



Wage Memorial Library Board meets

The Wage Memorial Library Board met the evening of May 17 at the library. They were meeting to plan for special events through the summer. Pictured are Kim Weber, board president; Ashley Dunham, Kellie Locke, Jessica Adler and Becca Johnson. Anyone interested in being on the board or have any ideas for the library should contact Kim Weber or Kellie Locke. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Hamilton presents plans for Veteran's Circle updates

Doug Hamilton came before the Groton City Council Tuesday evening to talk baseball and cemetery.

He pointed out that the senior Legion Baseball Team is totally funded and operated by the Groton American Legion Post #39. The only connection with the city is for paying the coach. Hamilton said if anyone has any issues with the senior Legion baseball team, they need to talk with him or the coach. "There is too much hearsay out there. Any questions, talk to me or the coach." Seth Erickson is the head coach.

Hamilton then provided an update to the work that will be done with the Veteran's Circle at the Groton Union Cemetery. The plan is to complete the circle and allow for 16 to 18 additional burial places. In addition, two more stones will be added with a total capacity of 300 names. The project will cost around \$25,000 (\$10,000 per stone). Hamilton said that the Legion Post #39 (actually, he said the whole community as everyone is great in supporting the Legion fundraisers) is footing the bill.

There was more discussion on installing electricity at the Groton Municipal Airport. Councilman Kevin Nehls asked how this is benefitting the city residents. "That's a lot of money for a few people," Nehls said. The cost of installing the power is \$14,000. The council tabled pending more information and possible grant opportunities.

The City of Bristol has requested assistance from the City of Groton for mosquito control. Webster had previously done the spraying in Bristol. The council tabled the decision to make sure insurance issues and cost of chemical and gas are considered into the cost.

A special event alcoholic beverage license was approved for May 22, June 5, 1 and 26, and July 10, 17 and 23-31. Beer will not be allowed if there is little league baseball or softball games present.

After an executive session, the council decided that the special extra pay for the deputy finance office will continue until the end of June. It will be revisited at the June 21 council meeting.

- Paul Kosel

Graduation Section Is Next Week!

Groton DI Team at Globals

Groton Area Destination Imagination Team NARRAN travels to Kansas City, Missouri to attend the Global Finals Tournament May 20-25.

Team members include Rachel Dobbins, Aurora Washenberger and Novalea Warrington and Laura Arth is the Team Manager. Groton Area DI Co-coordinators Julie Milbrandt and Joni Groeblichhoff are traveling with the team. The girls will present their solution to their challenge on Tuesday, May 24 at the Kansas



The tile work was done last week at the Groton Swimming pool. The plan is for the finish coat to be installed next week, weather permitting, which will take 3-4 days. Once that work is done, the pool can be filled. Tentative opening date is sometime the week of June 6. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Small town living through rose colored glasses?

It was just another day in a small town, but writers observe more or perhaps are just better able to quantify their experiences. It's what writers do. I wrote about it on Facebook:

"I get a little resentful when I travel and I'm asked, 'Why do you live there?'"

"Community. Yesterday, at SuperValu, the owner, Kirk Rueb, stopped to consult me about an audio system he's setting up at the lake. I'm the local audio guru. It will probably be wireless but before the walls are finished I suggested running speaker wires behind them. Just in case. Dylan hustled across the street to grab a roll of the exact wire Kirk needed that I just happened to have on my desk. I'll be paid in beer when we set it up. We ran into a half dozen friends and a relative or two as we stocked up. Greetings in the produce section. Hellos on the way in and out. A dozen smiles."

So far, so good, right? I had no idea that what I thought was an innocuous, feel-good post, would result in some eye-opening blowback, and we'll get to that. But first, the rest of my story...

"Today, I sat in the chair beside the bank president as he got his hair cut by a Wishek School Board member. My stylist, Chellie, seems apolitical but passively combative. I always have to fight her to leave a tip. She tries to run the card without giving me a chance.

"The topics ranged from the economy to kids to graduation, golf, the weather (briefly), lawn mower maintenance, and marital discord during which the bank president, Robert Wishek, goaded his stylist Missy Wolf, into what you know will become an argument with her husband. Geez. Marital counseling from your friendly loan officer. Lots of laughter and insults. Chellie waited patiently for me to shut up so she could get my head tilted down. The haircut took longer than usual.

"It was just a stop at the grocery store. It was just a little off the top at the salon. But they were events. Human events. Easy to take them for granted. So, when I hear that inevitable question when I'm in one of the cities I love to visit, I'll think about these moments and ask them, "Why do you live here?"

To be fair, most responses were positive, but a surprising number thought I was wearing rose-colored glasses:

- "I think small towns can be a little dismissive! Two couples I knew moved from Fargo to my much smaller hometown. After a year, both moved back to Fargo. They found that they were never included or invited to anything no matter how hard they tried. One used the term xenophobic!"

- "I was an outsider the eight years I lived there (after I came back to my hometown). Eight years I'll never get back. Moved to (a city) and made friends all over the place, same experience in California and Fargo. Small towns ... no thanks! If you don't live in the bar, you aren't a part of the community."

- "The racism I witness, feel in my bones, and see (elsewhere) often feels so much less insidious than what I've experienced in the Dakotas."

Ouch. My initial reaction is small-town living is what you make of it. You have to be proactive. You have to have skin on your nose. I've watched many newcomers get involved and make a difference. But, these responses are cause for self-examination. Perhaps we're not as outwardly friendly as we think. In my heart, I still believe in small-town exceptionalism, but we need to do a better job of promoting the best of who and what we are.

Let's end this on a positive note:

- "Moved back to Hillsboro ... locked my keys in my car, called the body shop. Came over and unlocked the car while I was at the grocery store. I call them and asked if they needed a card, he just said drop off a check when you get a chance! The heating guy hooked up my natural gas, I've had to text him twice for him to send me a bill ... love it, and I'll always pay more for (the service)!"

- "One day, my daughter sent me a card at the lake and she just addressed it 'Mom' and the mail lady asked if that was me and I got it."

Until next week...



