

The

Groton

Independent



Vol. 139 No. 15 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2021 ♦ Established in 1889

The new city hall has been adorned with many Christmas Trees decorated by area businesses. The trees are featured in this issue.



Front Porch 605

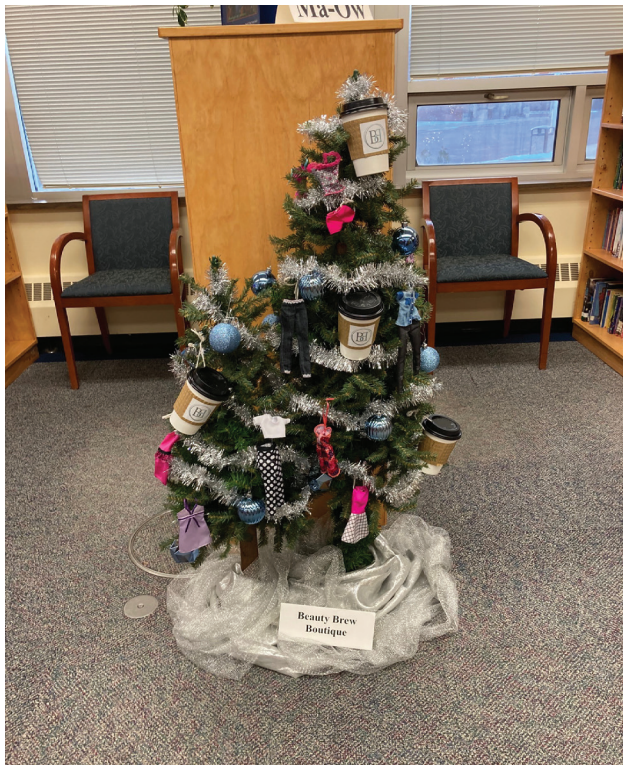


Groton Area MS/HS December Students of the Month
Left back: Jackson Garstecki (10th), Brody Lord (7th), Cole Simon (11th), Seth Johnson (12th)
Left Front: Thomas Schuster (6th), Talli Wright (8th), Laila Roberts (9th)

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.



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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The Week 16 matchup between the Minnesota Vikings and the Los Angeles Rams brought back memories of the old rivalry between the Purple People Eaters and the Fearsome Foursome. However, unlike the cold, hardnosed games of the '60s and '70s, the Vikings and Rams played today's game indoors with no elements playing a factor whatsoever.

The Vikings fell to the Rams 30-23 in a sloppy game that saw a total of 4 interceptions thrown by the starting quarterbacks; Matthew Stafford with three and Kirk Cousins with one. Even with winning the turnover battle, the Vikings' defense could not stop the Rams' rushing attack as they ran for 159 yards. And when the Vikings' defense crowded the box, Matthew Stafford was able to find his reliable wide receiver, Cooper Kupp, in numerous third-down situations. Kupp caught a total of 109 of Stafford's 197 passing yards for the game. In all, the Vikings' defense forced the Rams to only punt twice for the entire game. When the Vikings' defense wasn't picking off Matthew Stafford passes, they were getting run up and down the field.

The Vikings' offense played an above-average game against the star-studded Ram's defense. Von Miller did nothing disruptive during the game, finishing with only one tackle. Aaron Donald, however, was a menace from start to finish, ending the game with five total tackles, one sack, and a forced fumble. Donald's combination of strength and quickness is something the NFL hasn't seen since John

Randle.

With that said, the matchup everyone was looking forward to before the game was between Justin Jefferson and Jalen Ramsey. If you just looked at the stat sheet, you would think Jefferson dominated Ramsey, finishing with 116 yards on eight catches. However, Ramsey did break up a few passes intended for Jefferson and held him from reaching the endzone at any point during the game.

The one highlight for the Vikings came in the first half when Jefferson broke Odell Beckham Jr.'s record for most receiving yards in a player's first two seasons in the NFL. Jefferson currently sits at 2,851 receiving yards for his career and has a chance to do something no other wide receiver has ever done before: eclipse 3,000 yards in their first two seasons in the NFL. If there is a bright spot from this Vikings' season, it is Justin Jefferson, who is on his way to becoming the best wide receiver in the NFL.

Looking to next week:

The Vikings head to Lambeau Field for a Week 17 matchup against the Green Bay Packers, who currently hold the best record in the NFL. With already having a win under their belt from earlier this season, the Vikings may go into Lambeau with confidence that a 7-8 team wouldn't usually have. Right now, the Vikings are on the outside looking in for the playoffs. Thus, next week's game will be a must-win for the Vikings. A loss to the Packers will likely knock the Vikings out of the playoffs.

Playoff picture:

As mentioned, the Vikings are currently not in the playoffs. The Vikings, with a 7-8 record, see themselves a game behind the 7th seeded Philadelphia Eagles, who are currently 8-7 after their blowout over the New York Giants. With two weeks remaining in the 2021 season, the Vikings no longer have control of their destiny. If they want to make the playoffs, the Vikings need to not only win their remaining two games against the Packers and Bears, but they are also going to need the Saints, Eagles, and Falcons to lose games as well.

