGATION PIVOT: Dan Dehann with Demkota Ranch Beef received a one time emergency provision from SD DENR to expand the use of their irrigation pivot. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge the emergency provision and expanded use of the irrigation pivot. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY 5 YEAR PLAN: Moved by Kippley, Seconded by Wiese to approve the Highways 5 year plan presented by Highway Superintendent, Dirk Rogers on September 21, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PROVISIONAL BUDGET 2022 – PUBLIC HEARING: Public hearing held as advertised for 2022 provisional budget. Opportunity for public comment was given. The following two motion were made: Moved by Kippley, Seconded by Feickert to rescind the motion form 8/17/21 and reduce approved raises for County Sheriff, Treasurer, Register of Deeds and Auditor from \$10,000 to \$5,000 for 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to give the Brown County Commission Chair a raise of \$100 per month for 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXCHANGE OF SERVICE AGREEMENT: Vice Chair Kippley gave an update on an agreement with the Aberdeen Area Humane Society to exchange fairgrounds rental fees for sheriff animal care expenses. Contract is being written. No action taken.

LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING: Vice Chair Kippley presented a resolution in support of two legislative districts in Brown County. State Representative Drew Dennert (District 3) gave an update on the redistricting process and presented multiple district boundary options. Commissioner Kippley proposed the following resolution: RESOLUTION #R-47 RESOLUTION FOR SUPPORT OF REDISTRICTING EFFORT WHEREAS, Brown County has grown to a population of 38,301 and is the fourth most populous county in South Dakota according to the 2020 census numbers; and WHEREAS,

since 2011 Brown County has been divided into three separate legislative districts and has had between three and five legislators who reside within our county during this time, and WHEREAS, for many years prior to 2011, Brown County had portions of two legislative districts and had six legislative members who resided in the county, and WHEREAS, it is critical that both Brown County's rural and municipal populations receive representation in the state legislature; and WHEREAS, only one Brown County district is not mathematically possible, while three Brown County districts would significantly water down representation, and WHEREAS, Brown County would be best represented by two legislative districts, with each district including a portion of Brown County unincorporated and a portion of Aberdeen City. THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, do hereby urge the current House and Senate committees of the South Dakota Legislature, entrusted with the duty of recommending new legislative boundaries, to establish no more than two districts within the boundaries of Brown County and to split the unincorporated areas of Brown County and Aberdeen City, so both may be adequately represented by those two districts. Dated this 21st day of September, 2021. Seconded by Wiese. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – aye, Sutton – absent, Wiese – aye, Kippley – aye, Fjeldheim – aye. Resolution adopted.

APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve application for occupancy of Brown County Highway 14, in section 9, township 122, range 63, Brown County, SD for potable water line. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR OCCUPANCY: Moved by Wiese seconded by Feickert to approve application by Northern Electric Coop for occupancy of Brown County Highway 23, in section 5, township 121N, range 64W, Brown County, SD for electric service. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of September 7, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims and payroll:

Payroll: Commission \$4,327.95; Auditor \$9,096.96; Treasurer \$14,590.97; SA \$22,609.46; SVAWA \$1,575.00; Maintenance \$7,650.23; Assessor \$14,938.10; Register of Deeds \$9,272.00; VSO \$4,108.66; GIS \$2,411.38; IT \$7,498.18; HR \$3,639.08; Sheriff \$39,300.21; Jail \$51,507.46; Court Security \$6,470.49; JDC \$21,940.64; Welfare \$2,982.62; Museum \$7,160.61; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,966.78; Fair Board \$6,754.71; 4-H \$850.75; Weed \$4,330.90; Planning & Zoning \$5,332.71; Highway \$40,985.66; Dispatch \$30,884.05; Emergency \$4,160.96; Teen Court \$699.55; JDAI \$1,846.15; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,272.80; Landfill \$17,562.98; MATCHING BENEFITS: FICA \$20,792.40, Medicare \$4,862.77, Discovery_HSA \$915.84, Wellmark BCBC \$117,371.88, Delta Dental \$8,044.16, Dearborn Life Insurance \$1,067.94.

CLAIMS: Professional Fees: BIRMINGHAM & CWACH LAW

OFFICE \$447.15; Boyce Law Firm \$995.78; BRICK'S TV & APPLIANCE \$4,695.08; CGI \$1,434.16; CHRISTOPHER A. HAAR \$24.60; COUNTY OF EDMUNDS \$3,375.00; DAY COUNTY \$910.00; FAULK COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE \$6,030.00; GREAT PLAINS PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES \$4,891.53; HELMS & ASSOCIATES INC \$2,489.50; HORN LAW OFFICE PROF LLC \$649.50; HOUSTON ENGINEERING, INC. \$2,105.00; KRISTI SPITZER \$200.00; LEXISNEXIS RISK DATA MGMT INC. \$150.00; LTR INTERMEDIATE HOLDINGS, INC \$13,826.44; MATTHEW BENDER & CO INC \$132.43; MICHELLE GAIKOWSKI \$133.60; REGENCY MIDWEST VENTURES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP PROPE \$14,902.38; SARA ZAHN \$622.00; SD DEPT OF HEALTH \$2,695.00; Tazewell County Sheriff's Office - Civil Process Division \$20.50; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$275.05; ROLAND L. MOERKE \$444.10 Publishing: DAKOTA BROADCASTING, LLC \$1,400.00; Blade Empire Publishing Co., Inc. \$44.75; DAKOTA RADIO GROUP - JAMES RIVER BROADCASTING INC. \$1,568.00; GateHouse Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc. \$194.60; HUB CITY RADIO \$1,000.00; MIDCONTINENT COMMUNICATIONS \$6,620.00 Repairs & Maintenance: ABERDEEN AREA RADIATOR LLC \$15.00; ABERDEEN AUTO CENTER, INC. \$47.85; ARTZ EQUIPMENT \$52.10; B & B CONTRACTING INC \$14,933.71; BUTLER MACHINERY CO \$835.70; COMTECH INC. \$569.00; CRAWFORD M S & F INC \$662.67; CUSTOM SHEET METAL \$90.00; DAKOTA PUMP INC. \$8,508.69; DIESEL MACHINERY \$17,500.00; EPG COMPANIES, INC. \$622.35; HANTEN'S REPAIR \$29.24; HF JACOBS & SON CONSTRUCTION INC \$9,882.51; HOVEN AUTO REPAIR INC \$863.75; PANTORIUM CLEANERS INC. \$412.22; R.D. OFFUTT COMPANY \$25,016.05; SCHWAN WELDING \$3,368.10; SEWER DUCK INC \$2,577.50; STEVEN LUST AUTOMOTIVE \$118.93; TIMOTHY C. GARDNER \$91.00; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$1,728.53; TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$12,389.04 Supplies: 446-PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION, INC \$1,164.48; ABERDEEN AREA RADIATOR LLC \$195.00; ABERDEEN AUTO CENTER, INC. \$91.00; ABERDEEN PIT STOP \$5.19; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$1,345.09; AGTEGRA CO-OPERATIVE \$32,604.10; ARTZ EQUIPMENT \$687.38; Big State Industrial Supply Inc. \$238.80; CASH-WA DISTRIBUTING (KEARNEY) \$27.56; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$135.35; CHARM-TEX \$1,001.00; CITY OF GROTON \$231.12; COLE PAPERS \$6,532.03; CRAWFORD M S & F INC \$534.32; CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO \$17.65; DAKOTA OIL \$3,770.28; DAKOTA SUPPLY GROUP \$975.00; DETCO \$247.11; DIESEL MACHINERY \$925.00; FARNAMS GENUINE PARTS INC \$1,290.19; FASTENAL CO \$315.07; GOVCONNECTION INC \$2,443.95; HANTEN'S REPAIR \$182.83; KESSLERS \$165.31; MAC'S INC \$16.91; MENARDS \$279.64; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$27.02; PANTORIUM CLEANERS INC. \$84.00; PERFORMANCE OIL & LUBRICANTS \$75.66; PHARMCHEM \$599.55; PITNEY BOWES INC. \$126.00; PLUMBING & HEATING WHOLESALE, INC. \$3,154.64; PRECISION KIOSK TECHNOLOGIES \$2,700.00; RUNNINGS \$1,094.49; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$2,505.82; TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$2,916.64; TRI STATE WATER \$55.50; US FOODS \$8,724.65; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$1,785.86 Travel & Conference: CATHY MCNICKLE \$582.12; ROBERTA NICHOLS \$415.94; Rick Pigors \$97.29; C. SCOTT BADER \$1,023.30 Utilities: CITY OF ABERDEEN \$3,913.63; CITY OF HECLA \$103.14; DEPENDABLE SANITATION INC \$348.00; NORTHERN ELECTRIC COOP, INC \$376.36; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$2,300.81; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS \$1,300.44;