That's Life

by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Roundup: OTAs

By Duane & Jack Kolsrud

The Vikings OTAs (Organized Team Activities) are in full swing, and there is a whole new vibe around this team. Music is playing, players are smiling, competition is happening at all positions, player numbers are changing (get your Dalvin #4 soon), and the new regime of Kevin O'Connell is starting to come together.

One of the great things about the NFL each year is the fans have a legitimate feeling that their favorite team will make a run to the Super Bowl regardless of how they finished the previous season. Last season was a perfect example as the Cincinnati Bengals went from a four win team to winning their division and representing the AFC in the Super Bowl. This same feeling is coming out of Eagan, MN this Spring.

Here's why the experts are predicting the Vikings to win the NFC North in 2022.

Let's take a look at the defense first.

- The Vikings added a veteran defensive lineman in Za'Darius Smith to man the right side while former all-Pro Danielle Hunter returns to lock down the left side. With the new 3-4 defense implemented, it is imperative to be strong up front, and these two guys can bring it on every down.

- The Vikings were able to retain veteran cornerback Patrick Peterson. Peterson may not be the same corner from his HOF years in Arizona, but it will be his veteran presence that could pay dividends for the future. The young defensive backs on this roster cannot believe they get to play alongside their idol and learn from one of the best.

- The biggest question mark on defense will be in the middle. No longer will Anthony Barr be shooting the gap or guarding runningbacks out of the backfield. The Vikings still have veteran Eric Kendricks, but he'll have a lot of new faces around him after many seasons teaming up with his UCLA buddy to be one of the best linebacking duos in the league.

- Finally, the division offensively does not look as potent as in years past. The Packers still have Rodgers but they lost their top two receivers, (but then again, they have Rodgers). The Bears are still trying to figure out the quarterback position and the Lions will always be the Lions.

Now let's take a look at the offense.

- The Vikings had one of the top offenses in the league last year and should be just as high-octane in 2022. Kirk Cousins returns for his 5th season and now has an offensive-minded head coach to help lead the way. As much as people want to blame Cousins for the team's performance the past two years, he couldn't have played much better.

- All of the weapons are in place. Jefferson, Cook, Osborn and Thielen return. They lost their tight end Tyler Conklin to free agency, but he was filling in for what many think is the tight end of the future, Irv Smith, Jr., who has shown flashes of brilliance but needs to stay healthy.

- As always, there are many questions around the offensive line. This season, it is focused mainly around the right-guard position. The Viking's starters at right guard struggled while the highly touted rookie Wyatt Davis never sniffed the field. They have brought in a number of prospects to vie for this position and the feeling is right guard is the missing link to give Cousins the protection he needs to have another Pro Bowl season.

Highlight of the week.

Bud Grant turned 95 years old and had quite the Zoom call. Viking legends like Page, Eller, Marshall and Rashad joined the current staff and sang Happy Birthday to Bud. In true Bud fashion, he told them to "speed it up- it isn't a funeral".

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State Track Meet Qualifiers

In back, left to right are Jacob Lewandowski, Cole Simon, Teylor Diegel, Kaden Kurtz, Keegen Tracy, Jackson Cogley, Lane Tietz and Andrew Marzahn; in the middle row, left to right, are Kella Tracy, Aspen Johnson, Faith Traphagen, Kennedy Hansen, Jerica Locke, Laila Roberts, Taryn Traphagen and Rylee Dunker; in front are assistant coaches Aaron Helvig and Lynette Grieve and Head Coach Shaun Wanner. (Photo by Jeslyn Kosel)

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Several named to LATI President's List

Paxton Bonn, Austin Anderson, Tiara DeHoet and Kale Pharis were named to the President's List at Lake Area Technical College. DeHoet achieved a 4.0 GPA.

The President's List is a record of outstanding students who, through their initiative and ability, have indicated a seriousness of purpose in their educational program. The President's List is limited to full-time students who have achieved a semester grade point average of 3.5 to 4.0.

SDHSAA STATE TRACK MEET TO TAKE PLACE THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

PIERRE – The 116th running of the SDHSAA State Track & Field Championship Meet will take on a new format this year with the meet being held over a three day period at one site. The entire track meet will be held at Howard

Wood Field in Sioux Falls. May 24-26, 2022, beginning at 12:30 on Thursday.

All seven defending team champions will return squads to this year's event. (Class AA boys), Sioux Falls Lincoln, (Class AA girls) Brandon Valley & O'Gorman, (Class A Boys), Sioux Falls Christian, (Class A girls) West Central, (Class B boys) Hanson, and (Class B girls), Colman-Egan. Sioux Falls Lincoln's boys team will return to the state meet seeking their 6th straight Class AA boys' title.

Overall, a total of 2778 individual athletes from 141 South Dakota High School teams will be participating in this weekend's meet. A breakdown of athletes by class is as follows:

Class B: 469 Girls, 486 Boys – 955 Total Athletes

Class A: 459 Girls, 494 Boys – 953 Total Athletes

Class AA: 424 Girls, 446 Boys – 870 Total Athletes

Full Championship Meet information, including meet entries, records, event video and up-to-the minute results can be found online via South Dakota Public Broadcasting (www.sdpb.org/track) or through the SDHSAA Website (www.sdhsaa.com).



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Groton Track qualifies for state in nine events

The state track meet will be held May 26-28 in Sioux Falls. Some Groton athletes fell out of the top 24 while some Groton improved their times at the region track meet to stay or move up in the state rankings. Here are the events that Groton Area will participate at the state track meet.

The girls 1600m Relay Team of Jerica Locke, Kennedy Hansen, Kella Tracy and Laila Roberts qualified for state with a time of 4:18.31 set at the region track meet. They are rated eighth in the state.

The girls 3200m Relay Team of Kella Tracy, Faith Traphagen, Taryn Traphagen and Rylee Dunker qualified for state with a time of 10:31.55 set at the region track meet. They are rated 20th in the state.

The girls Sprint Medley Relay Team of Laila Roberts, Kennedy Hansen, Jerica Locke and Faith Traphagen qualified for state with a time of 4:36.02 set at the region track meet. They are rated 22nd in the state.