With how the season has gone for the Vikings, anything is possible. I predict a Vikings win in Green Bay, followed by a loss to the Bears in Week 17. Just enough to twist the knife in the backs of Vikings fans one more time.

Last column of the year

It's daybreak, which isn't all that early in this light-deprived season. So far, the snowdrifts in the yard seem navigable but we're expecting 45 mph winds and that will reorganize the white stuff into who knows what. You know, those snowbirds are looking smarter all the time. Gus the Wonder Pug took one step outside and scampered back in. I guess he intends to hold it.

My old Bobcat is down—bad solenoid, I think; perfect timing, we discovered that over the weekend—so we'll have to see if my snowblower is up to the task as well as my achy, breaky hip.

Not only are we Benders blessed with incredible good looks and humility but the good Lord threw in genetically bad hips just to keep us from getting too cocky. A legitimate concern. I had my hip X-rayed nine years ago—the last time it gave me trouble—and the doctor described what should a ball and socket as a "hook" and socket. I don't know much about orthopedics but enough to know that's not tenable. My younger brother Scott had his hip replaced this summer, leaving me as the sixth-fastest sibling out of six. But still the best looking. Sad, really.

Yes, dear reader, this is the point where things spiral downward, and you'll probably get nothing but complaints about aches and pains from here on out. It's hard to believe this is my last column of the year. Harder still to believe that I've been doing this for more than 30 years. The plan was always to do radio until I was too old to be cool on the air, then write for a living, and well, here we are. Now, I may not even be cool enough to write a column.

It started in 1989 when I was working in Alaska. I wrote a letter to the editor of the Brown County News (Frederick, SD) about my old baseball coach Bob Fuhrman after his passing. That resulted in one of only two known compliments I ever received from my Dad although he never told me to my face. German stoicism. "I didn't know he could write like that," he told someone, who passed it on to me. Still, when I quit radio in my early 30s and jumped into journalism, Dad almost had a conniption because I was finally making a good living behind a microphone. "What, are you going to be the next Wayne Lubenow?" he asked cynically. "Better," I said, which, of course, was sacrilege.

Wayne was a poet and his columns, which appeared in weekly papers around North Dakota, were funny and altogether brilliant. I have a picture of Wayne at my office, so he looks over my shoulder every week. I miss him. Then Dean Meyer retired. That guy would get up every Monday, feed the livestock, and then come in and write something hilarious about pulling calves or being trampled by a surly cow. For a while, I considered getting cows just for inspiration, but decided against it since I wasn't sure if I could write them off.

Well, Christmas has passed and a New Year is knocking at the door—2022. So far, it's poised not to come in like a lamb but as an ill-tempered polar bear. So, the usual. You have to be an optimist to live in North Dakota. Or about half-crazy when you consider today's forecast. Still, there's something about harrowing, white windswept prairies I appreciate. On the best winter days it's like living in a Christmas card, and after all the snow has been pushed aside—pray for the Bobcat—there's a certain satisfaction that feels a whole lot better than surviving a sunburn in Mesa. But I may test that theory one of these winters.

The good news is, the generator has been freshly serviced, I have a freezer full of food, a month's supply of

coffee, a few beers, and two cases of red wine. As long as I can dig out before my caffeine supply runs out, I'll be fine.

So here's to you readers, the slackers reading this in Arizona and the rest of you who are toughing it out on the high plains. We made another year. The last few have been challenging, haven't they? We've lost friends and neighbors to Covid, but I remain an eternal optimist. It's going to be a better year. Knock on wood. Now, where's my shovel?

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That's Life

by Tony Bender

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2022



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Mindy Vander Vorst
Postmaster



The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)
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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.

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EMPLOYMENT

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THE CITY OF MCLAUGHLIN is accepting applications for Assistant Finance officer. The Assistant Finance officer will assist the City Finance officer with the operation of all the duties of the office applicant should have knowledge of the operation of office equipment and accounting principles, High School diploma or GED is required with some additional education and or experience. Contact the City of McLaughlin at 605-823-4428 for an application or email at mclughsd@heartlandpower.org

WALWORTH COUNTY YOUTH PROGRAM ADVISOR POSITION: Walworth County is accepting applications for a part-time Youth Program Advisor position. This position would require the individual to work 20 hours in the Walworth County Courthouse. The job would also require some hours in the evenings and/or weekends. Computer skills, working with youths of all ages and knowledge of 4H would be a plus. A 4year degree preferred. Wages depends on experience. Resumes and/or Applications can be sent to the Auditor's office P.O.

Box 199 Selby, SD 57472. Please contact the Auditor's office with any questions at 605-649-7878. You can submit your resume/application to Eva Cagnones at ecagnones@walworthco.org. Walworth County is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Position available until filled.