QWEST CORPORATION \$9.90 Rentals: ARAMARK UNIFORM & CAREER APPAREL GROUP, INC \$1,009.00; TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$941.39; 446-PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION, INC \$91.75 Others: SD DEPT OF ENVIROMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES \$10,137.31; SD DEPT OF REVENUE & REGULATIONS \$1,038.46. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to amend the presented HR report as approved below. Moved by Kippley, seconded by Feickert to approve the amended HR report listed. Acknowledge: Resignation of Madelyn Sumpston, Brown County 4-H intern; effective August 23, 2021. Resignation of Nico Jung, Brown County Fair Intern; effective August 21, 2021. Resignation of Andrew Coughlin, Brown County Fair Intern; effective August 23, 2021. Resignation of John Noyes, Brown County States Attorney Intern; effective August 6, 2021. Resignation of Jaydon Gross, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective September 1, 2021. Request to fill. Resignation of Brittany O'Day, Brown County States Attorney Victim Specialist; effective November 8, 2021. Resignation of Sonje Oban, Brown County Fair Office, full-time; effective September 24, 2021. Request to fill. Approve: Request to replace 1 part-time JDC correctional officers with 1 full-time JDC correctional officers. Jennifer Kolb, Brown County JDC Correctional Officer, full-time; wage correction \$17.51/hour; back date to August 23, 2021. Reclassify Fadia Champlain from Brown County JDC Assistant Supervisor to Brown County JDC Sergeant; effective July 27, 2021. Promotion of Elise Westfall from Brown County JDC CO to Brown County JDC Sergeant; starting wage \$20.83/hour; effective July 27, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASES: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve the following lease agreements: Tiffany Langer, LLC-DBA for 1 stage September 9, 2021; Roncalli School for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge September 26th, and October 3rd, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR BOARD RESIGNATION: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Kippley to acknowledge resignation of Kristen Gonsoir from the Brown County Fair Board. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DISCRETIONARY FORMULA RESOLUTION MODIFICATION: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to approve modification to resolution R71-2001, R35-20, R37-20, R12-21 for clerical modification. SDCL reference numbers have changed. Resolution function does not change, only SDCL references. SDCL 10-6-66 referred to SDCL 10-6-143, SDCL 10-6-67 referred to SDCL 10-6-144, SDCL 10-6-35.2 referred to SCL 10-6-137. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – nay, Sutton – absent, Wiese – aye, Kippley – aye, Fjeldheim – aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Kippley, seconded by Wiese to authorize Auditor to sign documentation to assign claim against an individual for Credit Collection Bureau for the purpose of collection liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Kippley to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:43 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor

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**Frederick School
Sept. 13, 2021**

Meeting Minutes

OFFICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS
FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2
SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

The meeting was called to order on September 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Richard Achen, Jon Ellwein, Eric Sumption and Alex Hart. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Koster and Business Manager Janel Hettich. The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Action 22-027 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, carried.

Action 22-028 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve consent agenda which included the following items as presented: minutes of meeting held August 9, 2021; August 2021 financial report, district bills and August 2021 payroll. All aye, carried.

Claims approved: August 2021 Payroll – General Fund salaries 61,498.32; Special Education salaries 6,813.55; Food Service salaries 499.71. EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 19,033.46; AFLAC, supplemental insurance

1,082.75; American Funds, retirement 1,335.26; Delta Dental, insurance 1,693.50; The Standard, life insurance 275.11; Security Benefits, retirement 1,085.26; Optilegra, vision insurance 391.38; Wellmark, health insurance 15,364.00; SD Retirement 11,151.84; SD Retirement Supplemental, 465.26. General Fund: Adema, Laura, election worker 180.30; Agtegra Beth Fertilizer, fuel 1,536.49; Amazon Capital Services, supplies 898.88; Anliker, Jennifer, education reimbursement 200.00; Arthurs, Crystal, education reimbursement 144.00; Bledsoe Chiropractic, DOT physical 90.00; Bruns, Diane,; election worker 194.16; Capital One Trade Credit/Mac's, football field fence 348.00; Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, concessions food 2,679.74; Cash-Wa Distributing of Kearney Inc, concessions food 234.88; Coca-Cola Bottling Company High Country, concessions supplies 768.30; Cole Papers Inc, supplies 1,431.70; Community Store, cardboard recycling 1,020.00; Cox, Mavis, election worker 174.00; Crawford Trucks & Equipment Inc, repairs 377.34; Custodial Account-FASD, Imprest reimbursement 3,135.28; Dakota Outdoors, fitness center repairs 842.99; Dakota Supply Group, supplies 893.66; Dallmann, Jennifer, education reimbursement 100.00; DRN, tech support 69.50; Dumire, James, repairs 2,205.00; Ellendale True Value, supplies 5.99; Farnam's Genuine Parts Inc, repairs 28.86; Foreman Sales & Service Inc, repairs 207.99; GDI News, election publication 352.35; Ham, Lisa, election worker 184.92;