Aspen Johnson qualified for state in the triple jump. Her distance of 34-1.75 was set on May 6th. She is rated eighth in the state.

The boys 400m Relay Team of Kaden Kurtz, Keegen Tracy, Andrew Marzahn and Teylor Diegel qualified for state with a time of 45.86 set on May 12th. They are rated 16th in the state.

The boys 800m Relay Team of Andrew Marzahn, Keegen Tracy, Kaden Kurtz and Teylor Diegel qualified for state with a time of 1:35.44 set at the region track meet. They are rated 19th in the state.

The boys 1600m Relay Team of Keegen Tracy, Kaden Kurtz, Andrew Marzahn and Cole Simon qualified for state with a time of 3:37.95 set at the region track meet. They are rated 16th in the state.

The boys 3200m Relay Team of Cole Simon, Keegen Tracy, Jacob Lewandowski and Lane Tietz qualified for state with a time of 8:53.99 set at the region track meet. They are rated 20th in the state.

Jackson Cogley qualified for state in the high jump with a height of 5-9 set May 12th. He is tied for 23rd in the state with seven other athletes.

Andrew Marzahn will be competing in the 200m Dash at the State Track Meet. He was originally listed as 28th place, just outside of the top 24. Coach Shaun Wanner said some athletes will not be running in the 200m Dash and that allowed for Marzahn to move up to the 24th spot.

Groton placed first in three events at regions

Groton Area placed first in three events at the Regional Track Meet held Thursday in Clark. The final top 24 in the state will be released today. The regional track meet was the final meet of the season for athletes to try and improve on their times to secure a spot in the top 24.

The boys 3200m relay team took first while the girls 1600m Relay team took first as did Aspen Johnson in the triple jump.

Girl's Division

Team Points: 1. Milbank 201.5; 2. Redfield 96; 3. Webster Area 91; 4. Groton Area 85; 5. Clark/Willow Lake 75.5; 6. Dakota Hills 65; 7. Florence/Henry 63; 8. Sisseton 36

100 Meters - Prelims: 11. Karsyn Jangula, 14.65; 15. Kayla Lehr, 15.13; 17. Brooklyn Hansen, 15.21

200 Meters: 9. Rylee Dunker, 29.80; 10. Karsyn Jangula, 29.98; 11. Brooklyn Hansen, 30.18

800 Meters: 2. Taryn Traphagen, 2:48.71

100m Hurdles - 33": 5. Talli Wright, 19.23

100m Hurdles - 33" - Prelims: 6. Talli Wright, 19.34

300m Hurdles - 30": 4. Talli Wright, 54.93

4x100 Relay: 2. (Rylee Dunker, Brooklyn Hansen, Kella Tracy, Karsyn Jangula), 56.05

4x200 Relay: 2. (Jerica Locke, Kennedy Hansen, Aspen Johnson, Laila Roberts), 1:54.67

4x400 Relay: 1. (Jerica Locke, Kennedy Hansen, Kella Tracy, Laila Roberts), 4:18.31

4x800 Relay: 3. (Kella Tracy, Faith Traphagen, Taryn Traphagen, Rylee Dunker), 10:31.55

SMR 200-200-400-800m - [2-2-4-8]: 2. (Laila Roberts, Kennedy Hansen, Jerica Locke, Faith Traphagen), 4:36.02

Shot Put - 4kg: 5. Emma Kutter, 30-07.00 PR; 6. Maddie Bjerke, 29-04.00; 9. Faith Flihs, 28-00.50

Discus - 1kg: 14. Maddie Bjerke, 67-01; 15. Faith Flihs, 64-07; 19. Ashley Johnson, 47-04

High Jump: 6. Anna Fjeldheim, 4-06.00; 9. Emerlee Jones, 4-04.00

Long Jump: 2. Aspen Johnson, 15-00.00; 9. Anna Fjeldheim, 13-08.00

Triple Jump: 1. Aspen Johnson, 32-06.25; 10. Anna Fjeldheim, 28-01.00; 14. Emerlee Jones, 27-06.00

Boy's Division

Team Points: 1. Milbank 224.5; 2. Webster Area 130.5; 3. Groton Area 80.5; 4. Clark/Willow Lake 71; 5. Florence/Henry 68; 6. Dakota Hills 54; 7. Redfield 53.5; 8. Sisseton 32; 9. Tiospa Zina 12

100 Meters: 2. Andrew Marzahn, 11.92

100 Meters - Prelims: 2. Andrew Marzahn, 11.73; 9. Korbin Kucker, 12.60; 11. Jayden Zak, 12.98

200 Meters: 10. Korbin Kucker, 25.89; 12. Tate Larson, 26.26

400 Meters: 5. Christian Ehresmann, 59.64; 8. Tate Larson, 1:01.86

800 Meters: 12. Tristan McGannon, 2:30.12; 14. Jayden Schwan, 2:44.41; 15. Ben Hoeft, 2:47.13

1600 Meters: 8. Tristan McGannon, 5:26.84; 12. Jayden Schwan, 5:56.98; 13. Ben Hoeft, 6:00.19

110m Hurdles - 39": 4. Caden McInerney, 20.55

110m Hurdles - 39" - Prelims: 4. Caden McInerney, 20.55

300m Hurdles - 36": 5. Caden McInerney, 50.20; 7. Colby Dunker, 54.48

4x100 Relay: 3. (Kaden Kurtz, Keegen Tracy, Korbin Kucker, Teylor Diegel), 46.77

4x200 Relay: 2. (Andrew Marzahn, Keegen Tracy, Kaden Kurtz, Teylor Diegel), 1:35.44

4x400 Relay: 4. (Keegen Tracy, Kaden Kurtz, Andrew Marzahn, Cole Simon), 3:37.95

4x800 Relay: 1. (Cole Simon, Keegen Tracy, Jacob Lewandowski, Lane Tietz), 8:53.99

SMR 200-200-400-800m - [2-2-4-8]: 3. (Lane Tietz, Teylor Diegel, Christian Ehresmann, Jacob Lewandowski), 4:05.55