CITY OF MCLAUGHLIN is accepting applications for Utility Manager; duties include administering all phases of public works for the city utilities including electric, water, sewer, garbage, streets, airport and parks. Duties involve organizing, assigning, and reviewing the operation and maintenance of all the utilities including office and administrative details and supervision of employees. For more information and an application contact the City of McLaughlin at 605-823-4428 or email mclughsd@heartlandpower.org

WALWORTH COUNTY - COUNTY AUDITOR POSITION: Walworth County is accepting applications for a Full-time County Auditor position. This position is a fiscal officer in County Government with oversight responsibility of all financial books and records of all county offices. This position requires strong organizational skills, communication abilities and the ability to perform a wide variety of tasks. Duties include, but not limited to governmental accounting, budgeting, receipts, appropriations, monthly reporting and elections. Computer and customer service skills are a requirement. Some college preferred but not required. A high school diploma or equivalent a must. Wages depends on experience. The position is full-time with benefits. Contact Eva Cagnones 605-649-7878 or ecagnones@walworthco.org Or send resume to PO Box 199 Selby, SD 57472. Walworth County is an equal opportunity employer. Position available until filled.

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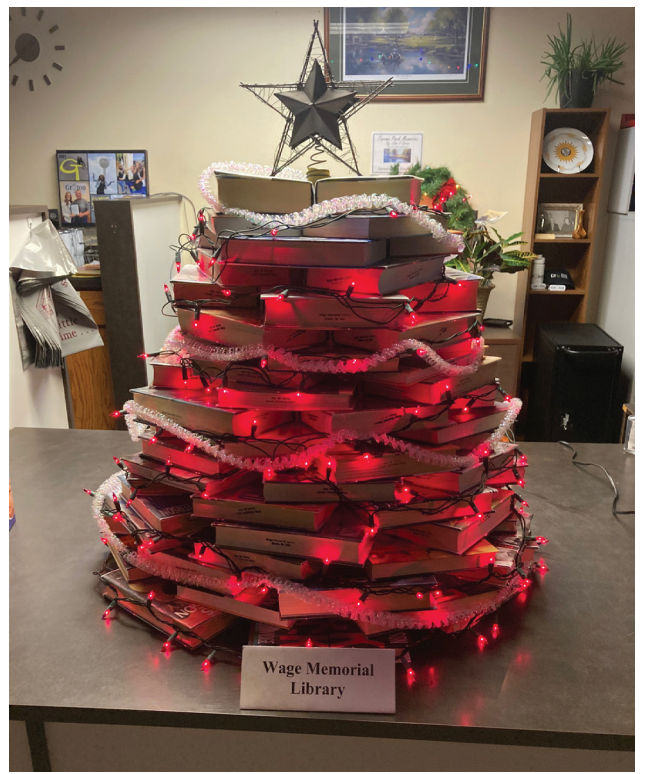
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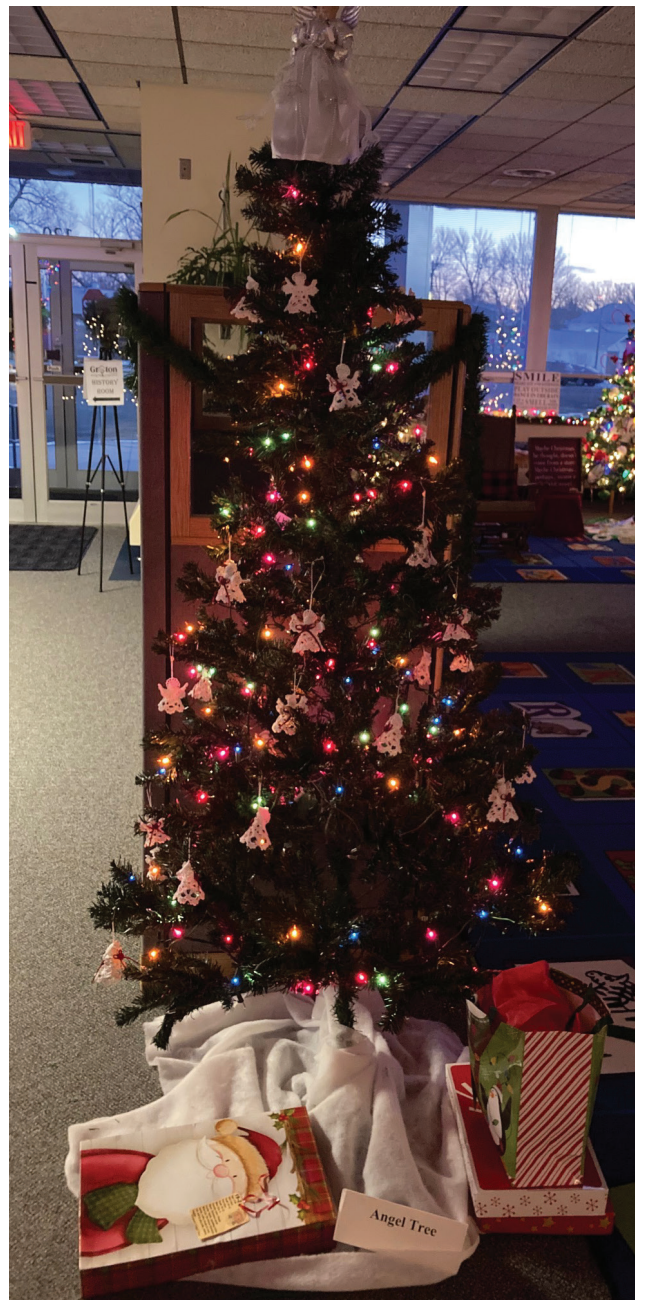
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MIDNIGHT

