



Groton Area Snow Queen Winners

Christina Zoellner, daughter of Bill Zoellner, was chosen as the Senior Snow Queen winner. Gretchen Dinger, daughter of Elizabeth Bahr and Emily and Weston Dinger, was chosen as the Junior Snow Queen winner. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Kaitlyn O'Neill, the Groton 2015 Snow Queen and the current reigning Miss South Dakota, was a special guest. She tried out for the Miss South Dakota five times and this was her final year of trying out and she got it.



Here are the candidates and winners from the 2022 Groton Area Snow Queen Contest. Left to right they are Julianna Kosel, Trinity Smith, Miss Groton and Miss Congeniality Christian Zoellner, Gretchen Dinner, Junior Snow Queen winner; Emma Kutter, junior first runner-up; Kala Lehr, Emily Overacker and Ashley Johnson. In front is Snow Prince Jagger Penning, son of Brad and Janel Penning; and Snow Princess Baylin Taylor, daughter of Ross and Amanda Taylor. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Cadance Tullis won the senior talent contest.



Ashtyn Bahr competed in the senior talent contest.



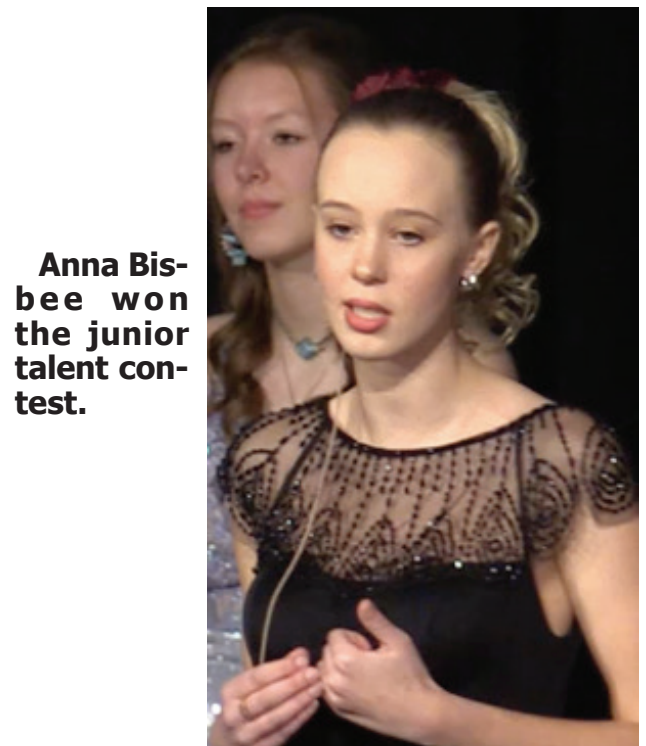
Camryn Kurtz competed in the senior talent contest.



Julianna Kosel competed in the senior talent contest.



Jordan Kjellsen was the master of ceremony.



Anna Bisbee won the junior talent contest.

Kyrie Yeigh competed in the junior talent contest.



Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The battle of the north returned in week 11. The Green Bay Packer fans, so in awe of the Jim Marshall "Odin" opening video, were thankful they were inside as the cold westerly winds blew hard through the Twin Cities. Instead, they enjoyed the comforts of modern technology and were treated to another epic showdown between two longtime rivals.

The Vikings beat the Packers on a last-second Greg Joseph field goal, 34-31, and notched their 500th win in franchise history.

The winning formula for the Vikings this season goes through Justin Jefferson. When JJ catches seven or more passes, the Vikings are 5-0. Today he finishes with eight catches for 169 yards and two touchdowns.

After four seasons with the Vikings, Kirk Cousins is beginning to realize that, to win, he must take advantage of the dynamic offensive weapons at his disposal. He finished with 341 yards and 3 touchdowns, Adam Thielen finished with eight catches and a touchdown, and Dalvin Cook ran for 86 yards and a touchdown.

The Vikings had a great day on offense, but big leads don't matter much when Aaron Rodgers is on the other side of the field. He keeps the Packers in every game and Sunday was no different, as he finished with 385 yards and four touchdowns. After the Vikings took a seven-point lead with just over two minutes

left in the game, Rodgers needed just one play to hit Valdez-Scantling for a 75-yard touchdown to tie the game. Ironically, the 385 yard game was the most yards Rodgers has ever passed for in a losing effort to the Vikings. Rumors have it that this may have been his last road game against the Vikings in the Packer green and yellow.

Key takeaways from today's game.

1. Free safety Xavier Woods was exposed all day with missed tackles and gave up the two big scores to Valdez-Scantling and Davante Adams. After two impressive weeks by rookie Cam Bynum while filling in for Harrison Smith, Mike Zimmer will have some decisions to make going into next week on who will start along side the all pro safety.

2. The Vikings are becoming much more aggressive offensively but took a knee at the end to burn up the clock and not give Rodgers any chance to do his magic. Great coaching decision by Clint Kubiak. The play calling today was what the Viking fans have been clamoring for all season long- get the ball downfield to all of your weapons.

3. Coming into today's game, normally the talk is about the high octane offense of the Packers but in the past three games it was all about their defense, giving up just 34 points. The Vikings amassed that output in just four quarters.

4. This was the first divisional road loss for Matt LaFleur as head coach of the Packers over the past 4 years.

5. After missing an extra point early in the game, Mike Zimmer entrusted Joseph to end the game with a 29-yard field goal to seal the victory. Prince's "Let's Go Crazy" rang out through US Bank Stadium and the Go Pack Go chants would not be heard from again for another season.

Looking forward to next week

The Vikings take on a revitalized San Francisco 49er's team on the road next Sunday. The Niners are 5-5 but struggle at home with a 1-4 record. They have won 2 in a row, an impressive win over the Rams on Monday night and an easy road win over the Jaguars this past weekend. Jimmy Garoppolo seemed to be on the hot-seat at the beginning of the year but has secured the starting role over first round pick, Trey Lance from NDSU.

Trouble with tonsils

Editor's note: Our understanding is that Tony was injured in a scrum over the giblets at Thanksgiving dinner but is resting comfortably and we expect him to be back with a new column next week. Here's one from 2011.



That's Life

by Tony Bender

It had been going on since December—a recurring case of strep throat, that India couldn't shake despite round after round of antibiotics. We'd knock it down, it would rear back up. India spent most of her time around the house with a tissue dangling from one persistently runny nostril. The choice was simple. We could start buying antibiotics by the vat or India could have a tonsillectomy.

I am not sure why humans come with non-essential parts like tonsils, adenoids, wisdom teeth, appendixes, gizzards and ear hair other than that without them surgeons would have smaller flat screen televisions. The entire flat screen television industry would be in peril if not for strep throat. The economy is a delicate thing.

We told India that the operation would be "no big deal" because that is what everyone says. But they always fail to include the last part of the sentence, which is "compared to being run over by a bus."

Dylan, who has had a similar history of throat ailments, overheard a discussion wondering if we shouldn't consider having his tonsils, which are the size of footballs, out too, our reasoning being that "we had met our deductible." That is how medicine in America works. The way we saw it, it was almost like a free surgery. You'd be silly to pass up a deal like that. We have not seen Dylan since. There are rumors he is spending the summer with his cousins in Wahpeton, a dangerous gambit in my eyes because Dylan's aunt, Mean Arlene, is a legendary hypochondriac and four-time AMA Mother of the Year. They have met their deductible so often, they have become close friends. She makes the kids wash in Amoxicillin before lunch, and there is not a tonsil left in the house.

We visited India in the recovery room after the surgery, and not long after so did Dr. Stenger, who she had made promise to show her the tonsils and adenoids before he sent them off either to the lab or to Iceland, where they are considered a delicacy. As you can imagine, viewing these bloody pink organs was quite traumatic and required a sedative. But I'm all right now. You're talking to a guy who fainted in the dental chair just from hearing the plan for removing my wisdom teeth. I woke up thinking, "Thank God, that's over," only to learn that they were going to have to put me down again—this time with an actual anesthetic.

According to our insurance policy, all tonsillectomy victims are "to be thrown into the street" before the day has elapsed, or as I understand it, someone back at corporate headquarters of the insurance company turns into a pumpkin. And if you think that's rough, there was a woman with a hip replacement down the hall they made dance within the first 24 hours. That explains why you sometimes hear Chubby Checker playing in the halls of Post-Op.

Indy's challenge was to eat a whole green Popsicle before she could go home, but the poor girl's throat was too sore. After consulting with the admissions desk and learning that we might be responsible for any additional days in the room at \$895 a pop, I offered India \$50 bucks to eat that Popsicle. When the going gets tough, the tough start bribing.

After six days, she has graduated from liquids to muffins and applesauce, but she still isn't talking, resorting to a notebook or email to communicate. From a girl who has been known to text her parents from the back seat of the car, this is nothing new.

Now that I am an expert in the field of tonsil extraction, you are probably wondering, "Tony, should I consider having my tonsils out?" But offering medical advice through a column would be highly irresponsible, so all I am going to say is that you should consider all of those hard-working flat screen TV makers and their families. Not to mention the green Popsicle industry. And those hungry people in Iceland. What have they

ever done to you? Nothing. They're just people like you and me trying to get by.

Besides, you've probably already met your deductible.

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UpComing Events

Wed-Fri., Nov. 24-26: No School - Thanksgiving Vacation

Thursday, Nov. 25

Community Thanksgiving Dinner, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Groton Community Center

Tuesday, Nov. 30

Groton Novice Debate
JH GBB hosting Clark/Willow Lake (7th at 6 p.m. with 8th to follow)

James Valley Telecommunications Holiday Open House 10am-4pm

Wednesday, Dec. 1

8:30 a.m. to Noon: ACT Practice Test

Thursday, Dec. 2

LifeTouch Pictures Retake at Elementary, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.

8:30 a.m. to Noon: ACT Practice Test

JH GBB at Northwestern (7th at 6:30 p.m. followed by 8th)

Friday, Dec. 3

State Oral Interp at Huron

8:30 a.m. to Noon: ACT Practice Test

Saturday, Dec. 4

State Oral Interp at Huron

10 a.m.: JH GBB Jamboree in Groton

10 a.m.: Wrestling Invite at Clark-Willow Lake
Olive Grove Tour of Homes

Monday, Dec. 6

4 p.m.: School Board planning/work session
JH GBB hosts Langford. 7th at 6 p.m. with 8th to follow

Tuesday, Dec. 7

GBB at Flandreau Indian. JV at 5 p.m. with varsity to follow

JHGBB at Tiospa Zina (7th at 4 p.m. with 8th to follow)

Thursday, Dec. 9

7 p.m.: MS/HS Christmas Concert

Friday, Dec. 10

GBB hosts Britton-Hecla. JV at 6 p.m. with Varsity to follow

Saturday, Dec. 11

Santa Claus Day at Professional Management Services 9am-Noon

Groton Prairie Mixed

Nov. 18 Team Standings: Chipmunks 8, Cheetahs 7, Foxes 7, Coyotes 6, Shih Tzus 5, Jackelopes 3

Men's High Games: Roger Spanier 257, Lance Frohling 202, Brody Sombke 197

Women's High Games: Sue Stanley 237, Nicole Kassube 175, Darci Spanier 170

Men's High Series: Roger Spanier 588, Lance Frohling 582, Tony Madsen 521

Women's High Series: Sue Stanley 508, Nicole Kassube 444, Karen Spanier 413

Kesterson advances to Chief Petty Officer at Pinning Ceremony

Karyn Babcock attended her son's, Wesley Kesterson, US Navy Chief pinning on ceremony on Friday. Chief Petty Officer Kesterson is stationed at NAS Lemoore CA with his wife Marilene and two sons Logan and Aiden. Both Logan and Aiden attended the Groton Area Elementary school last spring.