Shot Put - 12lb: 7. Holden Sippel, 40-02.50; 9. Caleb Hanten, 38-04.00; 10. Kaleb Antonsen, 36-06.50

Discus - 1.6kg: 5. Logan Ringgenberg, 106-07; 7. Caleb Hanten, 100-01; 9. Holden Sippel, 95-00

High Jump: 5. Jackson Cogley, 5-04.00

Long Jump: 8. Jacob Zak, 18-05.50; 17. Tate Larson, 14-08.25

Triple Jump: 4. Jackson Cogley, 37-09.25; 6. Jacob Zak, 36-06.75 PR; 9. Tristan McGannon, 34-09.00

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2022 June Groton Community Calendar

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>29 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m. Emmanuel: Worship with Communion, 9 a.m. Methodist: Communion Sunday: Conde Worship at 9 a.m., Groton worship at 11 a.m. St. John's: Bible Study, 8 a.m.; worship, 9 a.m.; Zion worship, 11 a.m.</p>	<p>30 - MEMORIAL DAY Senior Menu: No Meal Groton Post #39: Huffton at 7:30, James at 8:15, Verdon at 8:45, Bates-Scotland at 9:15, Ferney at 10:00, Andover at 11:00, Groton at Noon with lunch to follow at Legion.</p>	<p>31 9:30 a.m.: Methodist Bible Study 5:30 p.m.: Legion hosts Sisseton, 5:30 DH 5 p.m.: Jr. Teeners at Aberdeen, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 at Britton, DH 6:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Watertown (W/B), 1 game, Nelson Field 5:30 p.m.: U8 hosts Watertown (B/W), 2 game, Nelson Field</p>	<p>1 Senior Menu: Scalloped potatoes with ham, peas, mandarin-orange salad, whole wheat bread. Noon: Groton Chamber Meeting at City Hall 6 p.m.: T-Ball practice</p>	<p>2 Senior Menu: Roast beef with potatoes, Carrots, onions; gravy, fruit, whole wheat bread. 5 p.m.: Legion at Watertown, 5 p.m. DH 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners host Redfield, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 vs. Borge at Aberdeen (north complex), DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 vs. Borge at Aberdeen, north complex, (R/B), DH 5:30 p.m.: U8 vs. Borge at Aberdeen, north complex, (R/B), DH 6 p.m.: U12 SB at Warner, DH</p>	<p>3 Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, dill potato, seven layer salad, fruited Jell-O with topping, whole wheat bread.  Matt's Tree Service www.aberdeentreeservice.com</p>	<p>4 SEAS Confession: 3:45-4:15 p.m., SEAS Mass: 4:30 p.m.  TREE TRIMMING & REMOVAL STUMP GRINDING STORM DAMAGE CLEANUP 605/228-3861</p>
<p>5 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m. 7:30 p.m.: Amateurs at Northville</p>	<p>6 Senior Menu: Hamburger on bun, oven-roasted potatoes, cucumber salad, ice cream sundae. 5:30 p.m.: Legion hosts Smithy's DH 6 p.m.: U12 at Webster, DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Britton, DH, (R/W), Nelson Field 5:30 p.m.: U8 hosts Britton, DH, (R/W), Nelson Field</p>	<p>7 Senior Menu: Breaded codfish, parsley buttered potatoes, creamy coleslaw, fruit, whole wheat bread. 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Legion hosts Milbank, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 vs. Hannigan in Aberdeen (north complex), DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 vs. Hannigan in Aberdeen (north complex), DH (W/B) 5:30 p.m.: U8 vs. Hannigan in Aberdeen (north complex), DH (W/B) 6 p.m.: U12 SB hosts Britton, Falk Field, DH 6 p.m.: T-Ball practice 7 p.m.: City Council Meeting</p>	<p>8 Senior Menu: Taco salad, Mexican rice, fresh fruit, bread stick 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners host Webster, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Jacobson, DH 6 p.m.: U8 SB at Doland, 1 game 7 p.m.: U10 SB at Doland, 1 game 5 p.m.: T-Ball Black at Doland</p>	<p>9 Senior Menu: Oven-Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, butter-milk biscuits, banana pudding with bananas. 5 p.m.: Legion hosts Moberg, 1 game 7 p.m.: Jr. Legion hosts Moberg, 1 game 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners at Britton, DH 6 p.m.: U12 SB hosts Webster, DH, Nelson Field 6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Webster, 1 game, Nelson Field 7 p.m.: U10 SB hosts Webster, 1 game, Nelson Field</p>	<p>10 Senior Menu: Turkey sub sandwich, potato salad, broccoli, fruit, cookie. 6 p.m.: U10 hosts Renegades, DH, (R/B), Nelson Field 6 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage  GROTON VET CLINIC 1503 N Broadway, Groton, 605/397-8145</p>	<p>11 SEAS Confession: 3:45-4:15 p.m., SEAS Mass: 4:30 p.m. U10 at Aberdeen Tourney (R/W) U8 Tourney in Groton</p>
<p>12 Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m. 2 p.m.: Legion hosts Redfield, DH U10 at Aberdeen Tourney (W/B) 3:00 p.m.: Amateurs at Miller</p>	<p>13 Senior Menu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes with gravy, coleslaw, peaches, whole wheat bread. 1 p.m.: Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center 5 p.m.: Legion at Webster, DH 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners host Aberdeen, DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Webster, Nelson Field, (R/B), DH 5:30 p.m.: U8 hosts Webster, Nelson Field, (R/B), DH 7 p.m.: School Board Meeting</p>	<p>14 - Flag Day Senior Menu: Baked fish, au gratin potatoes, 3-bean salad, fruit cobbler, whole wheat bread. 5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Hannigan, DH 6 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage  Aberdeen 225-6772 1-800-843-1865  Redfield 1-800-247-4650</p>	<p>15 Senior Menu: Chicken Tetrazzini, peas, honey fruit salad, vanilla pudding, whole wheat bread. 5 p.m.: Jr. Teeners host Selby, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Webster, DH  Webster JOHN DEERE 1-800-658-2252</p>	<p>16 Senior Menu: Beef tips in gravy over noodles, Peas, lettuce salad, fruit, whole wheat bread. 4-7 p.m.: Groton Transit Fundraiser at Groton Community Center 5:30 p.m.: U120 vs. Rattlers in Watertown, Foundation Fields, (R/W), DH 6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Mellette, 1 game 7 p.m.: U10 SB hosts Mellette, 1 game 8 p.m.: U12 SB hosts Mellette, 1 game</p>	<p>17 Senior Menu: Bratwurst with bun, mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, green beans, fruit. SDSU Alumni Golf Tournament 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Legion at Selby, DH 5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Doland, 1 game 7:30 p.m.: Amateurs host Redfield P</p>	<p>18 SEAS Confession: 3:45-4:15 p.m., SEAS Mass: 4:30 p.m. 10 a.m.: Firemen's Triathlon (Trap shoot, golf, bowling) U12 s. Webster and Clark at Webster Jr. Legion at Milbank Tourney</p>
<p>19 - Father's Day Catholic: SEAS Confession, 7:45-8:15 a.m.; SEAS Mass, 8:30 a.m.; Turton Confession, 10:30-10:45 a.m.; Turton Mass, 11 a.m. Jr. Teeners at Milbank Tourney 5:00 p.m.: Amateurs at Redfield DQ</p>	<p>20 - JUNETEENTH HOLIDAY Senior Menu: Goulash, green beans, apple crisp, whole wheat bread. 1 p.m.: Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center 5:30 p.m.: Legion at Northville, 1 game 7 p.m.: Jr. Legion at Northville, 1 game 5:30 p.m.: U12 hosts Britton, Nelson Field, DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 at Britton, DH (B/W) 5:30 p.m.: U8 at Britton, DH (R/W) 6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Doland, 1 game 7 p.m.: U10 SB hosts Doland, 1 game 5 p.m.: T-Ball Gold hosts Doland</p>	<p>21 Senior Menu: Hot Turkey combination, mashed potatoes with gravy, 7-layer salad, apple sauce, cookie 5:30 p.m.: U12 vs. Jacobson in Aberdeen, north complex, DH 5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Flash, DH (R/B) 6 p.m.: U12 SB hosts Warner, DH 7 p.m.: City Council Meeting</p>	<p>22 Senior Menu: Ham, sweet potatoes, peas, acini depepi fruit salad, whole wheat bread 5:30 p.m.: U10 hosts Hannigan, DH (R/W) 5:30 p.m.: U8 hosts Hannigan, DH (B/W)</p>	<p>23 Senior Menu: Honey glazed chicken, parsley buttered potatoes, mixed vegetables, ambrosia salad, whole wheat bread. 5:00 p.m.: Legion hosts Lake Norden, 1 game 7 p.m.: Jr. Legion hosts Lake Norden, 1 game 5:30 p.m.: Jr. Teeners at Warner, DH 7:30 p.m.: U12 at Doland, 1 game 6:30 p.m.: U10 at Doland, 1 game (R/W) 5:30 p.m.: U8 at Doland, 1 game (R/B) 6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Claremont, 1 game 7 p.m.: U10 SB hosts Claremont, 1 game</p>	<p>24 Senior Menu: BBQ beef sandwich, potato salad, carrots and peas, seasonal fresh fruit. 6 p.m.: U8 SB hosts Clark, DH 6 p.m.: T-Ball Scrimmage 7:30 p.m.: Amateurs host Aberdeen</p>	<p>25 SEAS Confession: 3:45-4:15 p.m., SEAS Mass: 4:30 p.m. U10 Tourney in Groton</p>