Conde National League

Dec. 26 Team Standings: Mets 9, Pirates 9, Giants 8, Tigers 5, Cubs 4, Braves 1

Men's High Games: Pat Knecht 245, Austin Schuelke 189, Joe Groeblichhoff 186

Men's High Series: Pat Knecht 573, Austin Schuelke 474, Joe Groeblichhoff 471

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 212, 183; Vickie Kramp 177; Sam Bahr 167

Women's High Series: Nancy Radke 522, Vickie Kramp 467, Michelle Johnson 419.



Pumpkin Fest

**Brown County
Dec. 21, 2021**

Meeting Minutes

DECEMBER 21, 2021 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

SECOND READING/ADOPTION- REZONE ORDINANCE 207: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to adopt ordinance 207. Applicants Paul & Jody Haar to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 1, "Svarstad Outlot 1" in the SW 1/4 of Section 8-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13756 389th Ave). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – Absent, Sutton- Aye, Wiese – Aye, Gage – Aye, Fjeldheim – Absent. Ordinance adopted.

SECOND READING/ADOPTION- REZONE ORDINANCE 208: Moved by Gage, seconded by Sutton to adopt ordinance 208. Applicants Richard & Tennille Taylor to the Brown County Board of Commissioners for the purpose of rezoning the following property from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Ag District (M-AG): Lot 1, "Swenson Outlot 1" in the NE 1/4 of Section 12-T121N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. (39989 143rd St). Roll call vote: Commissioner Feickert – Absent, Sutton- Aye, Wiese – Aye, Gage – Aye, Fjeldheim – Absent. Ordinance adopted.

BUDGET SUPPLEMENTS 2021: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Wiese to approve the following budget supplement: Rural Infrastructure Fund revenue 295.4.33599 @ \$97,293.66 and expense 295.5.311.42200 @ \$97,293.66. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RFP CLUBHOUSE CONCESSIONS: Rachel Kippley, Fair Manager recommended rejecting sole proposal from Aberdeen Hockey Association to conduct concession in the Clubhouse. Rejection was recommended with concern the county would lose money on the proposed concession split. Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to reject proposal for financial reasons and direct Fair Manager to enter negotiations with Aberdeen Hockey Association on a suitable concession contract. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to approve the general meeting minutes of December 14, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to approve the following claims:

Payroll #24: Commission \$3,462.36; Auditor \$11,305.82; Treasurer \$9,643.72; SA \$24,936.03; SVAWA \$0.00; Maintenance \$7,428.04; Assessor \$14,603.51; Register of Deeds \$7,969.60; VSO \$4,034.80; GIS \$2,411.38; IT \$7,328.21; HR \$3,715.08; Sheriff \$40,524.85; Jail \$48,579.86; Court Security \$5,543.33; JDC \$25,221.07; Welfare \$2,982.62; Museum \$8,964.07; Parks/Fairgrounds \$3,429.18; Fair Board \$4,130.00; Weed \$884.14; Planning & Zoning \$5,332.71; Highway \$40,258.47; Dispatch \$31,050.11; Emergency \$4,160.96; Teen Court \$495.88; JDAI \$1,846.15; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,267.75; Landfill \$14,925.98; Matching Benefits: FICA \$20,109.03; Medicare \$4,702.92; Discovery HAS \$864.96. Year end vacation payouts: Auditor -696.80; Assessor \$1,863.99; Sheriff \$4,635.72; Jail \$941.92; JDC \$1,842.52; Museum \$1,414.62; Dispatch \$1,712.64; Landfill \$1,961.27; Matching benefits FICA \$847.89; Medicare \$198.30.

Professional Fees: Boyce Law Firm \$1,650.75 CARRELS & BAIN FAMILY DENTAL CENTER, LLC \$294.45; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$7,952.60; CERTIFIED LANGUAGES INTERNATIONAL LLC \$1,334.85; CGI \$1,283.52; Child's Voice Route #6361 \$200.00; CREDIT COL-