Karyn with Wesley

Photo Courtesy Bruce Babcock

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The following rates are for Classifieds published in both the Groton Daily Independent and the Groton Independent. Cut rate in half if you just want it in the GDI or just the weekly.

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter

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Groton City 2022 Appropriation Ordinance

2022 APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the city of Groton that the following sums are appropriated to meet the obligations of the municipality.

GENERAL FUND	Gross Rec. Tax (BBB)	Airport Fund	Debt Service	TOTAL
Governmental Funds				
410 General Government				
411 Legislative	28,880.00			28,880.00
411.5 Contingency	50,000.00			50,000.00
412 Executive	9,310.00			9,310.00
413 Elections	1,710.00			1,710.00
414 Financial Administration	379,970.00			379,970.00
419 Other	37,900.00			37,900.00
Total General Government	\$507,770.00			\$507,770.00
420 Public Safety				
421 Police	399,340.00			399,340.00
429 Other Inspection	500.00			500.00
Total Public Safety	\$399,840.00			\$399,840.00
430 Public Works				
431 Highways and Streets	405,250.00			405,250.00
432 Weed Control	4,600.00			4,600.00
435 Airport		35,400.00		35,400.00
437 Cemeteries	13,100.00			13,100.00
439 Transit	2,500.00			2,500.00
Total Public Works	\$425,450.00	\$35,400.00		\$460,850.00
440 Health and Welfare				
441 Health	6,125.00			6,125.00
Total Health and Welfare	\$6,125.00			\$6,125.00
450 Culture and Recreation				
451 Recreation:				
Skating	7,580.00			
Soccer				
Swimming Pool	373,300.00			
Basketball	300.00			
Tennis	300.00			
Baseball	127,520.00			
452 Parks	10,620.00			10,620.00
455 Libraries	12,000.00			12,000.00
456 Community Center	4,500.00			4,500.00
Total Culture and Recreation	\$536,120.00			\$536,120.00
465 Economic Development and Assistance	14,470.00			14,470.00
Total Conservation and Development	\$14,470.00			\$14,470.00
470 Debt Service Refinance				
471 Principal			15,000.00	15,000.00
472 Interest			87,500.00	87,500.00
Total Debt Service			\$102,500.00	\$102,500.00
480 Intergovernmental Expenditures				
490 Miscellaneous				
499 Liquor licenses	50.00			50.00
Total Miscellaneous	\$50.00			\$50.00
510 Other Financing Uses				
511 Operating Transfer--Out				
Total 2022 Appropriations	\$1,889,825.00	\$35,400.00	\$102,500.00	\$2,027,725.00
Total Appropriations and Accumulations	\$1,889,825.00	\$35,400.00	\$102,500.00	\$2,027,725.00

Note 1: The amounts shown here should not reflect accumulations to-date nor should it reflect the total to be accumulated. It should only report the amount to be accumulated in the budget year that you are working on.

Part II (9-22-1)
(9-21-19)
(9-21-20)

The following designates the fund or funds that money derived from the following sources is applied to.

Unassigned Fund Balance	Taxes	Licenses and Permits	Intergovernmental Revenue	Charges for Goods and Services	Fines and Forfeits	Miscellaneous Revenue	Other Sources	Total Means of Finance
	1,303,500.00	20,100.00	84,289.00	129,755.00	300.00	15,600.00	419,181.00	\$1,972,725.00

	Electric	Water	Sewer	Solid Waste
Beginning Unrestricted Cash	500,000	25,000.00	25,000.00	10,000.00
Estimated Revenue	1,814,000	323,430.00	201,300.00	95,500.00
Other Financing Sources				
TOTAL AVAILABLE	2,314,000.00	348,430.00	226,300.00	105,500.00
Less Appropriations (Expenses)	1,780,650.00	251,520.00	175,420.00	93,000.00
Less Debt Service			46,210.00	
Less Transfer Out				
ESTIMATED NET POSITION RETAINED	\$533,350.00	\$96,910.00	\$4,670.00	\$12,500.00

The finance officer is directed to certify the following dollar amount of tax levies made in this ordinance to the County Auditor. The amount of tax levy request is \$497,773, and the amount of opt our request is \$230,000. The total request being \$727,773.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
First Reading: 11/2/21
Second Reading: 11/16/21
Publish Date: 11/24/21
Effective Date: 12/14/21
Published one time at the approximate cost of \$204.00. 20563

Brown County Nov. 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 16, 2021 – GENERAL MEETING
Meeting called to order by Commission Chair Fjeldheim at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Feickert, Sutton, Wiese and Kippley. Commissioner Fjeldheim led the Pledge of Allegiance.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the agenda. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.
SECOND READING & ADOPTION ORDINANCE 205 (Medical Cannabis): Moved by Sutton seconded by Kippley to adopt Ordinance 205, an ordinance amending Title 4, second revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to issue medical cannabis establishment permits and/or licenses. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert- aye, Sutton-aye, Wiese-aye, Kippley-aye, Fjeldheim-aye. Ordinance adopted.
SPRAYING WEEDS IN EDMUNDS COUNTY: Chris Hemen, Brown County Weed & Pest Supervisor met with the Commission to discuss about Edmunds County asking for assistance in spraying weeds on their ditches. The Board suggested to ask Edmunds if we can do just the east portion of the county. A possibility of needing a seasonal worker in the future was also being discussed. No actions taken.
MINUTES: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of November 9, 2021. All members

present voting aye. Motion carried.
CLAIMS & PAYROLL: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims: Professional Fees: ASSOCIATION OF SD COUNTY WEED & PEST BOARDS \$60.00; CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIONAL LLC \$1,075.80; COGLEY LAW OFFICE, PROF LLC \$53.53; DAY COUNTY \$12,180.00; KRISTI SPITZER \$600.00; LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES INC \$1,260.19; NE MENTAL HEALTH CENTER \$1,248.00; SANFORD HEALTH OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE ABERDEEN \$480.00; SARA ZAHN \$846.24; STEVEN LUST AUTOMOTIVE \$120.80; TITAN MACHINERY, INC - ABERDEEN CASE IH \$193.80. Supplies: ABERDEEN PIT STOP \$5.19; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$1,046.85; ADVANCED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS, INC. \$10,444.80; AGTEGRA COOPERATIVE \$135.92; ARLIN ZOELLNER \$1,040.00; DIAMOND MOWERS INC \$1,635.94; GRAHAM TIRE INC \$1,114.64; JEBRO INC. \$1,240.00; KAR-

EN SWANK \$34.00; KESSLERS \$144.59; KIRBY K. KIESZ \$390.10; LEIDHOLDT TOOL SALES, LLC \$54.11; MENARDS \$38.50; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$26.81; POMPS TIRE SERVICE, INC \$24.90; RUNNINGS \$1,232.43; SHARE CORP \$764.00; TITAN MACHINERY, INC - ABERDEEN CASE IH \$523.38; TRUENORTH STEEL \$357.62; WEB WATER BOTTLING COMPANY \$7.50; ZASTROW'S SALES & SERVICE \$66.70. Travel & Conference: SCOTT KOLB \$219.90; Kellie Kolb \$84.00; REGENCY MIDWEST VENTURES LIMITED PARTNERSHIP \$98.00. Utilities: CITY OF ABERDEEN \$95.01; CITY OF HECLA \$116.59; ECONOMY PROPANE LLC \$650.00; NORTHERN ELECTRIC COOP, INC \$823.65; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$1,296.29; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS \$1,916.44; STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA \$1,212.14; TOWN OF FREDERICK \$76.00; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES LLC \$160.04. Rentals: SEWER DUCK INC \$175.00. Others: BROWN COUNTY TREASURER \$4,452.11; SD ASSOC. OF COUNTY OFFICIALS \$3,105.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.
HR REPORT: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to approve the following HR report: Acknowledge resignation of Amanda Aragon, full-time Brown County Deputy Treasurer effective November 19, 2021. Request to fill. Acknowledge resignation of Tyler Richards, full-time Brown County Jail Correctional Officer effective November 9, 2021. Request to fill. Acknowledge resignation of Amy Lake-Harmon, full-time Brown

County Jail Administrative Assistant effective November 19, 2021. Request to fill. Approve appointing of Mariann Malsom as Chief Deputy Register of Deeds effective November 15, 2021 @ \$24.62/hour. Approve hiring of Lynn Zacher as Brown County Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant effective November 15, 2021 @ \$16.00/hour. Approve transfer of Erin Spencer from Brown County Communication to Brown County Sheriff effective December 6, 2021. Request to fill. Approve transfer of Rachel Wilson from Brown County Sheriff's Office Administrative Assistant to Brown County JDC Admin Sergeant effective November 15, 2021. All members present voting aye, Motion carried.
FAIR BOARD APPOINTMENTS: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Sutton to approve the following Fair Board appointment: Catherine Friesen, Joni Napton & Katie Moulsoff, each for a 3-year term. Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert- aye, Sutton-aye, Wiese-aye, Kippley-abstain, Fjeldheim-aye. Motion carried.
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Wiese, seconded by Sutton to go into executive session to discuss personnel and legal per SDCL 1-25-2(1,3). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared executive session closed with no action taken.
ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:45 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.
Jeannette McClain, Brown County Deputy Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$59.65. 20564

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Frederick School Nov. 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL BOARD PROCEEDINGS
FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2

NOVEMBER 10, 2021

The meeting was called to order on November 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Members present were Richard Achen, Jon Ellwein and Eric Sumption. Alex Hart was excused. Others present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Koster, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg 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 22-043 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to approve the agenda as amended: replace #10 with Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 (2) student matter; move #10 and #11 to #11 and #12. All aye, carried.

Action 22-044 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to approve consent agenda which included the following items as presented: minutes of meeting held October 11, 2021; October 2021 financial report, district bills and October 2021 payroll. All aye, carried.