New Construction
Remodeling
Hoop Barns
Shops
Blocker Construction LLC
Perry Blocker
prblocker@hotmail.com
13379 Sperry Ln, Bath
605/216-2677

High gas prices not expected to slow down South Dakota tourism industry in 2022

Kylie Carlson

South Dakota News Watch

Even though fuel prices have hit an all-time high, state officials and business operators in the South Dakota tourism industry remain optimistic that the summer of 2022 will be another record-setting season for visitors and revenues.

Tourism industry experts say the post-COVID desire to travel, South Dakota's wide variety of tourist attractions and a reputation for great hospitality have overridden visitor concerns over high gas prices, at least so far in 2022.

Gas prices have been on a steady rise in recent months, and are well above what drivers paid for fuel last year.

On May 19, 2022 the national average price of regular unleaded gas was \$4.59 per gallon, according to the American Automobile Association. The South Dakota average was \$4.20 per gallon, AAA said, and all 50 states had an average price over \$4.00 per gallon on that date.

For comparison, the national average price on May 19, 2021, was \$2.90 per gallon of unleaded.

Deb Schuetzle, operator of the Hitching Horse Inn in Pierre, credits South Dakota's welcoming reputation as a big reason the state remains a popular tourist destination even during a time of soaring fuel prices.

"We really thought that maybe our gas prices may affect our tourism season, but thus far, it has not," said Schuetzle, who runs the four-room bed and breakfast inn. South Dakota has a "warmth and charm people just love," she said.

The Hitching Horse Inn has routinely been full this year and has had to turn some people away, Schuetzle said. "It has been really looking up ... and I'm probably ahead of last year. So I'm very, very pleased with that."

Tourism is among the state's largest industries, and many South Dakota towns and residents rely on visitor spending to maintain a thriving economy.

In its 2021 Economic Impact Report, the South Dakota Department of Tourism said 13.5 million people visited the state that year. Those visitors spent an estimated \$4.4 billion in 2021, an increase of 30% over 2020.

The industry generated \$354 million in state and local sales taxes in 2021. Visitor spending represents 5.1% of South Dakota's economy and supports one in every 17 jobs in the state. Tax revenue that tourism provides saves South Dakotan households \$980 per year in taxes, the department said.

"Tourism in South Dakota is a job-creating, revenue-generating industry that plays a vital role in supporting the state's economy year after year. It's not just valuable for the state of South Dakota, these efforts impact communities and families throughout our state," Katlyn Svendsen, spokeswoman for the South Dakota Department of Tourism, wrote to News Watch in an email.