LECTIONS BUREAU/CREDICO INC. \$4,579.25; DAKOTA COUNSELLING GROUP, LLC \$1,800.00; DEPENDABLE SANITATION INC \$36,074.60; HORIZON HEALTH CARE INC. \$40.00; Hughes County Auditor \$1,770.00; IMEG Corp \$3,646.36; KRISTI BRANDT \$23.80; KUCK LAW OFFICE \$32.80; Magnet Forensics USA, Inc. \$5,175.00; MEDICAL PRIORITY CONSULTANTS, INC. \$10,560.00; MICHELLE GAIKOWSKI \$96.20; SD DEPT OF HEALTH \$1,705.00; SD DEPT OF REVENUE & REGULATIONS \$1,963.80; WEX HEALTH INC. \$186.75; Woodbury County Clerk of Courts \$63.00 Publishing: GateHouse Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc. \$1,754.31; GROTON INDEPENDENT \$685.62 Repairs & Maintenance: ABERDEEN AUTO CENTER, INC. \$27.45; ASPHALT ZIPPER, INC. \$23.06; HF JACOBS & SON CONSTRUCTION INC \$1,473.22; HOUSE OF GLASS \$86,454.00; KEVIN W. STEIN \$628.13; LIEN TRANSPORTATION COMPANY \$735.00; MENARDS \$29.95; MIDWEST PUMP & TANK \$130.95; PANTORIUM CLEANERS INC. \$221.64; PIERSON-FORD-LINCOLN-MERCURY \$103.46; POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, INC \$669.52; ROLAND L. MOERKE \$770.00; STEVEN LUST AUTOMOTIVE \$80.43; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$19.75; WOODMAN REFRIGERATION, INC \$10,494.64 Supplies: ABERDEEN AUTO CENTER, INC. \$26.00; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$225.98; AGTEGRA CO-OPERATIVE \$279.58; AMERICAN BUSINESS FORMS \$147.60; ASPHALT ZIPPER, INC. \$239.76; BRENT A FISCHER \$10.00; COLE PAPERS \$2,074.07; CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY CO \$53.68; DAKOTA OIL \$4,944.59; HOH Water Technology Inc. \$473.54; JOE EMBURY \$10.98; KESSLERS \$75.00; KIESLER'S POLICE SUPPLY, INC. \$841.60; MAKI PRINTING LLC \$112.46; MCGaugh Family Inc \$3,454.00; MENARDS \$1,455.52; MIDWEST PUMP & TANK \$603.97; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$26.76; PERFORMANCE OIL & LUBRICANTS \$395.97; PHARM-CHEM \$948.05; PLUMBING & HEATING WHOLESALE, INC. \$4,564.16; Safe Life Defense \$1,183.50; SATELLITE TRACKING OF PEOPLE, LLC \$1,488.50; SD SECRETARY OF STATE \$7.00; SD SHERIFF'S ASSOC \$200.00; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$251.60; TRI STATE WATER \$67.40; VAN DIEST SUPPLY CO \$4,531.50; WEST PUBLISHING CORP. \$5,566.06 Travel & Conference: KELS THILMONY-VINGER \$35.70; SDSU EXTENSION \$171.05 Utilities: CITY OF ABERDEEN \$284.16; DEPENDABLE SANITATION INC \$348.00; JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$218.70; KELS THILMONY-VINGER \$100.00; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$6,634.39; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS \$88.70; QWEST CORPORATION \$1,192.92; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES LLC \$3,458.84 Rentals: Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. \$45.87; ADVANTAGE SELF STORAGE \$3,312.00 All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to approve the following HR report: Approve hiring of Jennifer White as Brown County Jail Cook, part-time; starting wage \$16.00 per hour, effective December 14, 2021. Also approve hiring as transport driver. Approve promotion of Austin Bail from Brown County Jail Correctional Officer to Brown County Jail Sergeant; starting wage \$18.73 per hour; effective December 27, 2021. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR BOARD APPOINTMENT: Moved by Gage, seconded by Sutton to appoint the following fair board members: Joyce Voeller and Nichole Hacker for a three-year term. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to go into executive session to discuss personnel, contracts, and security per SDCL 1-25-2(1,4, 6). All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Sutton, seconded by Gage to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10.11 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$79.93. 20716

**Brown County
Ord. 207**

Haar Rezoning

ORDINANCE #207
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Paul & Jody Haar is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1, "Svarstad Outlot 1" in the SW 1/4 of Section 8-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13756 389th Ave)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: December 1 & 8, 2021

Passed First Reading: December 14, 2021

Passed Second Reading: December 21, 2021

Adopted: December 21, 2021
Published: December 29, 2021

Effective Date: January 18, 2021

Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.94. 20716

**Brown County
Ord. 208**

Taylor Rezoning

ORDINANCE #208
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES, AS AMENDED TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Richard & Tennille Taylor is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described property from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG):

Lot 1, "Swenson Outlot 1", in the NE 1/4 of Section 12-T121N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (39989 143rd St)

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Notice of Hearing: December 1 & 8, 2021

Passed First Reading: December 14, 2021

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Effective Date: January 18, 2021

Doug Fjeldheim, Chair
Brown County Commission
ATTEST:

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$18.94. 20717



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Feb. 15-17: Forages/Pulse Crops/Oats
Feb. 22-24: Climate/Market/Management Considerations
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March 1-3: Precision Ag - Soil/Crop/Water Management

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South Dakota businesses get creative to overcome supply chain crisis

Megan Raposa
South Dakota News Watch

South Dakota businesses are feeling the costly effects of the lingering global supply chain issues brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, but many business operators are finding creative ways to keep shelves stocked, to reduce the impact on customers and to continue making a profit.