Claims approved: October 2021 Payroll – General Fund salaries 98,130.47; Special Education salaries 15,031.53; Food Service salaries 3,750.23; EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 31,090.15; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,105.29; American Funds, retirement 1,473.14; Delta Dental, insurance 1,768.08; The Standard, life insurance 282.55; Security Benefits, retirement 1,241.70; Optilegra, vision insurance 452.98; Wellmark, health insurance 16,334.00; SD Retirement 16,970.60; SD Retirement Supplemental, 496.70. General Fund: Aberdeen Awards, plaques 60.00; Agtegra Bath Fertilizer, fuel 5,272.77; Amazon Capital Services, supplies 282.19; Barondeau, Janelle, coach training reimbursement 37.50; Casey's, gasoline 32.79; Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, Fresh Fruits & Vegetables 1,025.88; Cole Papers Inc, supplies 1,546.54; Comfort Inn and Suites, state cc meet travel 903.00; Crawford Trucks & Equipment Inc, repairs 169.77; Custodial Account-FASD, Imprest reimbursement 1,488.04; Dakota Outdoors, fitness center repairs 857.97; Demco Inc, library supplies 94.65; Duenwald, Dan, asbestos inspection 400.00; Eide Bailly LLP, audit 9,425.00; Estelline School District, Region Cross country share 102.15; Foreman Sales & Service Inc, repairs 746.25; Fundraising Manager, music fundraiser 5,405.62; Hauff Mid America Sports, supplies 33.80; Hoffman, Nathan, bus driving

431.25; Holiday Station Stores, gasoline 34.20; Innovative Office Solutions LLC, supplies 102.56; Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP, fire system repairs 1,459.00; Johnson Controls Inc, service agreement 12,436.35; Jostens Inc, yearbooks 960.00; Ketterling Photography, sports photos 135.00; Menards, supplies 83.92; Merchant Services, fees 32.85; Mid-American Research Chemical, supplies 1,174.28; Midstates Group, track banner 38.00; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co, electric 3,052.73; My Place Hotel, travel 154.00; Nelson Nursery Inc, music fundraiser 2,815.85; O'Reilly Auto Parts, repairs 61.36; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 271.75; Pauer Sound & Music Inc, repairs 162.12; Region IV FCCLA, 2021 FCCLA Region meeting 257.00; Riddell/All American Sports Corp, football practice jerseys 648.70; Ringgenberg, Jessica, education reimbursement 120.00; Running Supply Inc, repairs 51.96; Sam's Club, membership 100.00; School Specialty, LLC, supplies 76.46; Taylor Music Inc, instrument repairs 30.00; Town of Frederick, utilities 655.42; United States Postal Service, postage 8.85; Visa....., fees 58.67; Ware, Leesa, bus driving 120.00; Warner School District, 2021 Oral Interp Region Share 65.36 Total 53,481.56. Imprest checks: Aberdeen Central Debate, oral interp 30.00; Clark School District, oral interp regions 144.04; Dumire, James, repairs 240.00; First National Bank, state CC meals 1,020.00; Groton Area School District, marching band

festival 25.00; Warner School District, HASBO meeting 17.00; Wolsey-Wessington School District, oral interp entry fees 12.00 Total 1,488.04. Capital Outlay Fund: A&B Business Solutions, managed print contract 693.96; Amazon Capital Services, library books 327.81; Innovative Office Solutions LLC, art room tables/stools 17,885.88; Johnson Controls Inc, HVAC controls update 3,791.28; Northern State University, digital textbooks 85.18 Total 22,784.11. Special Education Fund: Amazon Capital Services, classroom supplies 73.87; Avera St Luke's, therapy services 2,662.20; Geffre, Wendy, mileage 109.20; University of South Dakota, autism education course 30.00 Total 2,875.27. Food Service Fund: Amazon Capital Services, supplies 23.98; Cash-Wa Distributing Co of Fargo, LLC, food/supplies 5,322.32; Cash-Wa Distributing of Kearney Inc, food/supplies 549.48; Child & Adult Nutrition, food 190.43; Community Store, food 15.92; Pantorium Cleaners Inc, supplies 65.00 Total 6,167.13 Custodial Fund: Bauer, Dave, LRC CC meet starter 100.00; Scholastic Book Fairs – 30, book fair (money in/money out) 1,372.60 Total 1,472.60.

Mr. Koster, Mrs. Ringgenberg and Ms. Hettich presented reports.

Mr. Koster presented information to the Board regarding the recent addition of Fastpitch Softball as a sanctioned sport by the SDHSAA, effective the 2022-2023 school year.

Action 22-045 Motion by

Sumption, second by Achen to approve items presented as surplus and approve items to be discarded. All aye, carried.

Mr. Koster, Mrs. Ringgenberg and Ms. Hettich presented information to the board regarding adding a preschool program administered by the district. No action taken.

Action 22-046 Motion by Sumption, second by Achen to enter Executive Session per SDCL 1-25-2 (2) student matters at 8:10 p.m. All aye, carried.

President Schlosser declared board out of Executive Session at 8:26 p.m.

The school board would like to congratulate the following students: Cross Country athletes and coaches for their performance at the State meet: Boys team – 6th place; Morgan Sumption – 8th place and Milo Sumption – 19th place; Oral Interpretation regional competition qualifiers Katelyn Mehlhaff – individual, Katelyn Mehlhaff/Darin McLaugh – duet, Kierah Nickelson – alternate; Wil Nordine and Mason Hinz were selected for the All Conference Football team; and Roncalli MathCounts contest winners Titus Kippley – 4th place in 7th grade division and team of Erik Losure, Milo Sumption, Winston Clark and Kalyce Achen – 3rd place in 8th grade division.

Action 22-047 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. All aye, carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Janel Hettich,

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$145.29. 20568

Brown County Commission Vacancy

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO FILL VACANCY ON BROWN COUNTY COMMISSION. The Brown County Commission provides this notice of its intention to fill a vacancy on the Brown County Commission. The vacancy will be filled by appointment of a qualified person for Brown County Commission, at large. Any person interested in the appointment to the Brown County Commission must be a registered voter of Brown County. Any person interested in the appointment must file a letter of interest with the Brown County Auditor, by 5:00 p.m. on December 3, 2021. The letter of interest should include the following information: a. Reason(s) of interest in the appointment; b. The applicant's perceived community priorities; c. The applicant's commitment to attend weekly meetings; and d. The applicant's board experience, if any. Questions may be directed to the Brown County Auditor at (605) 626-7110 or Cathy.McNickle@BrownCounty.SD.Gov

Attest: Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
(1117.1124)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 20552

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

Ending October 31, 2021	General Fund	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
Beginning checking balance	\$184,012.93	\$108,889.36	\$143,300.32	(\$352.15)	\$875.62	\$436,726.08	\$4,990.07	\$0.85	\$5,344.41
Local Sources	\$3,573.00	\$10,385.39		\$864.00					
County Sources	\$12,513.72	\$6,938.15	\$3,216.37						
State Sources	\$80,560.00								
Federal Sources	\$728.00			\$13,263.3					
Interest	\$19.58						\$0.39		
Total Receipts	\$97,394.30	\$17,323.54	\$3,216.37	\$14,127.36	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,526.71	\$0.00	\$0.00
Disbursements									
Bills	\$26,416.97	\$29,498.76	\$3,215.40	\$7,229.72			\$2,960.64		
Payroll	\$159,595.06		\$22,645.43	\$5,886.93					
Total Disbursements	\$186,012.03	\$29,498.76	\$25,860.83	\$13,116.65	\$0.00	\$254,488.27	\$2,960.64	\$0.00	\$2,960.64
Transfer from investments	\$250,000.00								
Total Net Transfers	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$250,000.00
Total checking balance	\$345,395.20	\$96,714.14	\$120,655.86	\$658.56	\$875.62	\$564,299.38	\$7,556.14	\$0.85	\$7,556.99
Beginning investment balance	\$520,989.27	\$1,933,634.20	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,900,798.52		\$27,440.02	\$27,440.02
Interest	\$695.92								
Transfer to checking	(\$250,000.00)								
Total investment balance	\$271,685.19	\$1,933,634.20	\$1,446,175.05			\$3,651,494.44		\$27,440.02	\$27,440.02
Ending Fund Balance	\$617,080.39	\$2,030,348.34	\$1,566,830.91	\$658.56	\$875.62	\$4,215,793.82	\$7,556.14	\$27,440.87	\$34,997.01

Groton City Nov. 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

November 16, 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, Bahr, Babcock, Wells, Flihs and Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Paul Kosel, Todd Gay, Ken Hier, Terry Herron and Finance Officer Hope Block.

Todd Gay let the board know that the Journeyman Apprentice should have six more months of credit on his training and wages, and requested that credit be voted on at the next council meeting.

Kosel and Gay will attend Heartland's Winter Conference November 18th in Flandreau on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Wells. All members voted aye.

Hier introduced the Change Order #3 and Pay Request #6 and 7 for AB Contracting. Moved by Bahr and seconded by Wells to approve Change Order #3 Final for AB Contracting. All members voted aye. Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock to table Pay Request #7 to AB Contracting for \$20,588.24. All members voted aye. Reconsideration for Pay Request #11 Final for Maguire Iron was tabled on a motion by Flihs and seconded by Blackmun. Bahr abstained from voting and the remaining members voted aye.

Second reading of Ordinance #756 2022 Appropriations was approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock. All members voted aye.

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 Wells and seconded by Bahr. All members voted aye. Moved by Flihs and seconded by Babcock to authorize the

following bills for payment. All members voted aye.

Payroll, \$22,077.21, Employee salaries; Executive, ; Administrative, \$3,819.55; Public Safety, \$7,771.84; Public Works, \$10,485.82; Culture & Recreation, ; Dacotah Bank, \$7,546.04, SS and WH; Dacotah Bank, \$545.82, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$690.00, Employee savings; Accounts Management, \$720.00, Payroll garnishment; City of Aberdeen, \$20.00, NEFOG meeting registration fees; Greg's Repair, \$156.04, Spark plugs, tire repair, check engine light; USPS, \$247.32, Utility billing postage; Todd Gay, \$28.00, Lunch reimbursement; Landon Johnson, \$28.00, Lunch reimbursement; April Abeln, \$58.74, Med flex and mileage reimbursement; Club House, \$591.20, Lodging for safety meeting; Kellie Locke, \$22.40, Mileage reimbursement; James Valley, \$628.60, Utilities; Cole Papers, \$65.57, Soap; Heartland Waste, \$8,545.50, Garbage hauling; IMEG, \$520.00, Water tower and improvements post construction; Dakota Pump and Control, \$1,102.04, Service call installed pump; ULINE, \$624.03, Rugs; Ferguson, \$236.30, Street patch; Irby, \$39.00, Bolts; DGR Engineering, \$89.50, Midco fiber review; Groton Ford, \$2,054.51, Bucket truck fuel filter, AC repair; Ken's Food, \$553.97, Fuel; MJs, \$1,111.23, Fuel; Ecolab, \$106.00, Pest control; Western Area Power, \$20,201.92, Power 10/21; A&B Solutions, \$455.14, Copier rent; Aramark, \$43.20, Rug rent; Heartland Consumer Power, \$26,990.61, Power 10/21; House of Glass, \$332.57, Community center handicapped door repair; Equipment Blades, \$853.16, Blades; Darrel's Sinclair, \$156.95, Water pickup battery; Groton Vet Clinic, \$35.55, Gloves; Badger Meter, \$19.58, Cellular service; Paul Kosel, \$231.84, Mileage and meal reimbursement; Hope Block, \$251.84, Mileage and meal reimbursement; Global Rental Co, \$3,727.50, Rental of bucket truck - taxes; Vermeer, \$10,000.00, Vac rental; Associated Supply, \$162.46, Lifeguard chair wheels; Dwight Zerr, \$116.82, Med flex; S&S Lumber, \$223.50, Floor dry, concrete, nails, chain, gloves,

screws; US Bank, \$600.00, Agent fees for bonds

The October finance report was approved on a motion by Blackmun and seconded by Bahr. All members voted aye.

Finance Officer confirmed that Police Chief Stacy Mayou approved the liquor license renewals. Moved by Bahr and seconded by Flihs to approve liquor license renewals. All members voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Babcock to approve interns to come to City Hall and the Wage Memorial Library January through May 2022. All members voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Blackmun to approve the first reading of Ordinance #757 – Updated Ordinances as of 2022. All members voted aye.

Moved by Flihs and seconded by Babcock to donate the council pay from the Residential Development Meeting to the Family Crisis fund. All member voted aye.