Key branches of the tourism industry include lodging, retail shopping and food and beverage sales. With fuel prices almost a dollar higher per gallon than in 2021, transportation may play a bigger role in the choices tourists make in 2022 but is not expected to result in a major drop in visits or revenues, Svendsen said.

"We may see shorter trips, less money being spent on food, beverage, souvenirs, etc. [But] we remain confident that our family-friendly, affordable state, featuring world-class outdoor adventure, will continue to draw visitors to South Dakota," Svendsen wrote.



The operator of the Hitching Horse Inn in Pierre has had steady bookings so far in 2022 and has had to turn some potential guests away due to lack of vacancy. Photo: Courtesy Hitching Horse Inn

Teri Schmidt, executive director of Experience Sioux Falls, which aims to attract visitors to the Sioux Falls area, said gas prices do not appear to be a major deterrent to visits to the region so far.

"Our visitor guide requests are up, the interest in Sioux Falls, the calls that we're getting ... those are all up. If those are any indication, we should have a really good summer again," said Schmidt. "South Dakota and Sioux Falls offer what people are looking for — the great outdoors, activities, events, culture, sports, our state kind of has it all."

Svendsen added that in the first quarter of 2022, the state was already outpacing 2019 visitors counts by 18%. She added that Arrivalist, a mobile geolocation tracking company, showed that South Dakota had the highest jump in overnight stays so far this year, with an 11% increase compared to 2019.

While the high gas prices are making travel more expensive, many visitors are continuing to make vacation plans.

The high price of petrol did not dissuade Duane Johnson and his wife Trish from taking a long driving vacation this month. The retired couple from Wisconsin stopped to fuel up in Rapid City on May 17 on their way home after visiting their daughter in Salt Lake City.

Gas prices were so volatile that the Johnsons paid \$3.80 a gallon when they left Wisconsin two weeks earlier to make the 2,600-mile round trip journey. In Rapid City, they paid \$4.48 a gallon for mid-grade unleaded gasoline. Unleaded cost them \$4.80 a gallon in Salt Lake City, Johnson said.

"How about that? Almost \$100 to fill up," said Johnson, who felt compelled to point out that he is not movie actor Dwayne Johnson, The Rock.

Johnson said the couple discussed the cost of gas before embarking on their vacation, but decided the desire to visit their daughter overrode their concern over fuel costs.

"The gas prices do affect us, but they haven't stopped us," he said.

The couple considered saving money by driving to Utah in their Toyota, which gets more than 20 miles per gallon, but took their gas-guzzling Chevy Silverado (14 mpg) because they wanted to bring a bed and other goods to their daughter and needed the cargo space.

Johnson said the couple's wanderlust will keep them on the road this summer, with trips planned to Montana and again to Salt Lake City. But if gas goes to \$6 a gallon or higher, Johnson said the pair will likely fly rather than

drive, or perhaps cut back on travel altogether.

"What are you going to do?" Johnson said. "If you want to travel, you have to pay to do it."

According to 2022 fuel prices outlook published by Gasbuddy, a site that predicts and publishes fuel prices online, drivers may save a little at the pump throughout the summer months. The predicted rate for May averaged \$4.25 per gallon with June falling to \$4.21, July at \$4.18, and \$4.23 in August.

Schmidt also highlighted that travelers within the state are just as important as those who come from far and wide.

"We want those long-distance travelers coming through, but equally as important are people in our region," she said.

"We're a weekend destination, and that is a lot of what helped us pull through COVID."

President Biden placed a ban on imports of Russian crude oil in response to Russian President Vladimir Putin's invasion of Ukraine in February. Domestic oil producers are also ramping production back up after the events of 2020 dropped the demand for oil. In a White House briefing on March 31, Biden announced an unprecedented release of federal crude oil reserves at a rate of 1 million barrels per day for the next six months to help smooth out the market until domestic producers can keep up with the demand. However, across the U.S., drivers are still paying more per gallon than ever before.

— This article was produced by South Dakota News Watch, a non-profit journalism organization located online at SDNewsWatch.org.



Groton Post #39 Memorial Day Schedule

- Hufton at 7:30 a.m.
- James at 8:15 a.m.
- Verdon at 8:45 a.m.
- Bates-Scotland at 9:15 a.m.
- Ferney at 10 a.m.
- Andover at 11 a.m.

Groton at Noon
Guest speaker at Groton is Les Hinds.
Lunch to follow at the Groton Post #39
home served by the Legion Auxiliary.

In the event of inclement weather,
the ceremony will be held at the
Post home.

Columbia City Vacating Roadway Notice

RESOLUTION AND ORDER VACATING ROADWAYS/ALLEY

The City of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota, having presented the following Resolution and Order and moved for its adoption:

Whereas, the City of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota having been requested to vacate the existing public right-of-ways, which includes the dedicated right-of-ways, alleyways and any right-of-way acquired by deed(s) lying as follows:

1) The alleyway of Block 10, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running north and south from Baldwin Avenue to Townsend Avenue.

That said public alleyway being approximately 16 feet wide and 300 feet in length.

2) The alleyway of Block 9, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running north and south from Townsend Avenue to Ismond Avenue of said Block 9.

That said public alleyway being approximately 16 feet wide and 300 feet in length.

3) The eastern portion of the Baldwin Avenue Road right-of-way between Block 10 and Block 11, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running east and west from the west right-of-way line of the alleyway in Block 10 being vacated in #1 above to the west right-of-way line of South Broadway Street.

That said public street right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 158 feet in length.

4) The Townsend Avenue Road right-of-way between Block 9 and Block 10, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running east and west from the east right-of-way line of South James Street to the west right-of-way line of South Broadway Street.

That said public street right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 296 feet in length.