Throughout 2021, a trying year on many economic fronts, virtually all industries have been affected at some level by either product shortages, raw material shortages, shipping delays and other ripple effects up and down the supply chain.

The shortage of goods and workers to handle them have created a "perfect storm" of challenges that are hitting small businesses that make up the bulk of the South Dakota economy especially hard, said Tom Martin, instructor at the Beacom School of Business at the University of South Dakota.



Tom Martin

Some of the snags are

caused by backlogs at the major shipping ports. Others stem from factory closures amid the coronavirus pandemic, and still more come from the shortage of available workforce. Workers are in short supply across the economic spectrum, including truck drivers to deliver necessary products, employees who make products, and at the retail level where shelves must be stocked, customers checked out at registers and food made and served to restaurant diners.

The challenges retailers face are also compounded by rising commodity and fuel prices and competition from large online retailers like Amazon, which are more able to work around supply chain issues.

As 2021 comes to a close, it is unclear if any relief is on the horizon, but in the meantime, South Dakota retailers are asking shoppers for patience.

"If you like shopping local, if you like supporting local businesses, be patient," Martin said. "Do what you can because it's not [the businesses'] fault. It isn't anything they caused."

There's a complex web of factors behind the global supply chain issues, but in large part, it stems from the initial ebb in production when the pandemic first hit.

Another layer of complexity for small, local retailers is the trend leading up to the pandemic of running a lean business, meaning minimal inventory on-hand with the knowledge that more is usually only a day or two away, Martin said.

That changed when the pandemic hit and businesses switched to the philosophy of ordering more to ensure there was inventory in place as the world rapidly changed. That meant a bunch of orders were going in at once by a variety of industries.

"You can't put the volume of a fire hose of water through a garden hose," Martin said.

On top of the initial challenge of more demand than supply, smaller retailers are also uniquely challenged when it comes to getting inventory through overcrowded ports.

"A bigger retailer might even be able to hire their own shipping container," Martin said. "The smaller retailer is at the mercy of whoever decides to bring that ship into the dock."

While some impacts of the supply chain slowdown are obvious — empty shelves and long wait times at retailers and restaurants for example — customers walking into Dady Drug in Mobridge, S.D., probably wouldn't know the challenges owner Mark Dady faces in filling shelves.

A number of vendors he works with closed for a period of time earlier in the pandemic, and that alone created supply shortages.

Meanwhile, some items just can't be found. Halls cough drops, for example, won't be shipped from the manufacturer until February, Dady said. But for the most part, he's been able to find alternate options.

"It just takes a little more searching," Dady said.

News Reporter

The Grant County Review, one of the largest weekly newspapers in South Dakota, is seeking an experienced reporter. As a full-time employee, this individual will cover school, city and county news beats and write features. Looking for an individual interested in the possibility of becoming a co-owner or owner within five years. Send resume to officegcr@itcmilbank.com



Like the operators of many South Dakota small businesses, the owners of Staple & Spice health foods in Rapid City have found creative ways to keep products on shelves, including buying items in bulk and repacking them for retail sale. Photo: Courtesy Staple & Spice

in Rapid City, co-owner Tammy Yanders said she has had to look at different, often smaller, suppliers to help source vitamins. She's also had to work with customers to figure out what's in the certain supplements or vitamins they've been taking and see if she can find them an alternative.

Yanders has also found ways to work around shortages in one type of product by reimagining how that product is offered.

Wild rice, for example, was hard to get in individual packages from certain vendors she typically worked with, but she was able to buy it in bulk. She and her husband, also a co-owner of the store, then packaged the rice in individual portions and sold it under their own label.

"We're trying to be creative in the sense of, if we can't find it in one way, we're trying to find another source or another company," Yanders said.

Developing new product strategies is common among South Dakota retailers. They might not be able to get you exactly what you want when you want it, but in many cases they can find a suitable alternative.

And many are optimistic that the supply chain visibility, or how they know which products are going to be available and when, will improve in the new year.

"I think it's going to shake out here," Echols said. "There still might be some issues for spring, but I'm hoping by fall of 2022 that we've caught up. I do think there's a light at the end of the tunnel. It's just one more thing we're trying to navigate through our pandemic situation."

For Yanders, it's also a matter of recognizing what she can control in her business and letting go of what she cannot.

"We just kind of have to keep moving forward and not keep looking at what we can't have," she said, "but instead what we do have."

"If somebody wanted a tent today, we'd be hard pressed to find them one," Echols said.

Tents, sleeping bags, hiking shoes and other so-called "hard goods" are harder to find right now than "soft goods" like coats and other clothing, she added, and even then there are some delays in shipping. Winter coats, for example, came in later in the season than usual.

The store is stocked now, Echols said, but she doesn't know what she'll be able to restock. She's been advising customers that if they like something, they should buy it now and not wait.

"If I were to sell through a certain jacket or fleece or something, I can't necessarily order more," she said.

The supply chain issues have also pushed some retailers to get creative in finding solutions to serve their customers.