Hoyle, Jennifer, education reimbursement 117.99; Innovative Office Solutions LLC, supplies 1,768.46; James Valley Telecommunications, telephone 252.49; Johnson Controls Inc, repairs 1,761.86; Kessler's, FCCLA meeting 63.90; Leola School District 44-2, weight room supervisor reimbursement 482.45; M-F Athletics, track equipment 492.00; Marttila-Losure, Heidi, election worker 167.88; Menards, repairs 264.15; Merchant Services, online lunch payment fees 7.95; Microsoft Store, image viewer 1.04; Mid-American Research Chemical, supplies 1,082.00; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co, electric 2,377.94; North Central Special Education Cooperative, cost share 5,500.00; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 148.35; Pepsi-Cola, concessions supplies 776.23; Savvas Learning Company LLC, workbooks 402.56; Schaunman, Kathy, election worker 184.92; Scholastic Inc, supplies 93.56; Scholastic Inc, supplies 102.81; School Specialty, LLC, supplies 49.38; South Dakota Department of Transportation, billboard fee 24.00; South Dakota Medicaid, admin fee 59.47; Sumption, Sarah, education reimbursement 221.71; Target, supplies 24.00; Teachers Pay Teachers, curriculum gift cards 555.00; Town of Frederick, utilities 825.54; United States Postal Service, postage 750.55; WalMart, supplies 131.25; Zinter, Tonya, education reimbursement 120.00 Total 37,113.77. Imprest checks: Beck, Bo, volleyball referee + mileage 107.68; Deutsch, Scott, football referee 125.00; Deutsch, Terry, football referee 125.00; First

National Bank, cash box for games 1,400.00; Foust, Paul, football referee 125.00; Gauer, Brad, football referee + mileage 242.60; Schmidt, Mike, football referee 125.00; VanMeter Entertainment, prom DJ 800.00; Wenbourne, Kerry, volleyball referee 85.00 Total 3,135.28. Capital Outlay Fund: A&B Business Solutions, managed print contract 693.96; Abebooks Inc, textbooks 67.46; Amazon Capital Services, library books 50.11; Cole Papers Inc, scrubber machine 7,197.18; Daktronics, scoreboard 18,400.00; Global Industrial, gym fans 698.62; JM Electric Inc, scoreboard 5,937.81; Lenovo, staff laptop sales tax credit (65.51); Menards, water pump 236.53; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co, poles for football field 948.11; SHI International Corp, licenses 195.30 Total 34,359.57. Special Education Fund: North Central Special Education Cooperative, cost share 8,774.71; Teachers Pay Teachers, curriculum gift cards 150.00; United States Postal Service, postage 12.50 Total 8,937.21. Food Service Fund: Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, food/supplies 6,484.41; Cash-Wa Distributing of Kearney Inc, food 115.53; Community Store, food 43.88; Heidzig, Dawn, lunch money refund 94.30; Johnson, Shauna, lunch money refund 35.25; Middleton, Alyssa, lunch money refund 10.30; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 36.44 Total 6,820.11. Custodial Fund: Amazon Capital Services, supplies reimbursed by students 120.54; Hettich, Janel, 2021-22 LRC Treasurer stipend 250.00; Innovative Office Solu-

tions LLC, supplies reimbursed by staff 19.55; Koster, Jeffrey, 2021-22 LRC Chairman stipend 250.00; Pizza Ranch, LRC meeting 101.20; United States Postal Service, LRC postage 36.00 Total 777.29.

Mr. Koster presented his Superintendent report. No Principal's report.

A canvass of the votes from the September 7, 2021 Opt Out election was completed.

Action 22-029 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to approve the following election results as the official canvass: Precinct 1 Frederick Community Center: Yes 50 votes, No 25 votes. Precinct 2 Westport Town Hall: Yes 44 votes, No 22 votes. The Opt Out of \$200,000.00 for three years was approved. All aye, carried.

In the September 7, 2021 Frederick Area School District Opt Out election, 141 registered voters of the Frederick Area School District voted in the election out of 710 registered voters. 20% of registered voters voted in the election.

Action 22-030 BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED THAT the School Board of the Frederick Area School District, after duly considering the proposed budget and its changes thereto, to be published in accordance with SDCL 13-11-2 hereby approves and adopts its proposed budget and changes thereto, to be its Annual Budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. There were no changes made to the published budget.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Frederick Area School District 6-2 does hereby authorize the County Auditor to spread

a tax levy upon the assessed valuation of the Frederick Area School District 6-2. Achen – yes; Hart – yes; Ellwein – yes; Sumption – yes; Schlosser – yes. Carried.

Action 22-031 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen offer contract to Chandler Cox for Strength/Conditioning Trainer. All aye, carried.

Action 22-032 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve the purchase of a new Thomas passenger bus from Foreman's Sales & Service using the Sourcewell contract. All aye, carried.

Action 22-033 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to approve items presented as surplus and approve items to be discarded. All aye, carried.

Action 22-034 Motion by Achen, second by Sumption to approve Open Enrollment applications #22-14, #22-15, and #22-16. All aye, carried.

Action 22-035 Motion by Hart, second by Achen to approve the updated Back to School Plan. All aye, carried.

The school board would like to thank all of those involved with the football field updates, including the six businesses that sponsored the new scoreboard and goal posts, as well as numerous individuals and businesses that donated their equipment, labor, expertise and time.

Action 22-036 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Janel Hettich, Business Manager

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$165.03. 20429

**Frederick Area School District
Statement of Cash Receipts, Cash Disbursements, Cash Balances and Payroll**

Ending Aug. 31, 2021	Capital Outlay Fund	Special Education Fund	Food Service Fund	Drivers Ed Fund	Governmental & Enterprise Fund Act. Totals	Custodial Fund	Ovid Stevens Scholarship Fund	Fiduciary Funds Account Totals
.....General Fund								
Beginning checking Balance	\$173,568.16	\$183,741.04	\$6,991.97	\$875.62	\$744,461.53	\$5,343.56	\$0.85	\$5,344.41
Receipts:								
Local Sources	\$458.00		\$770.00			\$730.45		
County Sources								
State Sources								
Federal Sources			\$3,465.22					
Interest						\$0.28		
Total Receipts	\$458.00	\$0.00	\$4,235.22	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$730.73	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disbursements								
Bills	\$59,277.23	\$281.65				\$3,885.58		
Payroll		\$11,137.94	\$1,490.24					
Total Disbursements	\$59,277.23	\$11,419.59	\$1,490.24	\$0.00	\$201,973.27	\$3,885.58	\$0.00	\$3,885.58
Total checking balance	\$114,748.93	\$172,321.45	\$9,736.95	\$875.62	\$630,732.66	\$2,188.71	\$0.85	\$2,189.56
Beginning investment balance	\$1,933,634.20	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,898,494.04		\$27,440.02	\$27,440.02
Interest								
Total investment balance	\$518,691.31	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,898,500.56		\$27,440.02	\$27,440.02
Ending Fund Balance	\$2,048,383.13	\$1,618,496.50	\$9,736.95	\$875.62	\$4,529,233.22	\$2,188.71	\$27,440.87	\$29,629.58

**Bates Township
Weed
Notice**

BATES TOWNSHIP WEED NOTICE:

OWNERS & TENANTS of Bates Township are hereby notified and required, according to law, to cut all weeds and grass in road ditches adjacent to their property or tenanted by them within Bates township on or before October 1, 2021 or same will be hired done by the township board and assessed property taxes at the rate of \$300 per half mile.