And further said Petition being in proper form and executed by Dean L. Buntrock the authorized signer for Columbia Park, LLC, an owner of adjacent land to the roadways and alleyways being vacated; and further it having been determined that vacating said existing public right-of-ways which includes the dedicated right-of-ways, alleyways and any right-of-way acquired by deed(s) will better serve the public convenience; and that no one appearing in opposition; and said Council Members having considered said matter and being fully advised in the premises and considering it advisable to do so; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

That the existing public right-of-ways which includes the dedicated right-of-ways, alleyways and any right-of-way acquired by deed(s) lying as follows:

1) The alleyway of Block 10, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running north and south from Baldwin Avenue to Townsend Avenue.

That said public alleyway being approximately 16 feet wide and 300 feet in length.

2) The alleyway of Block 9, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running north and south from Townsend Avenue to Ismond Avenue of said Block 9.

That said public alleyway being approximately 16 feet wide and 300 feet in length.

3) The eastern portion of the Baldwin Avenue Road right-of-way between Block 10 and Block 11, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running east and west from the

west right-of-way line of the alleyway in Block 10 being vacated in #1 above to the west right-of-way line of South Broadway Street.

That said public street right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 158 feet in length.

4) The Townsend Avenue Road right-of-way between Block 9 and Block 10, Original Plat of Columbia, Brown County, South Dakota running east and west from the east right-of-way line of South James Street to the west right-of-way line of South Broadway Street.

That said public street right-of-way being approximately 66 feet wide and 296 feet in length.

It is further ordered that said Resolution shall be published in the official/legal newspaper of the respective City of Columbia once per week for two consecutive weeks; and that after such publication, such right-of-ways shall be, after a lapse of thirty days after the last publication thereof, vacated without further proceedings unless appealed as provided by law; and that the Finance Officer herein is further ordered and directed to cause to be recorded a true and correct copy of this Resolution and Order in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for Brown County, South Dakota.

It is further ordered that all bridges, guard rails and culverts are hereby deemed to revert to and become personal property and possession of the City of Columbia.

The Motion was made by Council Member Ellen Harr and was seconded by Council Member Emily Eichler and upon roll call, the vote was as follows:

Council Members:
Ellen Harr, Yes
Emily Eichler, Yes
Trevor Meints, Yes
Cole Kampa, Not present
Passed this 16. day of May, 2022.

Published this 25th day of May, 2022 and this 1st day of June, 2022.

Mayor
ATTEST:
Finance Officer
Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$97.13. 21226

Columbia City May 16, 2022 Special Meeting

Special Meeting City of Columbia Council Meeting – May 16, 2022

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Ellen Harr, Trevor Meints, Corey Mitchell

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. The Resolution regarding the vacating of streets and alleys with our city park project was read and reviewed. Ellen Harr made a motion to accept the resolution as presented. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Emily Eichler made a motion to adjourn. Ellen Harr seconded the motion. All were in favor – meeting adjourned.

Next City Council Meeting - June 1, 2022 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$8.28. 21227

Groton Area Fourth Quarter Honor Roll

Seniors

4.0 GPA: Madelin Fliehs, Allyssa Locke, Alyssa Thaler, Trista Keith, Travis Townsend, Kennedy Anderson, Jordan Bjerke, Megan Fliehs, Hannah Gustafson, Seth Johnson, Julianna Kosel, Kansas Kroll

3.99-3.50: Pierce Kettering, Kaden Kurtz, Jackson Cogley, Madisen Bjerke, Wyatt Hernen, Lane Krueger, Kelsie Frost, Landon Kokales, Kody Lehr, Ryder Daly, Brayden Hansen, Emilie Thurston, Jayden Zak

3.49-3.00: Jace Kroll, Riley Leicht, Favian Sanchez-Gonzalez, Michal Tabke, Trey Johnson, Evin Nehls, Cassandra Schultz, Trinity Smith

Juniors

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

3.99-3.50: Cole Bisbee, Aspen Johnson, Gracie Traphagen, Kaleb Antonsen, Cade Larson, Cadance Tullis, Porter Johnson, Tate Larson, Shaylee Peterson

3.49-3.00: Carter Barse, Kaylynn Overacker, Ashtyn Bahr, Tannor McGannon, Shallyn Foertsch, Cameron Johnson, Sierra Ehresmann, Ethan Gengerke

Sophomores

4.0 GPA: Emily Clark, Kyleigh Englund, Claire Heinrich, Lydia Meier, Hannah Monson, Ashlyn Sperry

3.99-3.50: Cadence Feist, Abigail Jensen, Camryn Kurtz, Jaycie Lier, Holden Sippel, Jackson Garstecki, Colby Dunker, Lexi Osterman, Sara Menzia, Bradin Althoff, Anna Fjeldheim, Faith Fliehs, Sydney Leicht, Dillon Abeln

3.49-3.00: Carly Guthmiller, Bryson Wambach, Anna Bisbee, Shea Jandel, Emma Schinkel, Karsyn Jangula, Lane Tietz, Logan Ringgenberg

Freshmen

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

3.99-3.50: Diego Eduardo Nava Remigio, Faith Traphagen, Corbin Weismantel, Blake Pauli, Brooklyn Hansen, Jeslyn Kosel, Emma Kutter, Laila Roberts, Kayla Lehr, Kaden Kampa, Easten Ekern, Aiden Heathcote, Kellen Antonsen, Brevin Fliehs, Savannah Bible, Kianna Sander

3.49-3.00: Kennedy Hansen, Korbin Kucker, Rebecca Poor, Carter Simon, Karrah-Jo Johnson, Ashlyn Feser, Riley Carman, Blake Dennert, Emily Overacker, Taylor Diegel, Logan Pearson, Turner Thompson, Christian Ehresmann, Carson Herrick, Ashley Johnson, Kayleigh McGannon, Karlie McKane

Eighth Graders

4.0 GPA: Carly Gilbert, Jaedyn Penning, Nathan Unzen, Talli Wright

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

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

Seventh Graders

4.0 GPA: Teagan Hanten, Ashlynn Warrington

3.99-3.50: Carlee Johnson, Brody Lord, McKenna Tietz, Liby Althoff, Halee Harder, Kira Clocksene, Colt Williamson, Emerlee Jones, Gavin Kroll, Aiden Strom, Leah Jones, Walker Zoellner