At Staple & Spice, a health food store



Tammy Yanders

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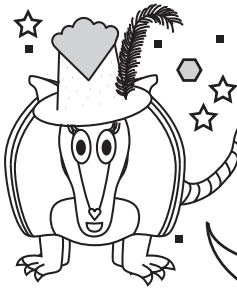


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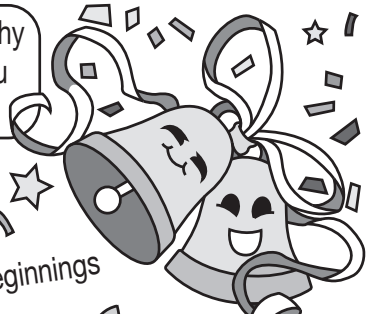
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Kids: color stuff in!



Happy New Year, Everyone!

A happy, healthy New Year to you and your family.



I love celebrating on New Year's Eve and Day! I decorate, bake and make little snacks for my family's party. I write a short list of my *resolutions* – promises and ideas for little changes that I can work on – and then welcome in the New Year at midnight.

What do you like best about the New Year? **Read my clues to fill in my puzzle:**

- falling, shining globe
- its hands tell us the time
- what we do when we gather at parties
- the new year can give us a clean slate
- last month of the old year
- the world's most famous New Year's party is held here
- the Rose Bowl is always played on New Year's Day
- when you see this infant, it means new beginnings
- explosions in the sky
- a march through the center of town
- 5, 4, 3, 2, 1
- old man, stands for the past year, history
- the exact moment when the old year becomes new
- a promise to yourself to change
- first month of the new year
- tool to keep track of dates in the new year
- these 'ring in' the new year
- group of people playing instruments
- Auld Lang Syne is a very popular one
- great time had by friends, family with music and food

A Party All Over the World!

New Year's Day is celebrated all over the world. In most places, people join in the fun by having parties, feasting, visiting, and greeting each other with good wishes. **Read the "party" words. Then, find and circle them in the puzzles.**

- board games
- noise makers
- finger foods
- movies
- friends
- stay awake
- dancing
- streamers
- hats
- a toast
- drinks
- shakers
- family
- music
- horns

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

- Things we use to decorate or set up.
- balloons
 - lights
 - centerpiece
 - banner
 - garland
 - twirly whirly
 - sparkles
 - party poppers
 - star cutouts
 - tablecloth
 - plates
 - napkins
 - glasses
 - forks
 - knives

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

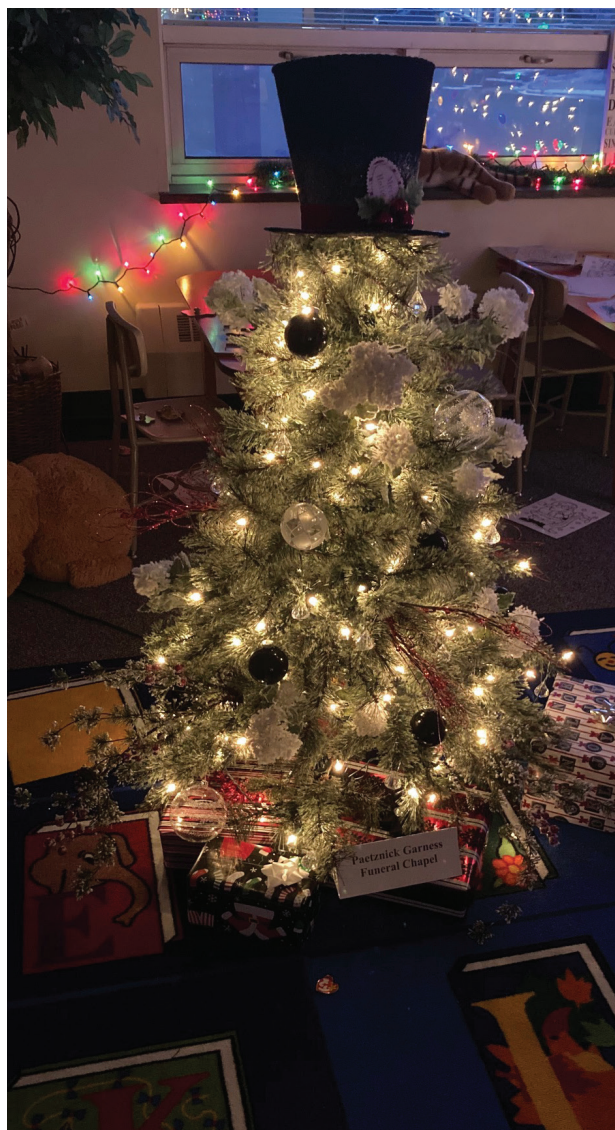
The Magical Stroke of...

At what time does the old year end and the new year begin? When does the host give a toast and everyone cheer? Why, at the magical stroke of...

Y = Yellow
B = Blue



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2022 Happy New Year!