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 charged to the landowner. Landowner is responsible for spraying all noxious weeds.

Bates Township Board of Supervisors
Betty Geist
Township Clerk
(0922.0929)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$20.57. 20410

**Groton School
Sept. 27, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
September 27, 2021

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Flihs (via phone), Harder, Gengerke, and Weismantel. Absent: Pharis, Rix and Smith. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Harder, second Weismantel to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried. No new potential conflicts

disclosures pursuant to SDCL 23-3 were reported.

Members of the public are allowed five minutes to address the board on any topic of their choice. With no public members requesting to speak, the board proceeded with their agenda items.

Teachers Ray Adams, Greg Kjellsen and Jordan Kjellsen presented an overview of the MS/HS Mathematics programs. Shaun Wanner and Scott Thorson present MS/HS Social Studies.

The board continued discussion and necessary action on District response to COVID-19 issues including current case count of four students and Quidel QuickVue At-Home tests for families. No action was taken.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: Esser II applications, School Bus Extrication Drill, staff openings, flu shot clinics, civil rights data collection by the US Department of Education.

Weber reviewed budget changes since the annual meeting in July. Moved by Weismantel, second Harder to amend and approve the Groton Area School District 2021-22 budget published on July 15, 2021, as follows and authorize the business manager to file the tax request with the county auditors: Revenue – General Fund from \$5,194,569 to \$5,214,969, Capital Outlay from \$2,049,111 to \$2,083,361, Special Education from \$920,000 to \$921,900, Food Service from \$219,983 to \$222,683, Enterprise from \$73,255 to \$92,755 and Total Revenue from \$8,457,743 to \$8,535,993; Expenditures – General Fund from \$5,596,983 to \$5,665,813, Capital Outlay from \$1,986,690 to \$1,830,165, Special Education from \$990,570 to \$996,400, Food Service from \$255,669 to \$251,922, Enterprise from \$100,435 to \$100,704 and Total Expenditures from \$8,931,097 to \$8,845,754. Motion carried.

The board discussed education and training opportunities. Moved by Weismantel, second Harder to schedule Roles and Responsibilities Training through the Associated School Boards

of SD Gavel Program. Motion carried.

Schwan reported that both the Elementary and MS/HS food service departments scored a 100 out of 100 on the SD Department of Health Food Service Inspection held recently.

Gengerke appointed Weismantel as delegate to the 2021-22 ASBSD Delegate Assembly.

Schwan presented a list of potential Doney Field Improvement Committee Members. No action was taken.

Moved by Harder, second Flihs to adjourn at 8:57 pm. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager

Deborah Gengerke, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$33.50. 20430

**Groton City
Beverage License
Hearing**

Notice of Hearing upon Application for a Special Event Alcoholic Beverage License

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council on the 19th day of October, 2021 at 7:00pm at the Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, South Dakota will meet in regular session to consider a special event alcoholic beverage license for an Adult Painting Class at 120 N Main Street in the City of Groton, South Dakota on 10/21/21 and 11/18/21.

Any person interested in the approval or rejection of any such application may appear and be heard.

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 29th day of September, 2021.

Hope Block, Groton City Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$9.47. 20431

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Campus Visit Day
- ▲ NOVEMBER 5, 2021
Campus Visit Day
- ▲ DECEMBER 15, 2021
Career Exploration Event

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I help firefighters to reach people trapped by fire.

How do firefighters stay in top physical condition?

We protect the firefighter's head and feet.

Fighting Fires!

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Labor shortage and COVID-19 costs causing crisis in long-term care industry in South Dakota

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

Finding a safe, affordable and accessible nursing home or assisted-living center for sick or elderly South Dakotans has become more difficult in recent years but is getting harder than ever due to a shortage of facility workers and financial losses suffered amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

The labor shortage affecting businesses across South Dakota is hitting long-term care facilities particularly hard, with the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbating historic challenges in hiring workers at nursing homes and assisted-living centers.

The inability to fill open positions and keep up with patient care has led some facilities to turn away new residents even though most have open beds. The labor shortage has caused burnout of overworked employees and reduced the level of patient care at some facilities.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, long-term care facilities in South Dakota saw payrolls rise by almost \$30 million overall but lost about \$60 million in revenue due to reduced resident admissions, according to the South Dakota Health Care Association.

Faced with the need to raise wages and offer hiring bonuses to attract workers or hire expensive traveling nurses, some facilities already beset by high operating costs and thin profit margins could eventually close, making it harder than ever for families to find a home for their loved ones, industry experts say.



Nate Schema

"Access to care could look very different in the future if our funding mechanisms and funding infrastructure don't change in South Dakota," said Nate Schema, vice president of operations for the Evangelical Lutheran Good Samaritan Society, which operates long-term care facilities. "You're going to have to move your loved ones further and further away from the communities they may have called home for 50-plus years."

The workforce shortage has created new obstacles and worsened ongoing challenges for Good Samaritan, one of the largest long-term care providers in the nation. The group, based in Sioux Falls and now operating under

the umbrella of the Sanford Health Group, has more than 200 current job openings.

"It's stretching us and it's taxing us to a place we haven't been in quite some time," Schema said.

The inability to hire workers has forced Good Samaritan to turn away some prospective new residents, including at its 19 facilities in South Dakota, at a time when new revenues are greatly needed.

"We have had to limit some admissions in some communities in South Dakota and throughout our organization," Schema said. "There's no question that workforce pressures are creating additional pressures on our health-care entities and preventing them from keeping those doors swung wide open."

Schema said he is aware of about 70 long-term care facilities that have closed across the country in the past year and as many as 200 that were shuttered over the past two years. South Dakota saw a handful of facilities close in 2017-19, but has not had closures since.

Working in one of the 104 nursing homes or 163 assisted-living facilities in South Dakota can be gratifying but also grueling. Meeting the daily physical, mental and health needs of elderly or infirm residents has always been a tough job, but the positions have become more taxing during the COVID-19 pandemic as safety precautions have increased and the risk of illness for residents and employees remains nearly constant.

Meanwhile, the long-term care industry remains hampered by low wages.

Facilities in South Dakota have boosted wages slightly to attract more workers in the past six months, with registered nurse pay rising by 12%, and pay for licensed practical nurses and certified nursing assistants by about 7%, according to a recent survey by the state health care association.

However, that same survey found that the average pay for certified nursing assistants, the most common front-line, patient-care position in long-term care facilities, averages only \$14 an hour, or \$29,000 a year.