Moved by Blackmun and seconded by Wells to give \$100, \$75 and \$50 away for a holiday lighting contest December 11th. All members voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Blackmun to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1- 25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:46pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:31pm.

Moved by Flihs and seconded by Wells to hire the following employees for seasonal employment at the skating rink:

Manager: Kelsie Frost, attendants: Shalyn Foertsch, Emma Schinkel, Carly Guthmiller, Ashley Johnson, Cadence Feist, and Karsyn Jangula.

The following employees' wages will be \$10 per hour for attendants and \$10.60 per hour plus \$250 per month for the manager. All members voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Bahr to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 pm. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Hope Block, Finance Officer
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$57.89. 20565

Brown County Notice of Fact of Adoption

Notice of Fact of Adoption:

Ordinance 205

Notice is given that Brown County Commission adopted Ordinance 205, an ordinance amending title 4, second revision Brown County ordinances, as amended to issue medical cannabis establishment permits and/or licenses. A public hearing was held November 16, 2021 at 8:46a.m. in the County Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex. Recommendation for adoption was made and Ordinance 205 was adopted November 16, 2021 and is effective twenty days after publication of this notice. A copy can be obtained from the Brown County Auditor. Attest: Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor.

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$8.82. 20566

Brown County Fire Safety Ordinance

BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS - NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - ORDINANCE #206 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 18 FIRE SAFETY, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES, The Board of Brown County Commissioners will hold a public hearing on Tuesday November 30, 2021, at 8:46 a.m. at the Brown County Courthouse, Commission Chambers located at 25 Market St, Aberdeen, SD. All interested persons are encouraged to attend in person and comment on Ordinance #206; An ordinance amending title 18 Fire Safety, second revision Brown County Ordinances. After the public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners may have first reading of Ordinance #206 by title and set a 2nd reading date. The public is invited to attend the hearing and present comments and testimony regarding the amendment to Second Revision Brown County Ordinances pertaining to title 18 Fire Safety.

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor.

(1117.1124)
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$22.92. 20553


Claremont Town Nov. 9, 2021 Meeting Minutes

The board of trustees for the town of Claremont met on 11-9-2021 at 7:00 p.m. in city hall. Johnson called the meeting to order with trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. Others present were Karen Schafers of Helms and associates and Matt and Jennifer Traylor. On a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen the minutes of the October meeting were approved. On a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer the following warrants were approved. General: James Valley, telecommunications, 91.50; Dacotah Bank city hall loan, 573.55; Brown County

treasurer, mosquito, 1163.99; Grand Slam Comp., computer backup, 99.00; GDI, publishing, 20.86; SDML, comp fund, 444.00; NWE, lights/ city hall, 371.90; Charla Rye, HP XL 63 ink printer, 85.37; Charla Rye, wage, 350.00; WSSW: SD Public Health Lab, water sampling, 30.00; BDM, water purchased, 1233.00; Helms and Associates, grants/sewer, 22,610.50; NWE, water power, 51.13; NWE, sewer power, 58.58. Rural Development, water loan, 576.00. On a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer the change order #5 was approved. (Sewer project) Matt and Jennifer were present with concerns of the condition of a neighboring yard. A letter was sent to owner and will contact city attorney to go further with this mess. With no further business before the board a motion to adjourn was made by Johnson and seconded by Spencer.

C. Rye F.O.
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$16.16. 20567

*Wishing you the gift of faith
and the blessing of hope this
thanksgiving day!*



**Drew Johnson
Law Firm
Aberdeen**

The Life of Larry Wheeting



The funeral service for Larry L. Wheeting, 81, of Groton, SD was held Monday, November 22, 2021, at Groton United Methodist Church, Groton. Pastor Brandon Dunham officiated. Burial followed at Bath Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Larry died Wednesday, November 17, at Avantara Nursing Home in Groton, following a long battle with Lewy Body Dementia.

Larry Lee Wheeting was born February 8, 1940 to John and Doris (Jones) Wheeting in Aberdeen, SD. Larry spent most of his childhood on the family farm north of Bath and attended Bath School. He graduated with the class of 1958 and

attended Northern State College for a short period.

Larry was united in marriage to Sharon Hofer on November 21, 1958. They lived the early years of marriage mainly at Bath, SD. They had three children while living at Bath: Teresa, Cheryl and John. Larry and Sharon moved to Fargo in May of 1980 and later moved to Yankton, SD. They moved back to Aberdeen/Groton area in 1990. Weekends when kids were at home were spent with friends and family showing horses throughout North and South Dakota. Later in life, he enjoyed owning race horses and following their training and watching them race. Larry cherished these memories.

Larry and his father started Wheeting Farm Service in 1960, specializing in liquid fertilizer sales and application. In 1963, Wheeting Farm Service sold to South Dakota Wheat Growers, where Larry served as Feed and Seed Division Manager until 1979. Larry then went to work for Interstate Seed in Fargo, ND. This opportunity allowed him to travel throughout North America, Europe, and Japan. Larry became General Manager at Yankton Farmers Cooperative in 1986 and moved to Yankton, SD. In 1990 they moved back to Groton area where he ran his own seed business, most recently LW Sales, Inc. He specialized in small grains for cover crop and the bird food industry. He was proud that his son, John, and granddaughter Meagan continued the business upon his retirement in 2018. Larry had many long-term friendships made throughout his years of working in agriculture.

Larry was a past president of the Brown County Fair Board and the South Dakota Seed Trade Association. He served on the South Dakota Board for the Blind and Visually Impaired. He enjoyed serving the Groton Community on the Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, and Lions. He served for many years as a 4-H leader in Brown County.

Grateful for having shared Larry's life are his wife Sharon Wheeting, of Groton, his children: Teresa Kaye Sharp, deceased, Cheryl (Randy) Walker of Wall, SD, John (Chris) Wheeting of Groton. Additional surviving family includes his sisters, Gayle Aamold of Hartford, SD and Karna (Frank) Smith of Dallas, TX, his in-laws, Ed (Margaret) Hofer of Bath, SD and Patricia (Ted) Corley of Payson, AZ, cousins, Dennis, Ron, and Lucian Jones and Marion Miller of Colorado Springs, CO.

Larry and Sharon had 10 grandchildren: Riley (Lacey) Walker of Clarksville, TN, Tyler (Angela) Walker of Caputa, SD, Kirstin (Ben) Sweet of Bridger, MT, Meagan (Dylan) Stearns of Oakes, ND, Karri (Clay) Sweet of Billings, MT, Todd (Jaci) Sharp of Billings, MT, Amanda (Ryan) Kjerstad of Wall, SD, Lauren Wheeting of Groton, Abbie (Dustin) Robinson of Sioux Falls, Carly Wheeting of Aberdeen. They had 21 great-grandchildren.

Larry was preceded in death by his parents John and Doris, daughter Teresa, in-laws, Everett and Marjorie Hofer and niece Lisa Hofer.

Memorials will be forwarded to Groton Area School Backpack Program and Lions Club Global Vision Program.

The Life of Robert "Bob" Meister



Funeral services for Robert "Bob" Meister, 78, of Groton were held Saturday, November 20, 2021 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton. Pastor Kari Foss officiated. Burial followed in Union Cemetery under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel.

Bob passed away November 16, 2021 at Bethesda Home of Aberdeen.

Robert was born on December 12, 1942 in Groton to Erwin and Georgia (Gibbs) Meister. He attended school in Groton, graduating in 1961. Bob was united in marriage with Shirley Stolsmark on August 8, 1965 in Langford. He was employed with Servall Linens for many years before beginning a career at James

Valley Telecommunications in August of 1983. Bob worked primarily as a lineman prior to his retirement in December of 2006. Over the years, he and Shirley also flipped 13 homes in Groton.

Bob was a member of Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Groton. He also served on the Lion's Club and was a 36 1/2 year volunteer with the Groton Fire Department. Bob enjoyed collecting all things John Deere and attending auction sales.

Celebrating his life is his wife, Shirley of Groton, his four children, Sherri Profeta (Fred Hockhalter) of Groton, Rhonda (Steve) Foote of Loveland, CO, Randy (Kelli) Meister of Aberdeen, Amber (Jeff) Miller of Las Vegas, NV, ten grandchildren: Justin (Katlyn) Perkins, Jordan Perkins (Ana Medrano), Madison (Phil) Vornhagen, Kate Profeta, Nicole (Jared) Embury, Alex (Kaitlynn) Foote, Riley Meister, Reece Meister, Ryker Meister and Ava Miller. He is also survived by great-grandchildren: Hallie Perkins, Hayden Perkins, the Medrano family, Charlotte Foote and siblings Ila (Darrell) Jesme, Mervyn (Linda) Meister, Maxine Haywood and Terry (Bette) Meister.

Preceding him in death were his parents, two infant children, Randy & Rodney Meister and siblings, Jackie, Jodean, Marian, Burnice, Jerald, Donnie, Charles, Dale, James and Denny.

Honorary Casketbearers were Members of the Groton Fire Department.

Casketbearers were Bob's Grandsons.

Memorials may be directed to Groton Fire & Rescue, PO Box 352, Groton, SD 57445 or the Aberdeen Bethesda Foundation, 1224 S. High Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401.

November Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4-H Club

The Friendly Fellows and Daisies 4-H Club met on November 14, 2021, in Claremont. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Blake Pauli. American Pledge was led by Parker Zoellner. The 4-H Pledge was led by Kella Tracy. Roll call topic was name your favorite Thanksgiving food. There were thank yous from 4-H members read by communications officer Hailey Pauli. The treasurer's report was read by Logan Ringgenberg and was approved by Ashlynn Warrington and 2nd by Kella Tracy. There were no additions or improvements. The Secretaries report was read by Logan Warrington and approved by Parker Zoellner and 2nd by Hailey Pauli. For old business, we talked about the recognition event. Logan Warrington made a motion to close old business and it was seconded by Walker Zoellner. For new business the club read the Newshound and talked about planning the Christmas program, donating money to the Tim Gonsoir fund, and 4-H fundraisers. Trey Smith made a motion to donate money to the Tim Gonsoir fund and it was seconded by Logan Warrington. New business was closed by Logan Ringgenberg and 2nd by Hudson Eichler. The meeting was adjourned by Ashlynn Warrington and 2nd by Hailey Pauli. Lunch was served by the Warrington family. Demonstrations were given by Ashlynn Warrington on "How to thread a needle". The club members worked on Christmas gifts for the elderly after the meeting.