HOLIDAY STORE HOURS for New Year's Eve, December 31*

- Ken's Food Fair & Shell Express in Groton & Ipswich will close after New Year's Eve
- Ken's Super Fair Foods & Shell Shop Aberdeen will be open until 11pm New Year's Eve
- Ken's Food Fair in Britton, Clark & Lureka will be open until 8pm

HOLIDAY STORE HOURS for New Year's Day, January 1*

- Ken's Food Fair & Shell Express in Groton & Ipswich will be open 8am - 12pm New Year's Day
- Ken's Super Fair Foods & Shell Shop Aberdeen will be open until 11pm New Year's Day
- Ken's Food Fair in Britton, Clark & Lureka will be open 8am to 12pm New Year's Day

USDA Choice Demkota Boneless Top Sirloin Steak
\$5.99
Per Lb.

California Navel Oranges
\$4.99
4 Lb. Bag

Kens Fresh 85% Lean Ground Beef 10# Tubes
\$3.99
Per Lb.

Campbell's Tomato or Chicken Noodle Soup
3/\$3
10.75 Oz. Cans

Best Choice Kidney, Chili, Black or Pinto Beans
4/\$3
15-15.5 Oz. Cans

Best Choice Tomatoes
4/\$3
14.5-15 Oz. Cans

Pace Salsa or Picante Sauce
2/\$5
15.6-24 Oz Jars

General Mills Honey Nut Cherrios 10.8 Oz., Lucky Charms 10.5 Oz., Cookie Crisp 10.6 Oz.
4/\$10
Boxes

APP DEAL OF THE WEEK

Pringles Chips FREE
4.5-5.57 Oz. Canister
W/\$10 PURCHASE & KEN'S APP
Limit 1 per customer, requires \$10 additional purchase and use of Ken's App

NOW OPEN in Ken's Deli in Aberdeen!

Family Fresh SUSHI

Meat

USDA Choice Demkota Boneless Top Round Roast \$4.19
Per Lb.

Dairy

Best Choice Shredded Cheese 2/\$4
6-8 Oz. Pkgs.

Frozen

Bellatoria Pizza 12" 2/\$8

Liquor

Bailey's Irish Cream \$26.99
750 ML.

Household

Tide Detergent \$6.99
46 Oz. Jug or 15-20 Ct. Pods

Bakery

White Party Buns \$1.99
12 Ct.

Deli

Kens Famous Fried Chicken \$8.99
8 Pc. Bucket

SMART Resolutions

With 2022 nearly upon us, so too is the tradition of the New Year's resolution. Merriam-Webster defines the New Year's resolution as "a promise to do something differently in the new year."

I would argue that in practice, the resolution is less of a promise and more of a hope or intention. My resolution for 2021 was to read 20 books by year's end. I failed. I could blame my kids, work, other hobbies, but honestly I blame my phone! In my defense, I was in good company as a flopped resolver; less than half of New Year's Resolutions are estimated to be successful.

An estimated 74 percent of adult Americans set a personal goal each year, the most common category being to improve health and wellness. If you are a regular at a gym or fitness center, you have witnessed the phenomenon of the January influx of attendees that typically trickles back down to baseline by March.

Whatever your resolution, there are some ways to increase your odds of being successful in following through in 2022. One tip is to make your goals follow the SMART mnemonic: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-sensitive. Let me elaborate, using my failed 2021 goal as an example.

Specific: "Read at least 20 books this year" is specific, but I could have done better. Had I explicitly listed each book title up front I would have avoided time wasted searching for books throughout the year.

Measurable: My goal was easily measurable; just count the books. If your goal is not measurable there is no way to know whether you are on track to reach it.

Attainable: I did not set a goal to read 50 or 100 books in a year. I know people who read that much, and I admire them, but that was not realistic for me. Setting an unattainable goal may set you up to quit in the early stages.

Relevant: I set this goal because I enjoy reading, and I know I am a happier person when I spend my downtime with my nose in a book. Choose a goal that you care about, and maintain enthusiasm.

Time-sensitive: Most New Year's resolutions will have a time frame of one year. But setting smaller time-sensitive goals can be helpful. I ought to have made a sub-goal to read two books per month to keep on pace.



Kelly Evans-Hullinger, MD

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Specific: "Read at least 20 books this year" is specific, but I could have done better. Had I explicitly listed each book title up front I would have avoided time wasted searching for books throughout the year.

Measurable: My goal was easily measurable; just count the books. If your goal is not measurable there is no way to know whether you are on track to reach it.

Attainable: I did not set a goal to read 50 or 100 books in a year. I know people who read that much, and I admire them, but that was not realistic for me. Setting an unattainable goal may set you up to quit in the early stages.

Relevant: I set this goal because I enjoy reading, and I know I am a happier person when I spend my downtime with my nose in a book. Choose a goal that you care about, and maintain enthusiasm.

Time-sensitive: Most New Year's resolutions will have a time frame of one year. But setting smaller time-sensitive goals can be helpful. I ought to have made a sub-goal to read two books per month to keep on pace.

The New Year might be a great time to commit to a positive change in your life. I hope the SMART approach will help you (and me) succeed this year!

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