The low wage makes it difficult to hire CNAs when the job requires training and certification and McDonald's restaurants in Rapid City, for example, are offering no-experience-required crew positions starting at \$16 an hour.



Long-term care employees such as Tammy Lorius, activities director at the Five Counties Nursing Home in Lemmon, have worked hard to keep residents safe and happy during the COVID-19 pandemic by hosting birthday parties and other events. Photo: Courtesy Five Counties Nursing Home



Ryan Brinkerhoff

The mounting stress of caring for residents while almost constantly short-handed is putting severe pressure on existing employees and making it hard to retain them, further worsening the labor shortage, said Ryan Brinkerhoff, administrator of the Five Counties Nursing Home in Lemmon, S.D.

"They're tired and getting burned out; their quality of life is being affected," Brinkerhoff said. "I see it in their body language, and just looking at them, you can see the stress because they're always here and they don't get to recharge their batteries like they used to."

The position of evening nurse has been open for nearly a year at Five Counties, a publicly run nursing home with 45 beds that has five open positions in its workforce of about 45 employees.

Brinkerhoff has had to hire temporary nurses from a traveling nursing agency to maintain quality of care. A traveling nurse costs 50% more than a permanent employee and that expense has limited his ability to pay for some needs within the facility.

Brinkerhoff said he worries that the level of care of elderly or ill residents may have already decreased, or will soon, due to the labor shortage. But like other administrators, he has great praise for his staff and is in wonder at how hard they have worked in a crisis to keep residents safe and happy.

"I think in general, patient care has probably suffered," Brinkerhoff said. "But here it hasn't because my staff members are amazing and have stepped up and sacrificed a lot."

The recent pay hikes were needed to compete for workers, but that expense and an increase in overtime and incentive payments to new and existing employees came at a time when fewer people were entering long-term care facilities, according to the state health-care association.

Some prospective residents found other options as long-term care facilities endured significant COVID-19 outbreaks among residents and staff, while some facilities turned away new residents due to staffing shortages. Facility spending increased to accommodate 192 new patient safety regulations added during the pandemic, according to the South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations.

In rural areas, long-term care facilities have a limited pool of available workers and are also facing strong wage and benefit competition from other employers, Brinkerhoff said.

"If you want a job in Lemmon, you can have one tomorrow if you want, including here," he said. "If we have to continually pay higher wages to compete with the local gas station, if they up their wage to \$20 an hour to start, I'll have to compete with that but I'm just not sure how we could."

Openings abundant; workers hard to attract
Jobs in the long-term care industry are available almost anywhere



The Fountain Springs Healthcare Center in Rapid City, part of the EmPres Healthcare group, had 15 job openings listed on the company website in late September.

Photo: Bart Pfankuch, South Dakota News Watch

Continued from previous page

across the state and nation and at every skill level.

"You would be hard-pressed to find a nursing home or assisted-living center in South Dakota that isn't experiencing significant workforce challenges," wrote Mark B. Deak, director of the South Dakota Health Care Association, in an email to News Watch. "Workforce has long been a challenge in long term care, but it is more urgent and severe than ever, as our profession continues to be highly vigilant in protecting our vulnerable residents against COVID."

EmPres Healthcare Management, a Washington state-based firm that operates 82 properties in nine states, is one of many ownership groups offering signing bonuses of up to several thousand dollars for new hires, especially nurses.

On its website, the company lists 80 open jobs at its seven South Dakota facilities, including six openings in Flandreau, seven in Sturgis, nine in Britton, 11 in Mitchell, 13 in Woonsocket, 15 in Rapid City and 19 in Garretson. Jobs range from nursing to cooks to janitorial.

A national survey of long-term care providers, conducted by the American Health Care Association in September, revealed that nursing homes and assisted-living facilities are facing a crisis due to a lack of workforce.

The survey of nearly 1,200 facilities found that 99% of nursing homes and 96% of assisted-care providers were facing a staffing shortage, and that more than half of nursing homes are turning away new residents because they cannot hire enough workers.

The survey also showed that the shortage of workers had gotten worse in the past three months.

Almost every facility surveyed is asking existing employees to work overtime and about two-thirds of the facilities said they feared they could ultimately close if more workers don't apply or accept positions working in long-term care facilities.

The survey revealed that a lack of interest in working in the assisted-living field and pandemic-related extended unemployment benefits were the top two reasons people are not applying to work in the field. Lack of competitive wages, fear of catching COVID-19 and vaccination requirements of employers were other reasons people are not entering the field, the survey revealed.

"The survey reveals the severe workforce challenges long-term care providers are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic," AHCA CEO Mark Parkinson said in a news release. "Too many facilities are struggling to hire and retain staff that are needed to serve millions of vulnerable residents."

SOUTH DAKOTA LOWEST IN REGION FOR MEDICAID SUPPORT

South Dakota and other states pay a portion of the costs to house each Medicaid patient who lives in a nursing home or assisted-living center. The state Legislature decides how much to chip in, and in Fiscal Year 2020-2021, South Dakota had the lowest payment rate of all Great Plains states, causing nursing homes to lose money every day they house a resident on Medicaid, who make up more than half the total state nursing home population.

\$210.49 — Daily cost per Medicaid patient in S.D. nursing homes

MEDICAID PAYMENT RATE TO NURSING HOMES BY STATE

State:	Medicaid daily payment rate
South Dakota	\$158.54
Iowa	\$174.42
Wyoming	\$186.99
Nebraska	\$203.03
Montana	\$211.42
Minnesota	\$270.00

Source: South Dakota Association of Healthcare Organizations; Data from Fiscal Year 2020-21

At a daylong hiring event held across the Good Samaritan system on Sept. 15, administrators were able to fill about 110 job openings within the system that includes about 1,100 employees at 19 facilities in South Dakota, Schema said.

"Our approach has been that we want to roll out the red carpet

for folks," he said. "We want people to have an awesome experience the moment they touch our website or interact with any Good Samaritan or Sanford employee, and we want them to see this as more of a calling."

The recruiters also highlighted the fact that 90% of Good Samaritan residents and about 80% of employees are vaccinated, Schema said, further pointing out that Sanford Health will require all employees to be vaccinated by Nov. 1.

"There's still a percentage of employees or people out there who are just nervous about covid in general," Schema said. "But we're one of the safest occupations you could have right now."

Schema praised the level of commitment of existing employees in the long-term care industry.

"I'm just so proud of the resiliency and courage our staff has shown," Schema said. "To say it has been a grind is an absolute understatement about what team members have been through these past 18 months. I'm incredibly humbled to have served with them."

Funding model not sustainable for future

Long-term care facilities in South Dakota and across the country run on lean budgets that are funded by a mix of private-pay residents, residents with long-term care insurance and residents on government funding, mainly Medicaid.