Submitted by Walker Zoellner, Club Reporter

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Conde National League

Nov. 15 Team Standings: Mets 29, Tigers 22, Cubs 20, Pirates 18, Braves 16, Giants 15
Men's High Games: Ryan Bethke 214; Russ Bethke 201, 187; Chad Furney 179
Men's High Series: Russ Bethke 547, Ryan Bethke 536, Dalton Locke 429
Women's High Games: Michelle Johnson 205, 169; Vickie Kramp 169; Amanda Morehouse 158
Women's High Series: Michelle Johnson 515, Vickie Kramp 453, Nancy Radke 422

Groton Prairie Mixed

Nov. 11 Team Standings: Chipmunks 6, Foxes 5, Shih Tzus 4, Coyotes 4, Cheetahs 4, Jackelopes 1
Men's High Games: Mike Siegler 202, Ron Belden 194, Brody Sombke 185
Women's High Games: Sue Stanley 169, Lori Wiley 158, Amanda Morehouse 157
Men's High Series: Mike Siegler 535, Ron Belden 491, Brad Waage 477
Women's High Series: Sue Stanley 447, Amanda Morehouse 414, Lori Wiley 404

Groton Area School District 2021 First Quarter Honor Roll

Seniors

4.0 GPA: Allyssa Locke, Pierce Kettering, Kansas Kroll, Alyssa Thaler, Madeline Fliehs, Trista Keith, Travis Townsend, Madisen Bjerke, Hannah Gustafson, Kennedy Anderson, Jordan Bjerke, Jackson Cogley, Seth Johnson

3.99-3.50: Megan Fliehs, Julianna Kosel, Landon Kokales, Lane Krueger, Jace Kroll, Kody Lehr, Andrea Davidson, Kaden Kurtz, Riley Leicht, Michal Tabke, Emilie Thurston, Brayden Hansen, Macine McGannon, Favian Sanchez-Gonzalez, Jayden Zak, Cassaundra Schultz, Christaina Zoellner, Ryder Daly

3.49-3.00: Brooklyn Imrie, Evin Nehls, Rease Jandel, Trinity Smith, Kelsie Frost, Trey Johnson, Marcos Garcia

Juniors

4.0 GPA: Ethan Clark, Jackson Dinger, Jacob Lewandowski, Caleb Hanten, Cole Simon, Elliana Weismantel, Andrew Marzahn, Brooke Gengerke, Kaleb Antonsen, Aspen Johnson

3.99-3.50: Cole Bisbee, Carter Barse, Gracie Traphagen, Tate Larson, Cadance Tullis, Cade Larson, Shallyn Foertsch, Shaylee Peterson

3.49-3.00: KayLynn Overacker, Porter Johnson, Sierra Ehresmann, Kaleb Hoover, Kamryn Fliehs, Tannor McGannon, Nathalia Garcia, Brenna Carda, Tyson Parrow

Sophomores

4.0 GPA: Emily Clark, Claire Heinrich, Camryn Kurtz, Jaycie Lier, Hannah Monson

3.99-3.50: Cadence Feist, Holden Sippel, Ashlyn Sperry, Dillion Abeln, Faith Fliehs, Lydia Meier, Kyleigh Englund, Jackson Garstecki, Sara Menzia, Abigail Jensen, Bradin Althoff, Anna Fjeldheim, Lexi Osterman, Shea Jandel, Anna Bisbee, Lane Tietz

3.49-3.00: Sydney Leicht, Logan Ringgenberg, Emma Schinkel, Karsyn Jangula, Colby Dunker, Ava Wienk

Freshmen

4.0 GPA: Gretchen Dinger, Elizabeth Fliehs, Payton Mitchell, Faith Traphagen, Axel Warrington

3.99-3.50: Blake Pauli, Corbin Weismantel, Emma Kutter, Laila Roberts, Kaden Kampa, Jeslyn Kosel, Brooklyn Hansen, Kellen Antonsen, Aiden Heathcote, Karrah-Jo Johnson, Kayla Lehr, Kennedy Hansen, Korbin Kucker, Easten Ekern, Emily Overacker, Rebecca Poor, Kianna Sander

3.49-3.00: Quintyn Bedford, Blake Dennert, Savannah Bible, Christian Ehresmann, Karlie McKane, Emma Bahr, Riley Carman, Carter Simon, Brevin Fliehs, Turner Thompson, Kyssa Manning, Logan Pearson, Ashley Johnson, Kayleigh McGannon

Eighth Graders

4.0 GPA: Carly Gilbert, Nathan Unzen

3.99-3.50: Mia Crank, Jerica Locke, Jaedyn Penning, Gage Sippel, Talli Wright, Benjamin Hoeft, Natalia Warrington, Ryder Johnson, De Eh Tha Say, Logan Warrington, Lucas Carda, London Bahr, Karsten Fliehs, Raelee Lilly, Olivia Stiegelmeier, Keegen Tracy, Karter Moody, Cali Tollifson, Rylee Dunker

3.49-3.00: Lincoln Krause, Hannah Sandness, Paisley Mitchell, Garrett Schultz, Cambria Bonn, Jayden Schwan, Breslyn Jeschke, Noah Theisen

Seventh Graders

4.0 GPA: Teagan Hanten, Carlee Johnson, Emerlee Jones, Brody Lord, Ashlynn Warrington

3.99-3.50: Kira Clocksene, Colt Williamson, Liby Althoff, Aiden Strom, Avery Crank, McKenna Tietz, Halee Harder, Blake Lord

3.49-3.00: Zander Harry, Hailey Pauli, Gavin Kroll, Dylan McGannon, Claire Schuelke, Addison Hoffman Wipf, Jackson Hopfinger, Taryn Traphagen, Kella Tracy, Walker Zoellner, Leah Jones, Hayden Zoellner, Maggie Cleveland, Dylan Alexander Lopez Marin

Sixth Graders

4.0 GPA: Makenna Krause, Thomas Schuster

3.99-3.50: Elizabeth Cole, Sydney Locke, Jace Johnson, Kyleigh Kroll, Chesney Weber, Easton Weber, Wyatt Wambach, Addison Hoeft, Layne Johnson, Ethan Kroll, Kason Oswald

3.49-3.00: John Bisbee, Ryelle Gilbert, Taryn Thompson, Destin Pardick, Dee Eh June Say, Ryder Schelle, Aimee Heilman, Rylie Rose,

Kamryn Bickel, Trinity Dallaire, Thomas Aalseth



Groton Area Middle School/High School November Students of the Month
From back left: Carlee Johnson (7th), Mya Feser (6th), Lydia Meier (10th), Emma Kutter (9th)
From front left: Nathan Unzen (8th), Travis Townsend (12th), Jacob Lewandowski (11th)

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

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

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



2021 Junior Snow Queen Lydia Meier



2021 Senior Snow Queen Tiara DeHoet

Cheer someone up!
Send a balloon
Groton Daily Independent
21 N Main
605-397-NEWS (6397)
Delivery in the Groton area



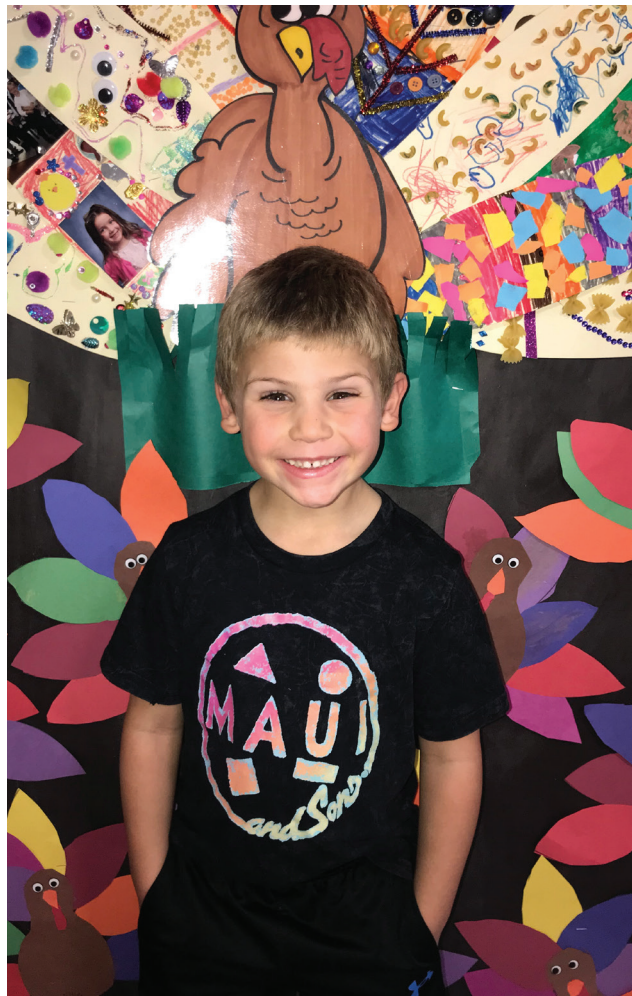
Happy Thanksgiving! May the autumn glow and delicious harvest of the season bring you happiness and prosperity!

ML Real Estate
 Merry Lone, Broker
 605-590-0000
 Charlotte Andres, Broker Associate
 605-229-9888
 Bristol

Sometimes, life can put us in troubled situations and sadness. However, giving thanks no matter the situation links us directly to God and the angels. So take time to appreciate the craziness that life comes with and our lives will be filled with more joy. Happy Thanksgiving from

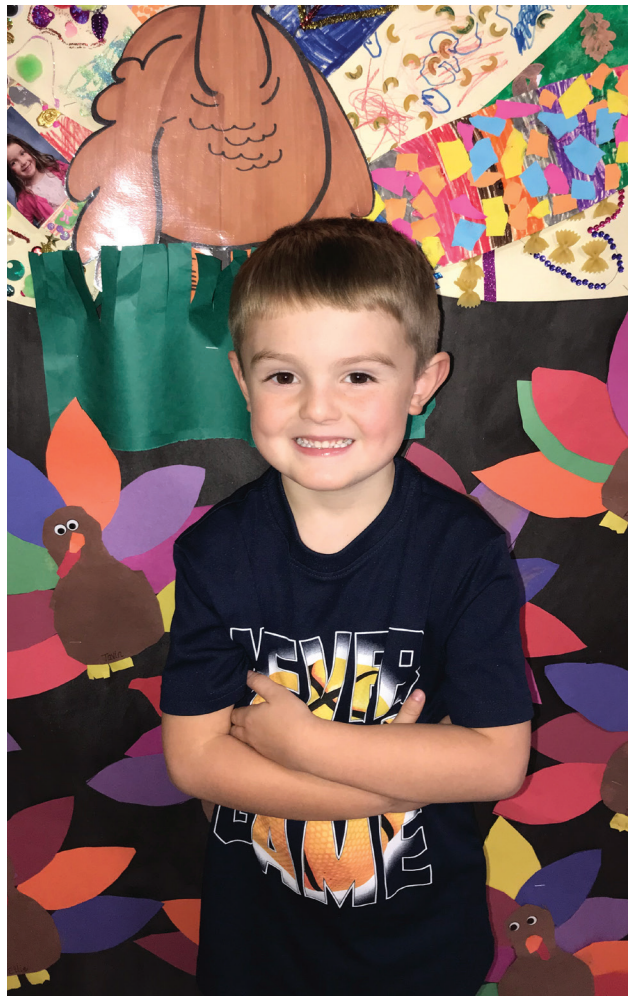
KR Body Shop
 Andover

Groton Area Junior Kindergarten Students are thankful for . . .



Kroy Khali

Son of Chris and Tammy Khali – friends and family because they take care of me and play with me.