South Dakota has a long history of funding the Medicaid program at a low rate compared with almost all other states. Long-term care consumes about 20% of the state's overall Medicaid expenditures, roughly \$185 million a year. The state has made some upward adjustments in recent years in how much it pays long-term care facilities for each Medicaid patient housed each day, yet the state Medicaid reimbursement rate does not come close to covering the cost of housing each Medicaid patient.

According to the state association of health-care organizations, the money long-term care facilities lose each day for each Medicaid patient housed has increased in the past three years, from \$47.14 lost per day in 2019 to \$51.95 lost per day in Fiscal Year 2020-2021.



Mark B. Deak

"We must continue to increase our low Medicaid reimbursement rates to allow for more competitive compensation for caregivers," Deak said.

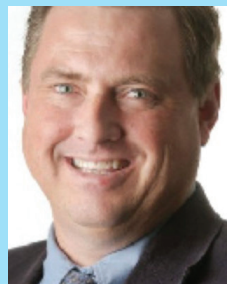
With limits on how much each individual resident can pay, health-care providers and association officials are increasingly worried about how, or where, elderly South Dakotans will be housed if the state and federal governments do not find a way to provide more financial support to the long-term care industry.

"In order to continue providing the quality care that our elderly and disabled residents expect and deserve, we must provide the necessary resources to our caregivers doing this important work," Deak said.

South Dakota pays long-term care facilities about \$158 per day for each Medicaid patient; for comparison, the rate is \$174 per day in Iowa, \$187 in Wyoming, \$203 in Nebraska, \$211 in Montana and \$270 in Minnesota, according to the association.

In South Dakota in 2020, about 54% of patients in long-term care facilities were on Medicaid, according to state Department of Social Services data.

ABOUT BART PFANKUCH
 Bart Pfankuch, Rapid City, S.D., is the content director for South Dakota News Watch. A Wisconsin native, he is a former editor of the Rapid City Journal and also worked at newspapers in Florida. Bart has spent more than 30 years as a reporter, editor and writing coach.



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EMPLOYMENT

Parish Secretary opening for Bethesda- Butler Lutheran Churches. Approximately 25-30 hours per month with the option of some work from home hours. Mail resume to Bethesda Lutheran Church, PO Box 426, Bristol, SD 57219 before October 1st. (0914.0928)

The Town of Frederick is hiring a part-time Assistant Utility Manager. If you are interested please call the Frederick office for more information . 605-329-2242. The Town of Frederick is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CITY FINANCE OFFICER: City of McLaughlin, SD is accepting applications for City Finance Officer. Responsibilities are set forth in SDCL Chapter 9-14. Primary job is chief accounting and financial officer providing accounting advice and counsel to the Mayor, Department Heads and City Council. Business Management, or closely related major with coursework and/or experience in governmental accounting preferred. Minimum of one year experience required with preference given for governmental accounting. Must be eligible for bonding. Excellent benefits package. Salary DOQ. Open until filled. Submit a letter of interest, detailed resume and application to: City of McLaughlin, Attention: Finance Office PO Box 169 McLaughlin, SD 57642.

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Football

Continued from front

did not disappoint. He was sacked five times and had two interceptions so Woods owes for seven large pizzas.

This was the 61st time that the two teams have played since 1964, according to Woods. Roncalli has won 44 times and Groton Area won it 17 times.

Roncalli took the opening kickoff, marched down the field, had six first downs and took seven and half minutes off the clock before scoring on a 35-yard pass from Jackson Isakson to Matthew Martinez. Isakson's PAT kick was no good.

A Groton turnover allowed the Cavaliers to set up the next score, but Roncalli had to kick a field goal on fourth down. Isakson kicked a 25 yard field goal with 11:17 left in the second quarter.

Then in a move that took the Cavalier defense off guard, Kaden Kurtz would escape the Cavalier defensive line and the race was on to the end zone with several Roncalli players chasing him down. Kurtz would wheel 75 yards and the Tigers were on the scoreboard with 10:59 left in the first half. Jackson Cogley missed his first PAT of the year and it was Roncalli with a 9-6 lead at half time.

"We changed some things up at halftime," Wanner said. "Our field position was terrible in the first half. Roncalli won a lot of games by getting good field position. I told the kids at half time that we have to get into better field position. We did so much better in the second half.

"We had run a different formation against Redfield, but then got away from it. I think it was Pierce (Kettering) that said 'why don't we run this against them.' We came out with it in the second half and Roncalli couldn't counter it. It was one of the kids' idea and it was a great idea. They often times see things on the field that we don't see from the sideline."

Groton Area would take the opening kickoff of the second half but would need only 92 seconds to hit pay dirt as Kaden Kurtz would score on a 28 yard run. The PAT kick was no good and Groton Area took a 12-9 lead.

In a big play from midfield, Favian Sanchez would break free and dash 46 yards down the field to score with 6:29 left in the third quarter. Cogley kicked the PAT and it was 19-9. "The kids got a lot of confidence when we got that 19-9 lead," Wanner said. "They have big hearts and I'm proud of them. This is one of the most intelligent groups I've had in a while. That's a big key to this team."

Groton Area would score again with 9:24 left in the game on a four yard run by Sanchez with Cogley kicking the PAT to make it 26-9.

"Our execution in the second half was by far the best we've had the season," Wanner said. "We have to give credit to our offensive line and our defensive line as well. It was a great win - we beat a good Roncalli program. We have a lot of respect for Roncalli when we play them."

Groton Area finished with 15 first downs, had 38 carries for 261 yards, completed seven of 11 passes for 67 yards with one interception, recovered its only fumble and had six penalties for 65 yards. Aberdeen Roncalli had 11 first downs, carried the ball 30 times for 94 yards, completed five of 14 passes for 46 yards and had one penalty for five yards. Abe Kretchman had 44 yards rushing while Maddox May had 29 and Phillip Zens had 17 yards. Matthew Martinez had 37 yards receiving. Kaden Clark led the tackles with 10 while Anthony Brunmair had seven and Martinez, Andrew Brennan and Jackson Isakson each had six tackles. Keegan Stewart had the interception.

Groton Area, now 5-1 on the season, will travel to Waubay to play Dakota Hills. Roncalli falls to 4-1.

"We have to keep playing hard and staying healthy," Wanner said. "The kids do a great job during the week preparing. It makes it easy for us to coach. No matter what the opponent's record is, we have to come ready to play."

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Mike-N-Jo's Body-N-Glass, TN Tax Business Solutions, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., Allied Climate Professionals with Kevin Nehls, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Groton Chiropractic Clinic, Dacotah Bank, Groton American Legion, Doug Abeln Seed Company and Blocker Construction. Bahr Spray Foam was the touchdown sponsor.

- Paul Kosel

Netters tame Cyclones in three sets

Groton Area's varsity volleyball team swept a three-set win over Clark-Willow Lake in action played Thursday in Clark.

Game scores were 25-19, 25-16 and 25-16.

Anna Fjeldheim had eight kills, three ace serves and two digs, Elizabeth Flihs had three ace serves, 10 digs and a kill, Sydney Leicht had 13 kills, 12 digs, a block and an ace serve; Alyssa Thaler had 14 digs and two ace serves, Trista Keith had a kill, Madeline Flihs had three digs, four kills, three solo and one assisted block; Allyssa Locke had three digs, Aspen Johnson had five kills and a block and Maddie Bjerke had a kill, two digs, a solo and an assisted block.

Clark-Willow Lake won the junior varsity match, 25-20 16-25 and 15-7. Anna Fjeldheim had four kills and two ace serves, Emma Schinkel had a kill, Faith Traphagen had three kills, a block and an ace serve; Carly Guthmiller had an ace serve; Lydia Meier had three kills and three ace serves; Laila Roberts and Shalyn Foertsch each had an ace serve and Hollie Frost had two kills and a block.

The C match was split with the Cyclones winning the first set, 25-21, and the Tigers winning the second set, 25-22.

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Fire Safety Matters!

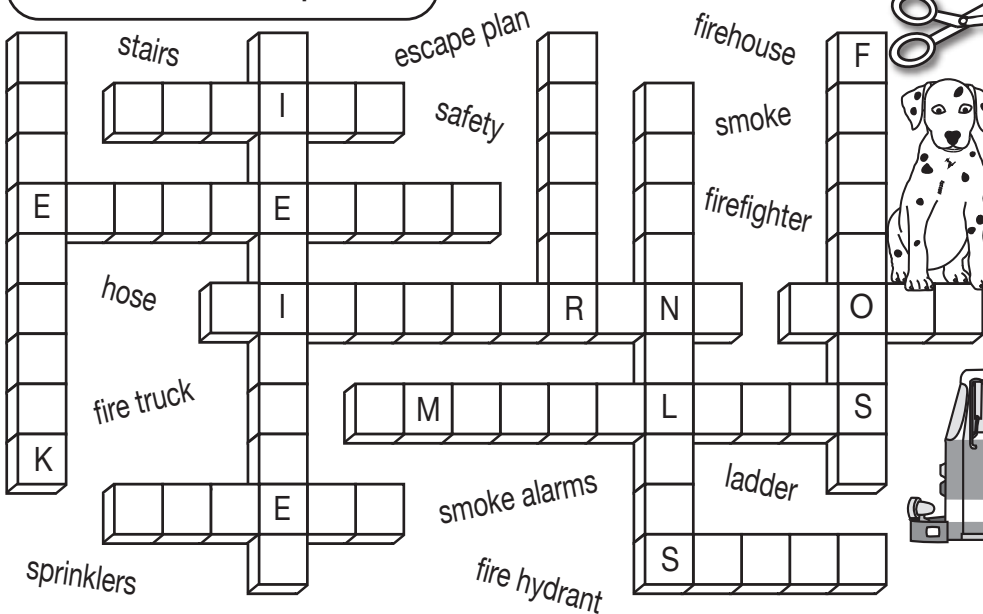


Read the words scattered about this puzzle. Use the letters already placed in the puzzle to help you fit the "fire" words into the puzzle.

Do you know any firefighters? Everyone likes to ask them about their jobs. It's fun to visit the firehouse or have firefighters come and speak at school. They like to talk about preventing fires and display pieces of their fire equipment. Three safety messages that firefighters share with students are:

- Get out of the house quickly if there is a fire.
- Call the fire department from a neighbor's house.
- If your clothes catch on fire, remember to

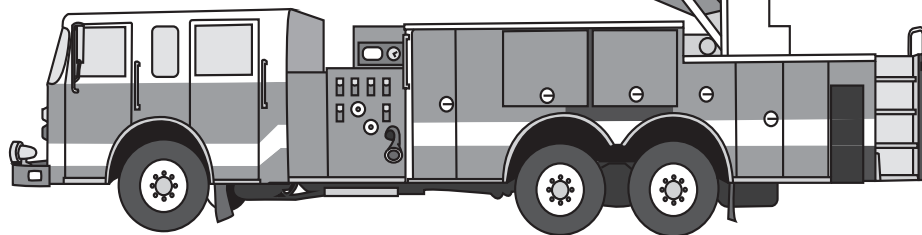
STOP, DROP AND ROLL!



Family Fire Safety Checklist

- Only cook in the **kitchen** when an adult is helping you.
- Don't touch matches, lighters or candles. They are for **adult** use only.
- Do you have smoke **detectors** on every level of your home? Test them monthly and change the batteries at least once a year.
- Do you know **two** or more ways out of the house?
- Never use elevators (**stairs** are much safer) if there is a fire.
- Smoke rises, so if there is a fire, stay low: **crawl** under the smoke.
- Have you picked a place to **meet** the rest of your family once you are all out of the house?
- Once you are out of the house, **stay out** of the house.

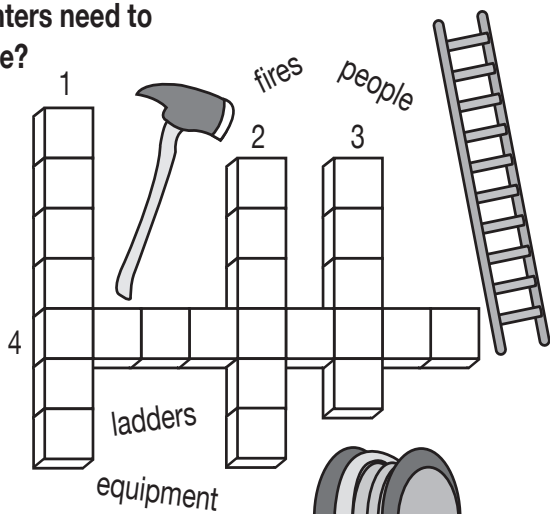
Cut out the list and talk with your family about each idea.



Why do you think firefighters need to keep in good physical shape?

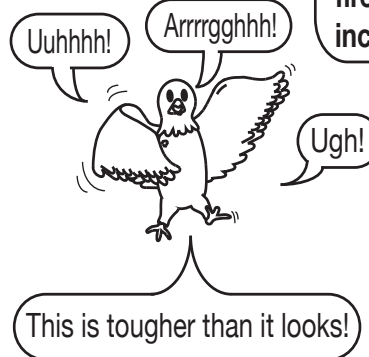
Because they:

1. climb _____
2. carry _____
3. fight _____
4. use heavy _____

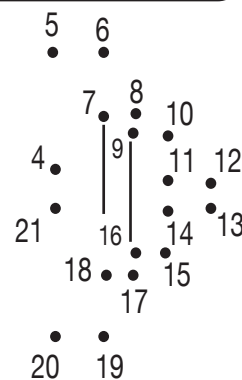


Firefighters Keep Us Safe!