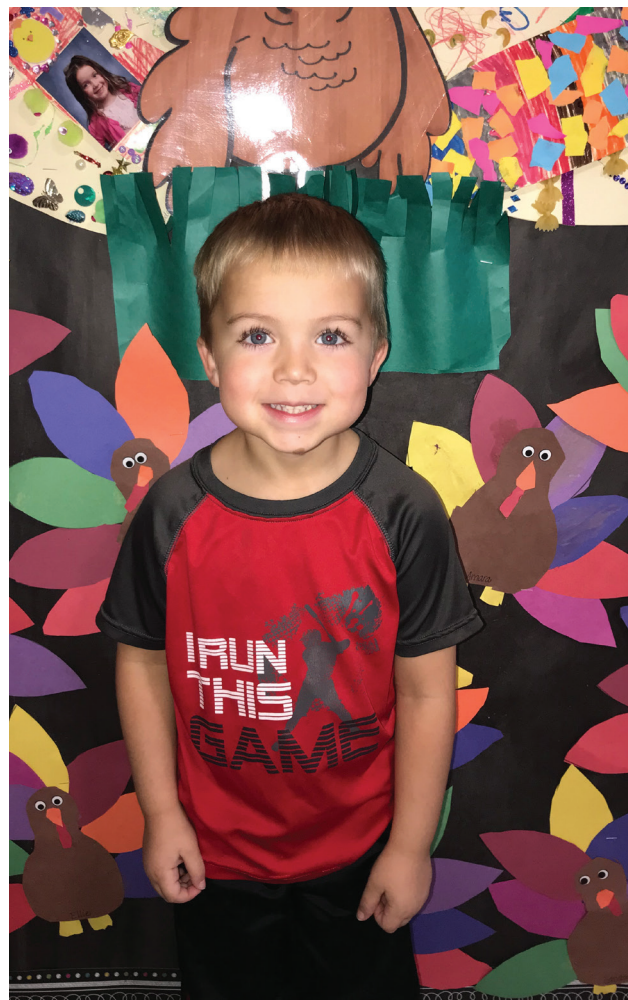
Landon Locke

Son of Mitchell and Heidi Locke – my friends because they play football with me at OST.



Kinsey Frost

Daughter of Christopher and Samantha Frost – my mom and dad because they are thankful for me.



Laycen Weig

Son of Jade and Julie Weig – my family and my cousins because I love them.

May all the good things of life be yours, not only at Thanksgiving but throughout the coming year.

Lori's Pharmacy
Groton

A Harvest of Thanks

The crew of Harry Implement have been blessed by your patronage and we give a big THANKS to you all. We're a big company in a small town with a big to serve you!

Bountiful Blessings at Thanksgiving

Harry Implement
"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"
(605) 395-6421 Ferney

We are part of something wonderful. We are friends, but also family. You will be loved for the rest of your life, and we are thankful for having you.

Happy Thanksgiving from
Karma Salon
Downtown Groton

We must thank the Lord for the wonderful life he has given to us. Here is hoping we have many more holidays to celebrate.

Happy Thanksgiving from
Midwest Masonry & Concrete Pumping

Happy Thanksgiving!

Here's hoping that whatever you do brings you delight from morning until night. May the holiday bring you nothing but wonderful things in abundance."

Allied Climate Professionals
Kevin Nehls - Groton



Grace Scepaniak
Daughter of Ryan and Kristy Scepaniak – mom and dad because I love them.



Ellie Lassle
Daughter of Jacob and Nicole Lassle – my family and I love it because my cousins ride the bus with me and we are together at Christmas.



Emmett Morehouse
Son of Jesse and Julie Morehouse – phones so I can call my teacher.



Jorie Locken
Daughter of Chad and Britt Locken – my teachers, my family, and my friends because my mom and dad help take care of me, my teachers help me learn, and my friends be kind to me.

Happy Thanksgiving

“There are so many things we are thankful for this year, but at the very top of that list is our customers! Wishing you a wonderful holiday filled with the warmth and happiness of the season.”

BK Custom T's
& More
Groton

May you enjoy the feast and the company of your family on Thanksgiving day.



S & S Lumber
& Hardware Hank
Groton

LET
our hearts
BE FULL
thanks and giving

Paetznick-Garness
Funeral Chapel
Groton

May you find love, peace, the gift of faith, renewed hope, and the true spirit of the holiday season during this Thanksgiving season.



from your favorite salesman at
Harr Motors
Bary Keith

HAPPY
THANKSGIVING

Here's a heartwarming thanks to you for hope, peace and joy this Thanksgiving!

Doug Abeln Seed Company



November is the time to be thankful, a time to remember and to embrace those who enrich our lives. We are thankful for a lot of things, but we most thankful for you.

Patios Plus
Groton

Wishing You a super sized Thanksgiving!



**Bierman Farm
Services**
Downtown Groton



Brielle Dunbar
Daughter of Michael and Kassie Dunbar – my sisters because I like them and they are my sisters.



Destry Neigel
Daughter of Tyler and Autumn Neigel – my mom because her gets me ice cream and pie.

“Wishing you the happiness of good friends, the joy of a happy family, and the wonder of the holiday season. Have a memorable thanksgiving!”



**Greg Johnson
Construction**
Bristol



Amara Graff
Daughter of Michelle Barrow and Wes Graff– my sister because I like playing with her.



Eliana Fordham
Daughter of Austin and Ashley Fordham – friends and toys because if we didn't have toys, we wouldn't be able to play and if I didn't have friends I would have to play alone.

“Let us remember that, as much has been given us, much will be expected from us, and that true homage comes from the heart as well as from the lips, and shows itself in deeds.” -Theodore Roosevelt

happy
Thanksgiving

**Groton American
Legion Post #39**
Downtown Groton

Wishing you the gift of faith and the blessing of hope this thanksgiving day!



**Weismantel
Insurance
Agency**
Columbia

Here's a heartwarming thanks to you for the hope, peace and joy that you bring to us.



**Groton
Dairy Queen**
Groton



**Groton
Chiropractic
Clinic**
Groton



Tavin Clifford
 Son of Rikki Clifford and Chris Sombke – for everyone because they are all my friends.



Mayte Matias Garcia
 Daughter of Esmeralda Garcia and Luis Matias – my teacher because I like to go to school every day.



Miakoda Neigel
 Daughter of Tyler and Autumn Neigel – my mom because her gets me so many snacks.



Paisley Johnson
 Daughter of Matt and Casey Johnson – my teachers because they are nice.



Hope that you're surrounded with the love of your dear ones on this festive season.
Happy Thanksgiving to you and yours from
Hanlon Brothers
 Verdon and Groton

We are very thankful for all of our customers! We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and thanks for all your support this past year.



Blocker Construction

We gather on to be thankful for what we have, for the family we love, the friends we cherish, and for the blessings that will come.



Groton Vet Clinic

A heartfelt message for you this season: we appreciate your business!



MJ's Sinclair
 Groton

Wishing you a warm and happy Thanksgiving!



Bahr Spray Foam
 Groton

May your blessings be multiplied this year and throughout all your life.



Weber Landscaping
 Groton

Robotics teams make it to semifinals at Mitchell

Groton Robotics traveled down to Mitchell on Saturday, November 13th for their second tournament competing with 21 teams. Groton teams participating in this tournament were: Gear Heads 9050B (Jack Dinger, Ethan Clark, Axel Warrington), Bradyn Wienk from the Gladiators helped out Gear Heads for the day. G-Force 9050A (Travis Townsend, Jace Kroll) and Galaxy 9050E (River Pardick, Corbin Weismantel, Kianna Sander-not present Dustin Pardick) Due to other commitments Galaxy JUST started building their robot a week prior to the Mitchell tournament!

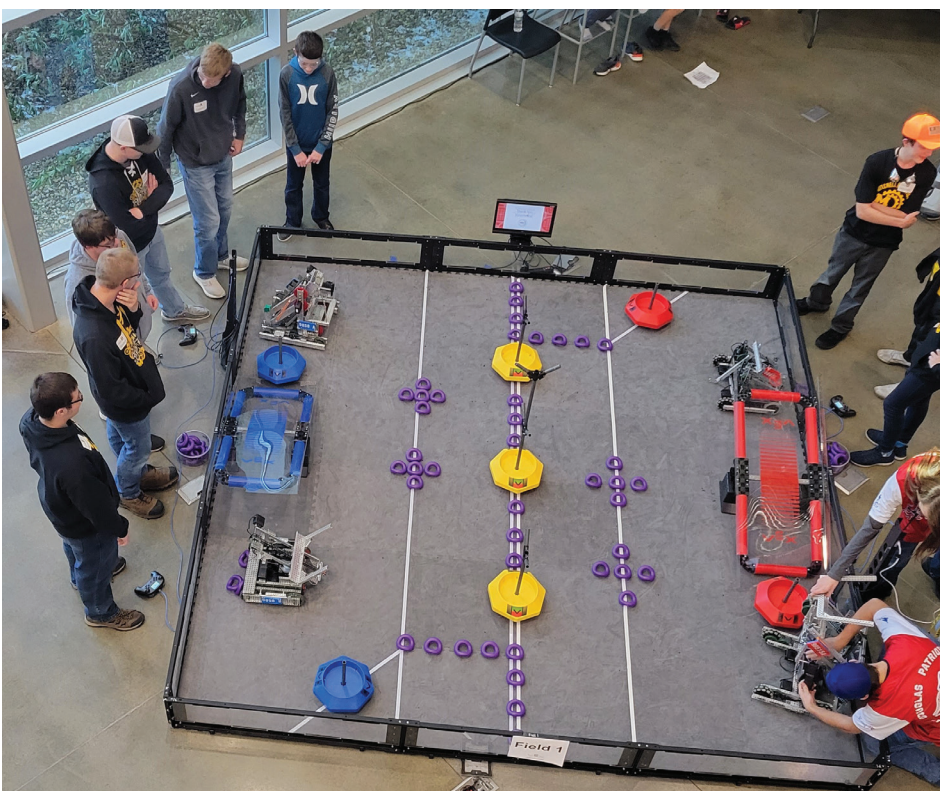
The day started with 32 qualifying matches, each team competing 6 times. At the end of the 32 qualifying matches, out of the 21 teams, G-Force ranked 7th, Gear Heads - 8th, and Galaxy - 15th.

Galaxy's day ended in the quarterfinals. G-Force and Gear Heads ended in the semi-finals.

Tournament champions were from Sioux Falls and North Sioux City. Congratulations to all the robotists who participated! Groton's next tournament will be Saturday, November 20th as they travel to Rapid City. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** as Groton will be hosting one tournament this year on Saturday, January 8th. For more information check out the vex VRC robotics website, download the VEX via app and follow Groton Tiger Robotics on Facebook. Thanks to all who support Groton Robotics!



(L-R) Axel Warrington, Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger and Galaxy-9050E: Kianna Sander, River Pardick. Getting ready to start a match. (Photo credit Weston Dinger)



Gear Heads-9050B: (L-R) Axel Warrington, Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger & G-Force-9050A: Travis Townsend, Jace Kroll, helping out Bradyn Wienk from Gladiators. (Photo credit Weston Dinger)

Groton's Angel Trees are out!



Thank you for supporting Groton's Angel Tree Project.



The tags are on the Angel Tree at Lori's Pharmacy along US 12 and also at Next Level Nutrition in downtown Groton. Please bring the gifts wrapped or unwrapped by Monday, Dec. 13. You can drop them off at Lori's Pharmacy or the Next Level Nutrition. Contact Tina at 605-397-7285 if you have any questions.

"A thankful heart is the parent of all virtues." Therefore, Thanksgiving gives us an opportunity to give thanks for all the things we have and those that we are yet to receive. Have a blessed Thanksgiving.

**Groton Daily Independent
GDI Clean/Fit/Rent/Live**



Happy Thanksgiving! A time for celebration, a time for sharing traditions with family and friends, a time for...

For dinner, we're having: turkey, cranberry sauce, mashed potatoes, turnips, squash, tossed salad, pickles, hot rolls and butter. For dessert there is a sweet potato pie, a pumpkin pie and an apple pie too!

1	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	I	N	G
2	S	H	A	R	I	N	G				
3	P	L	A	I	N	G					
4	P	H	O	N	I	N	G				
5	M	A	K	I	N	G					
6	S	E	R	V	I	N	G				
7	G	I	V	I	N	G					
8	V	I	S	I	T	I	N	G			
9	P	R	O	V	I	D	I	N	G		
10	D	E	S	I	G	N	I	N	G		
11	T	H	I	N	K	I	N	G			
12	G	A	T	H	E	R	I	N	G		

A Bitter Berry
"c r a n e berries"
The shape of the plants carrying this new berry reminded the Pilgrims of cranes.

After Thanksgiving dinner -
I'm
g o i n g
o n a
h i k e!

GO WITH GRATITUDE.

DACOTAH BANK

BANKING • INSURANCE • MORTGAGE • TRUST

Groton | 7 East US Hwy 12 | (605) 397-2711

12 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Nov. 24, 2021

HARR Motors

www.harrmotors.com

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

We're having turkey, stuffing...



Newspaper Fun!

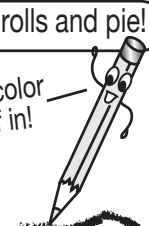
www.readingclubfun.com

Animills LLC © 2021 V29

...cranberry sauce, yams, rolls and pie!



Kids: color stuff in!



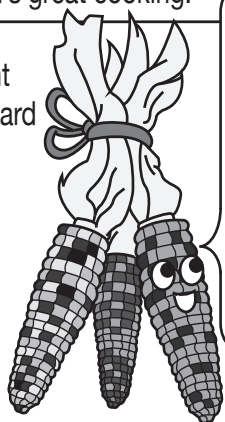
I love all of the different foods that make up our family feast on Thanksgiving. The Pilgrims, however, had few choices for foods when they sailed to America on the Mayflower. There was salted beef, pork, fish and hardtack (a dry biscuit). It is thought that they had dried peas, beans, cheese and some butter, too. They had some fresh water when they started out, but it didn't take long for it to spoil.

Grandma helped me to bake this pie!

Whew! That makes me *extra thankful* for Mom's and Dad's great cooking.

Thanksgiving at Forest's home is a big event that his family, friends and neighbors look forward to all year. **Read the clues below to see how they get ready and the things they do. Fill in the puzzle to see the secret word.**

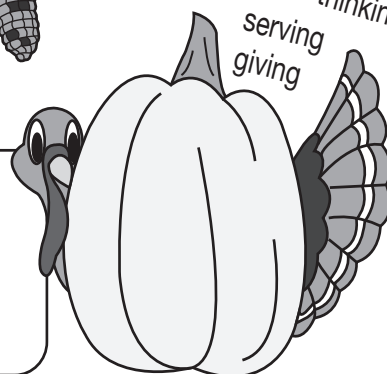
1. _____ with our family and friends
2. _____ our homes
3. _____ football
4. _____ loved ones across many miles
5. _____ a centerpiece for your table
6. _____ a large dinner at a shelter
7. _____ thanks for all we have
8. _____ and helping an elderly person
9. _____ food to the birds
10. _____ and drawing your family tree
11. _____ of people who have helped us
12. _____ canned goods for the hungry



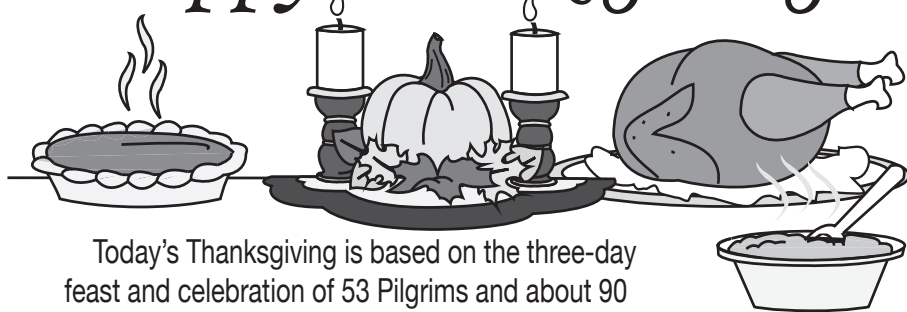
Find a piece of paper and a pencil. How many words can you make using the letters from the word **Thanksgiving**?

Psssst!

Hey, you! Let me know when the Thanksgiving feast is done.



Happy Thanksgiving!



Today's Thanksgiving is based on the three-day feast and celebration of 53 Pilgrims and about 90 Native Americans held in 1621 in Plymouth, Massachusetts.

It's a time for celebration...a time for sharing traditions with family, friends, neighbors...a time for...

celebrating designing gathering providing

visiting playing phoning thinking serving giving sharing making

Turkey, nap and football too...

A Bitter Berry

A berry named for me? How flattering!

Use the letters to fill in the blanks to see the berry:

Native Americans showed the Pilgrims a bitter berry that was safe to eat. The cranberry plants, with their drooping flowers and long stalks, may have reminded the Pilgrims of some birds with long, curved necks and long legs. They called the plants: "_____ berries"

It is no surprise that the Pilgrims wanted to celebrate when they had a good harvest. Native Americans nearby, known as the Wampanoag, had introduced the Pilgrims to many new foods and showed them where they could gather berries. They shared ideas for planting seeds and catching animals for food. About 90 Wampanoag men joined the Pilgrims for their harvest feast. **Can you find and circle these foods they are thought to have eaten?**

- wild geese
- wild ducks
- cabbages
- boiled pumpkins
- bitter wild plums
- dried berries
- lobsters
- corn cakes
- wild honey
- carrots
- fish
- eels
- clams
- turnips
- venison
- oysters
- onions
- turkey

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

Thanksgiving Fun!



What are **you** planning to do on Thanksgiving Day?



After Thanksgiving dinner -

Find out what little Mouse is doing for fun on Thanksgiving Day. **Use the Morse Code Alphabet below to fill in the letters on the blanks.**

A	• -	J	• - - -	S	• • •
B	- • • •	K	- • -	T	-
C	- • - •	L	• - • •	U	• • -
D	- • •	M	- -	V	• • • -
E	•	N	- •	W	• - -
F	• • - •	O	- - -	X	- • • -
G	- - •	P	• - - •	Y	- • - -
H	• • • •	Q	- - • -	Z	- - • •
I	• •	R	• - •		

As holidays approach, cell phones and speeding remain major roadway risks in South Dakota

Bart Pfankuch
South Dakota News Watch

Despite new laws and public-information campaigns, distracted driving and cell phone use behind the wheel continue to make roadways in South Dakota and across the country more dangerous.

New survey data from the American Automobile Association show a significant reduction in some unsafe behaviors in recent years — including impaired driving, red-light running and driving while fatigued — while rates of speeding and distracted driving remain “stubbornly high.”

Though national data show a slight decline in speeding and use of hand-held phones behind the wheel over the past decade, 45% of U.S. drivers reported to AAA they drove 15 or more mph over the speed limit in 2020, while 37% of drivers used a hand-held cell phone and 34% read a text message or email while driving last year.

According to another recent national survey by Volkswagen, half of South Dakotans reported that they used social media on their phones while driving in the past year, and nearly one in five admitted to taking a “selfie” photo while behind the wheel.

Concerns over unsafe behaviors behind the wheel take on greater urgency during the holidays, when more motorists are on the road, starting with Thanksgiving this month and through Christmas and New Year’s.

In South Dakota in fiscal year 2020, distracted driving, which includes the use of cell phones, was listed as a contributing factor in 840 of the total 17,599 motor-vehicle accidents, or 4.8% of all crashes.

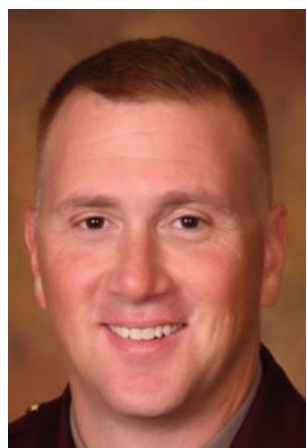
Distracted driving was listed as a contributing cause of accidents at a higher rate than several other factors, including speeding, disregarding a traffic signal, improper passing, turning or backing, over-correcting, and swerving to avoid an object, according to state crash data. Of all stated or known contributing factors, failure to yield has the highest rate of accident involvement, followed by following too closely, driving too fast for conditions and alcohol use.

AAA predicts that Thanksgiving travel will rebound nearly to pre-pandemic levels this year, much of that on the nation’s highways. AAA forecasts that 53.4 million people will travel during the 2021 holiday, up 13% over 2020 and almost back to 2019 totals. AAA said the safest times to travel over the holiday period is after 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 24, and before 11 a.m. all other days through Sunday, Nov. 28.

Col. Rick Miller, superintendent of the South Dakota Highway Patrol, said some drivers continue to use their cell phones or allow themselves to become distracted behind the wheel even though they are well aware how unsafe — and illegal — the behaviors are.

“I wish I had the magical answer of why people are still doing this, but I don’t,” he said. “It takes your reaction time and makes it almost nothing. If something happens in front of you, you have very little time to react.”

When a driver is distracted for just three seconds at 65 mph, their vehicle will travel 285 feet; at 80 mph, it jumps to 351 feet, more than the length of a football playing field. A



Rick Miller

“I wish I had the magical answer of why people are still doing this, but I don’t. It takes your reaction time and makes it almost nothing. If something happens in front of you, you have very little time to react.” -
- Col. Rick Miller, superintendent of S.D. Highway Patrol

5-second distraction at 80 mph leads to 585 feet traveled, almost the length of two football fields. Texting while driving in South Dakota has been illegal for a decade, but was not a reason an officer could pull a driver over until

July 2020. Texting became a primary offense at the same time the state made it a misdemeanor to use a cell phone in a vehicle for any reason other than in emergencies or to make a phone call. Several South Dakota cities banned texting while driving over the past decade as well.

Yet despite the laws and ordinances, Miller said distracted driving and



Emergency workers examine a November 2021 multi-car accident in Lincoln County that was caused by fog but also driver distraction.

Photo: Courtesy South Dakota Highway Patrol

speeding remain significant hazards on South Dakota roadways. Miller noted that troopers have clocked numerous vehicles traveling over 100 mph on South Dakota roads this year and continue to see erratic driving due to distraction.

With heavy holiday traffic expected over the upcoming holidays, drivers must be especially diligent in following highway safety rules, Miller said.

“We start taking about holiday travel and more cars on the roadway, and I don’t want to sound doomsday, but you put deer in there and a little bit of snow and ice, and it’s a dangerous situation,” Miller said. “People should remember that driving is a full-time deal; you can’t have one eye open or your knee on the wheel. It’s a dangerous machine if you’re not operating it correctly.”

South Dakota saw a high-profile distracted driving death in September 2020 when Attorney General Jason Ravnsborg struck and killed

pedestrian Joe Boever near Highmore. Ravnsborg later pleaded no contest to two misdemeanors of illegal lane change and using a cell phone while driving. He was fined but served no jail time; Ravnsborg is now the subject of an impeachment investigation by the South Dakota House of Representatives.

Miller and other law enforcement experts acknowledge that enforcing laws against texting or other distracted driving is difficult because drivers may hide their behaviors and it is hard for officers to prove someone was breaking the law.