The job of firefighters is dangerous and physically demanding. They always must be ready to fight fires and help at other emergencies, such as an explosion in a factory or a traffic accident. Firefighters need to stay in shape physically and be mentally alert at all times. They must be able to run, stand for a long periods, drive fire trucks and use heavy equipment to put out fires and keep people safe. **Follow the dots to see one tool that firefighters might use to increase arm strength.**



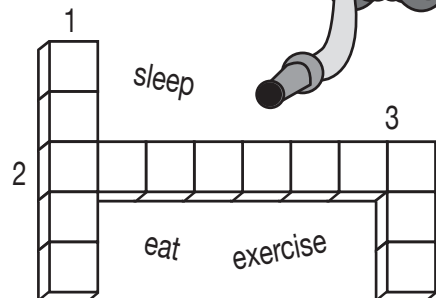
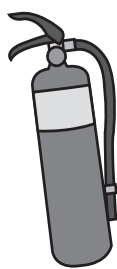
This is tougher than it looks!



How do firefighters stay in top physical condition?

They:

1. get enough _____
2. _____ every day
3. _____ a healthy diet

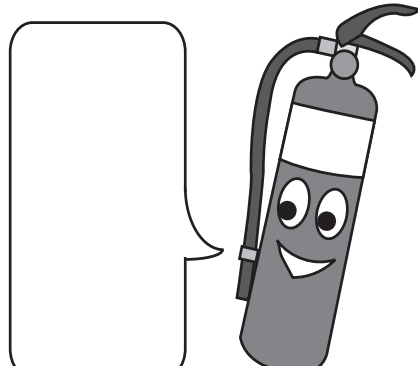
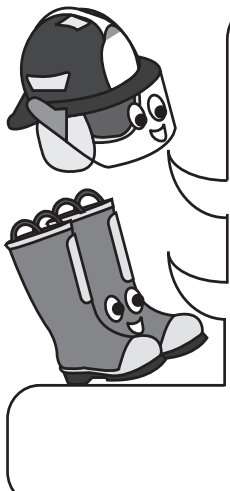


Fighting Fires!



Firefighters learn to use many different pieces of equipment to fight fires. **Finish these cartoons by filling in the "bubbles" with the explanation of the job each piece of equipment does.**

- "I help firefighters reach people trapped by fire."
- "We protect the firefighter's head and feet."
- "I spray foam to smother a fire."



EARTHTALK™



Lobster and crab fishermen says new NOAA rules to protect Atlantic Right Whales go too far; environmentalists say they don't go far enough. Credit: Lauren Packard, NOAA

Dear EarthTalk: Can the American lobster fishermen survive new restrictions on their activities thanks to the endangered species listing of the Atlantic Right Whale? -- A.N. Smith, Bourne, MA

For centuries, North Atlantic right whales were aggressively hunted for their meat and their oil, which was used to keep lamps lit and to make soap. These iconic 50-foot long dark blue and white whales were even named the "right" whale to hunt, as they were often found near the shore, can only swim slowly (six miles per hour), and float when killed. But by the early 1900s they had become a rare sight and in 1935 the League of Nations, a precursor to the United Nations, banned hunting them. But the population failed to rebound, and in 1970 the U.S. added the Northern right whale to its new Endangered Species List.

Despite these protections, only 400 remain, and human interactions still present the greatest threat, with entanglement in fishing gear and vessel strikes the leading causes of mortality. Since 2017, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) has documented 34 dead whales (21 in Canada; 13 in the U.S.), and 16 whales with serious injuries from entanglements or vessel strikes. In an attempt to conserve and rebuild the population, NOAA announced new regulations in August 2021 on the Maine lobster and Jonah crab industries, including the closure of large parts of the Gulf of Maine to lobstering between October and January and requiring more traps per trawl to reduce the overall number of lines in the water.

Not surprisingly, the fishing industry isn't happy. "This is incredulous," says Crystal Canney, executive director of Protect Maine's Fishing Heritage Foundation (PMFHF). "The whale deaths are not in Maine at the hands of Maine lobstermen...instead of saving right whales, what this decision has done is endanger not only the livelihoods of many of our lobstermen and women but also their lives," she adds.

The Maine Lobstermen's Association (MLA) is also apprehensive about the new regulations. In a statement, the group maintains that a historic number of right whales have died in Canadian waters over the past five years and yet Canada has not implemented protections comparable to the U.S. Furthermore, the latest scientific evidence points to a change in right whale migration patterns, away from Maine waters and into Canada and other areas. "According to NOAA Fisheries, the Maine lobster industry has not had a documented entanglement with a North Atlantic right whale in over 17 years and has never been known to kill or seriously injure a right whale," notes the MLA's Patrice McCarron. She adds that NOAA's new regulations are "just the first round of economic impacts" and that "future restrictions will likely destroy Maine's iconic lobster fishery."

Meanwhile, environmental advocacy group Oceana says the new rules don't go far enough, stressing that potentially fatal entanglements are still likely, particularly for juveniles, the fastest growing segment of the right whale population.

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Alcoholism...Start the Conversation

Alcoholism, and addiction overall, isn't a character flaw, or a weakness of self-control. It's a disease. And, if you are like most of us, you've probably been affected by it. Maybe you struggle with alcohol consumption yourself or have a friend or family member who does. I rarely talk with anyone who doesn't have a personal story about how addiction has affected their life.

In fact, about 14 million adults have an alcohol use disorder and there are about 95,000 alcohol related deaths every year in this country.

Unfortunately, we don't think of it like any other medical illness, so we don't usually talk to our primary care doctor about it. But that is one of the best places to start the conversation, during your yearly checkup, when you're talking about health goals it is okay to say, "I think I have a drinking problem."

Some of the warning signs to look for in yourself or a loved one include sacrificing family bonds for your addiction such as missing a child's ball game, concert, or graduation. Things that you were once passionate about fall by the wayside. You're fatigued and foggy; barely able to get up in the morning. You have cravings for the substance. You're counting down the time until you can get off work and have a drink. You are in danger of losing your job or important relationships, or you've gotten in trouble with the law. You tell yourself and others that you could easily quit and will; but you never do.

By starting the conversation, you will have a clearer path toward the help you need. Your doctor can guide you to outpatient counseling or support groups, or perhaps treatment at a facility.

There is overlap between behavioral health and addiction in terms of risk factors. Much like behavioral health, addiction has an approximate 60 percent genetic heritability. Mental health conditions and a history of trauma put you at greater risk of addiction. And like so many health conditions the earlier you start the worse the disease. Those who begin drinking before age 15 have a five times greater risk of developing an alcohol use disorder.

I've spent my career talking about and treating addiction. I see that the conversation is changing, and I'm heartened by it. There is a rising social consciousness about addiction. More and more we're willing to have candid and productive conversations about it.

The next time your doctor asks you about alcohol consumption, take that as a prompt to have an honest conversation.

Matthew Stanley, D.O., a psychiatrist in Sioux Falls, South Dakota is a contributing Prairie Doc® columnist and guest host this week on the Prairie Doc® television show. For free and easy access to the entire Prairie Doc® library, visit www.prairedoc.org and follow Prairie Doc® on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show streaming on Facebook and broadcast on SDBP most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



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