In 2019, South Dakota highway patrol troopers issued 51 citations and 56 warnings for texting while driving, and in 2020, they wrote only 26 tickets and issued 17 warnings, state data show. The fine is \$178.50.

“At times it is difficult to enforce, but when we see it, we enforce it,” Miller said. “If you’re swerving all over the road, we’re going to stop the vehicle and talk about that with the driver. It could be an electronic device like a cell phone or a kid in the car, but you’re going to get stopped because you’re putting everyone, including yourself, at risk.”

Yet state statistics related to cell-phone use in car accidents likely undercount the actual number of times a driver was distracted by a phone or something else.

Unlike drinking alcohol or speeding, determining whether a driver was using a cell phone at the time of an accident can be difficult, especially if a driver doesn’t want to add to his or her liability by acknowledging he or she was using the phone at the time of the crash.

“Unless a person involved in a crash admits to using their cell phone, it is sometimes difficult to know that,” said Tony Mangan, spokesman for the South Dakota Department of Public Safety.

Distracted driving was a contributing factor in 78 fatal accidents in South Dakota over the past decade, with cell-phone use directly connected to 13 of those deaths.

In fiscal 2020, seven of the 132 fatal crashes in South Dakota, about 4.8% of the total, were tied to distracted driving. In fiscal 2019, distracted driving was a factor in only three fatal crashes, about 3.4% of the total that year.

Alcohol use, the easiest factor to confirm, had the highest rate of contribution to fatal accidents in 2020, followed by failure to stay in the proper lane and speeding.

The city of Sioux Falls has an ordinance banning the composition,

reading or sending of text messages while driving or in traffic, according to Sam Clemens, public information officer for the Sioux Falls Police Department.

Clemens said some people have tried to continue using their phones but in a way that makes it harder for officers to see any unlawful behavior.

“The law made some people hide their phones, putting it on

DISTRACTION DISTANCES: HOW FAST, HOW FAR WHEN DRIVING

Here is a look at how far a vehicle will travel during the time it takes to write or read a text message for three or five seconds at various speeds. In South Dakota, most highways have a 65 mph limit and interstates can have a limit of 80 mph. For reference, a football playing field is 300 feet long.

3-SECOND DISTRACTION

45 mph — 198 feet traveled
65 mph — 285 feet traveled
80 mph — 351 feet traveled

5-SECOND DISTRACTION

45 mph — 330 feet traveled
65 mph — 475 feet traveled
80 mph — 585 feet traveled

their lap rather than holding it by the steering wheel," Clemens said.

Still, the city has issued 457 tickets to drivers violating the local texting ban and another 24 tickets for violation of the state cell-phone law since 2013, according to police department data.

Clemens said that despite the difficulty in enforcement of the local ordinance, almost everyone who drives a vehicle understands that using a phone behind the wheel is distracting and dangerous.

"It's pretty common to see cars swerving around," he said. "They have to train themselves and make a concerted effort to not be on their phone when they're on the roadway. If it's urgent, pull over and park before you get on your phone."

Some phone uses, such as making a call, speaking on the phone or using it in an emergency, remain legal, Clemens said, adding to the difficulty officers face in making a judgment about potential violations.

Officers who approach a motorist cannot just take the person's phone and examine it without probable cause or a warrant, Clemens said.

"It's somebody's personal property," he said. "You have to see somebody on that phone, and there has to be something other than making a call, so it's a hard law to enforce."

Clemens said one assumption by local and state authorities is that if an activity such as using a cell phone while driving is made illegal by state law or local ordinance, then there will be a certain number of people who will obey the law whether or not it is difficult to enforce.

"The idea was that if you make it illegal, you'll have some voluntary compliance from some people, and some is better than none," he said. A few years ago, Sioux Falls police initiated an enforcement effort in which officers watched drivers to see if they were illegally using their cell phones behind the wheel, then radioed ahead to other patrol officers who pulled over and ticketed offenders.

Even with that targeted enforcement, officers wrote a limited number of tickets, Clemens said.

"It was time intensive and manpower intensive to do that, and I don't know if it made much of a difference," Clemens said.

Derek Mann is a crash-reconstruction expert for the Rapid City Police Department who also spent several years as a state highway patrol trooper and accident expert.

Mann said distracted driving remains common, and can easily be seen on the roads and especially at the scene of accidents caused by distracted driving.

"I see people on their phones all the time because it's my work environment, so it's what I look for," Mann said. "I see distracted driving all the time here in Rapid City, especially on rear-end collisions."

Mann said he understands the temptation to use a cell phone while driving, especially in some areas of South Dakota where travel times are long and highways are flat and straight.

"It's tempting to look at your phone when you're out on the interstate by Presho and there's nothing to look at but fields," he said.

Mann said that teens and young adults may find it harder than most to spend time behind the wheel and not use their cell phones, which are actually small computers that can serve many functions beyond talking.

According to an AAA survey in South Dakota in 2019, drivers aged 19 to 24 are six times as likely as all drivers to read a text message or email and twice as likely as all drivers to compose or send a text message or email behind the wheel.

"Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, all the different social media, let alone the text-messaging, they're so interconnected with their cell phones that it becomes part of them," he said.

Mann, who has two adult children, said he is amazed at how quickly young people can type a text message. But even the fastest text-message typist cannot do it safely behind the wheel, he said.

"They can do it while they're driving and it might be three seconds, but in that three seconds at 75 mph, you're running 90 feet a second, so things come up on you fast," he said.

Despite any state laws or local ordinances against texting or other cell-phone use while driving, Mann said, drivers need to realize the great risk of distractions and behave safely while driving.

"It's personal responsibility; that's what it comes down to," he said. "You're in a 3,000-plus-pound vehicle, so it's going to take a little bit of time and space to stop it, so you need to be aware of that and respect it."

Mann said drivers should make wise decisions about cell-phone use before they cause an accident that changes their life or the lives of others forever.

"It just takes a second and the next thing you know you're in a bad crash or something even worse," he said. "The worst part of this job, and I've done it for years, there's nothing worse for an officer to knock on the door and tell a loved one that someone has died in a crash. In their lives and in our lives, I will always be that guy who told them their son or daughter or husband or wife died in a crash."



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.



Notice of Regular Annual Meeting Of Full Circle Ag

Notice is hereby given that the regular annual meeting of Full Circle Ag, Britton, SD, will be held at the Britton Area Event Center at 1203 3rd St, Britton, SD on Monday, December 6th. The meeting will be held at 10:00 am with lunch to follow. The meeting will include the following purposes:

- Review Annual Audit
- Election of Directors
- Any other business to come before the board

This is a very important business meeting of your cooperative; everyone is urged to attend.

Jason Asche, Secretary



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Wage Memorial Library & City Office
Olde Bank N Café B & B**

SATURDAY, DEC. 4, 2021

TOUR OF HOMES 4-7 P.M.

HOLIDAY PARTY 4-CLOSE

**Silent Basket Items
Bidding closes at 8:30 p.m.
Live Auction begins at 8:30 p.m.**

**Coffee, Apple Cider and Goodies at the Club House
A variety of snacks served.
\$15 tickets available at
Lori's Pharmacy, Groton
Groton Ford
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Come on out for a fun evening!

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EARTHTALK™



"Pips" of Rogue Detection Teams was able to find larvae and larval poop of the endangered checkerspot butterfly for the Forest Service in Washington State in 2019. Credit: U.S. Forest Service- Pacific Northwest Region, FlickrCC.

Dear EarthTalk: What are conservation dogs?

-- Jon Gretcham, Portland, OR

Simply put, conservation dogs are canines specially trained in sniffing out evidence of specific wildlife species that scientists are seeking to learn more about for one reason or another. Most commonly these dogs are used to help biologists understand where and how threatened or endangered wildlife species are hanging on—or if they are still around at all.

At the forefront of this burgeoning field is Rogue Detection Teams (RDT), a Washington State based non-profit that sends their specially trained dogs around North America and beyond to help scientific researchers, government agencies and non-profit groups gather field evidence in order to further their conservation work.

It's no wonder that conservationists have started using detection dogs, a standard practice in the military and law enforcement since the 1940s when U.S. troops first employed canines to detect German land mines in North Africa. By pairing human handlers well-versed in ecology and biology (the "bounders") with detection dogs trained on a specific scent, conservationists can monitor the density, distribution and overall health of certain species of concern.

To wit, Rogue's dogs have worked all over the world helping conservation groups bolster their cases with hard data collected in the field. The majority of the Rogue's work so far has been in the American West, but teams are scattered as far afield as Brazil, Europe, Africa, Southeast Asia and the Middle East in search of everything from sea turtles to grasshoppers to pygmy rabbits, big cats, red foxes and bumblebees.

What makes for a perfect conservation dog? The best detection dogs wouldn't necessarily make a great pet, as they tend to be obsessed with reward accumulation. "Our dogs are typically considered unadoptable due to their high energy and obsessive desire to play fetch," says Rogue's Jennifer Hartman. "This obsessive energy is quite perfect for us because we pair this with detecting an odor and reward our dogs with their ball for locating the odor." Rogue's dogs can cover up to 15 miles a day in survey work, and still have energy left over for more playtime after the search.

And it doesn't take a specific breed or size dog—it's all about the dog's so-called 'high ball drive'. "We have quite a few Labrador mixes as well as heeler mixes because these seem to be high drive dogs that end up in shelters, but we also have a chihuahua mix and what might be a papillon mix in our program," reports Hartman. "We love all dogs though, and don't discriminate as long as they like to play fetch!"

Currently Rogue runs 19 dogs out of its Washington State headquarters. The organization, founded in 2019 by a group of conservation-oriented dog handlers who had been doing this sort of work on their own for more than a decade, also runs programs to train others' dogs (and their owners) in these canine "detection" practices. Through its training work, Rogue hopes to develop the next generation of bounders to carry on the innovative work of the conservation dogs in helping other species hang on in this warming-compromised world.

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Practicing Gratitude

I love Thanksgiving. I love preparing the food all day and enjoying it while sitting around a table with some of the people I love most. And there is one holiday tradition that I have grown to adore. As we sit down to eat, we share one thing we feel grateful for this year.

Practicing gratitude has been shown to improve aspects of mental health and our sense of well-being, and it isn't hard to understand why. Saying or thinking "I am grateful for..." feels really good and doing so regularly can help shape our outlook on the world and our place in it. I know this, and still, I fail to follow through with regularly practicing gratitude like some experts recommend.

There is no time like the present, right? Let's try it. Here are some things this Prairie Doc is feeling particularly thankful for this year:

I am thankful for my health, thankful to be alive. As I grow older, and as I continue to walk with my patients as they encounter disease and sometimes death, the simple wonder of being alive and feeling well has never felt so clear. None of us will avert death but feeling gratitude for life does make each day a little sweeter.

I am grateful for my family and friends who have sustained me through difficult times and shared in my joy. I am on the receiving end of hugs, snuggles, and the hilarious and warm actions of my children, who give me laughter and hope every day.

I am incredibly grateful to be a physician. I feel fortunate to have a profession that gives me meaning and connects me to people and my community. I am indebted to my colleagues and mentors, including my Prairie Doc cohorts and the original Prairie Doc, Rick Holm, who generously shared so much with me about being a physician.

There. That felt good. I hope you'll try it too, around the Thanksgiving table, privately in a journal, or however it works for you. Let's make a habit of practicing gratitude.

Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices internal medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show celebrating its twentieth season of truthful, tested, and timely medical information, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



Kelly Evans-Hullinger, MD

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