3.49-3.00: Addison Hoffman Wipf, Blake Lord, Claire Schuelke, Kella Tracy, Taryn Traphagen, Zander Harry, Hayden Zoellner, Avery Crank, Brenna Imrie, Hailey Pauli

Sixth Graders

4.0 GPA: Makenna Krause, Thomas Schuster

3.99-3.50: Elizabeth Cole, Layne Johnson, Sydney Locke, Addison Hoeft, Easton Weber, Kyleigh Kroll, Taryn Thompson, Chesney Weber, Dee Eh June Say, Mya Feser, Rylie Rose, Ryelle Gilbert, Ryder Schelle, Wyatt Wambach, JoHanne Beauchamp, Brysen Sadness, Karson Zak

3.49-3.00: Aimee Heilman, Jace Johnson, John Bisbee, Rylen Ekern, Ethan Kroll, Journey Zieroth, Kinsley Rowen, Alex Abeln, Shaydon Wood

Balloons and Jumbo Cards headquarters is the Groton Independent!

Memorial Day Services

Columbia American Legion



May 30, 2022



1:00 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Steve Haugaard

former South Dakota Speaker of the House

Legion Memorial Services:

Bath – 9:00 a.m.

Westport – 10:00 a.m.

Houghton – 11:00 a.m.

Columbia Lutheran – 11:30 a.m.

Columbia – noon

Potluck lunch at the Legion will begin after the services at the cemetery. The program this year will follow the potluck!

We're going to march in a parade...

...and carry flags to the cemetery.

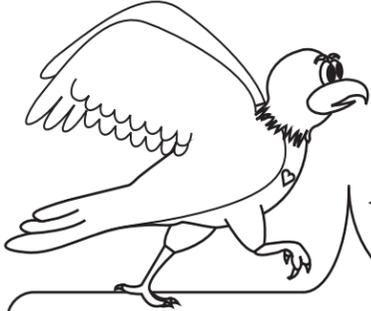
Newspaper Fun!

www.readingclubfun.com

Annimills LLC © 2022 V21

Kids: color stuff in!

Remembering Loved Ones on Memorial Day!



We are decorating the graves with flags, flowers, wreaths and ribbons.

Memorial Day is a special day. It marks what many people think of as the first summer holiday of the year. It's a time for remembering all of the people who have died serving our country. It's a time for decorating the graves of those who have fought for our freedom and have fallen.

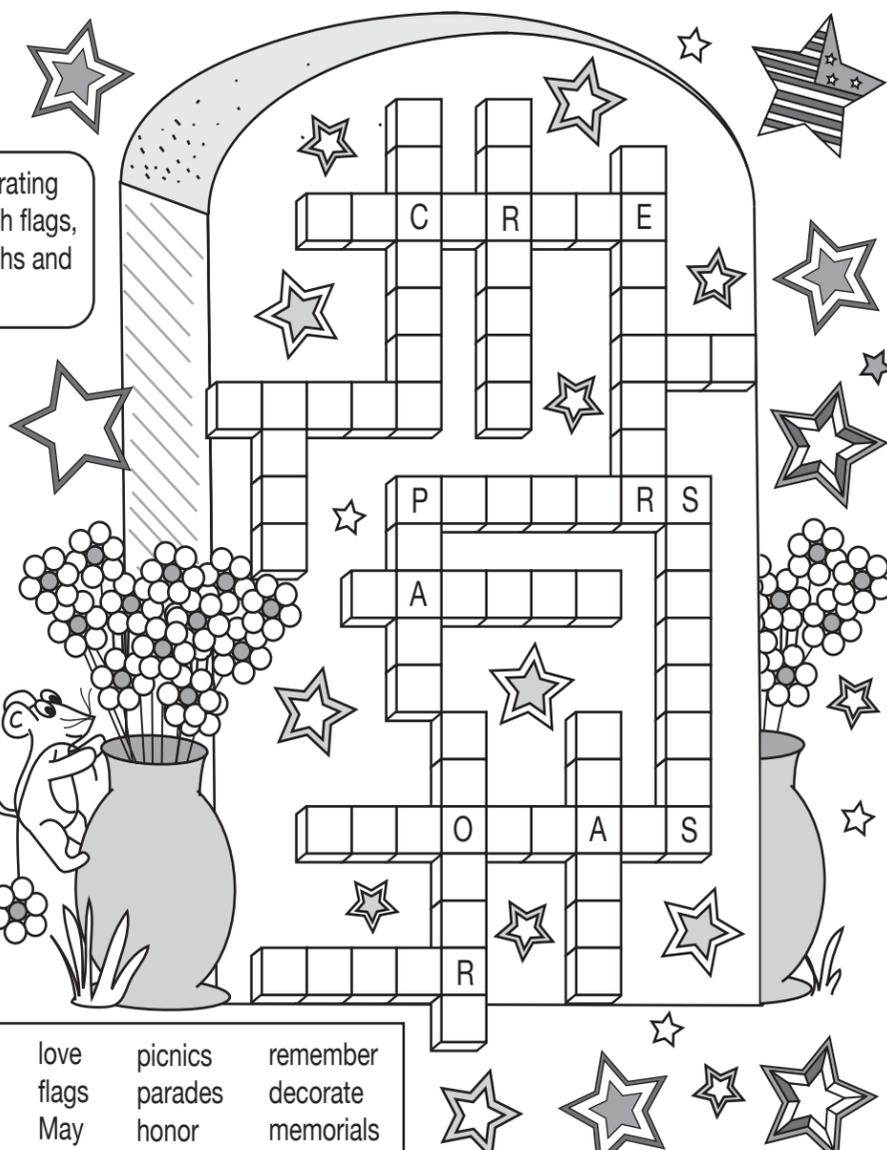
Memorial Day is a day of parades and speeches. People sometimes follow the parades to a cemetery to place flowers and ribbons on the graves of soldiers or other people they knew and loved. Often, prayers, songs or memories are shared.

On this long weekend, there are also cookouts, family visits and even trips to the beach. It's a great time to ask questions to learn more about your family tree. What memories can your grandparents share?

Yay! Chicken, potato, salad, vegetable sticks, milk and brownies!

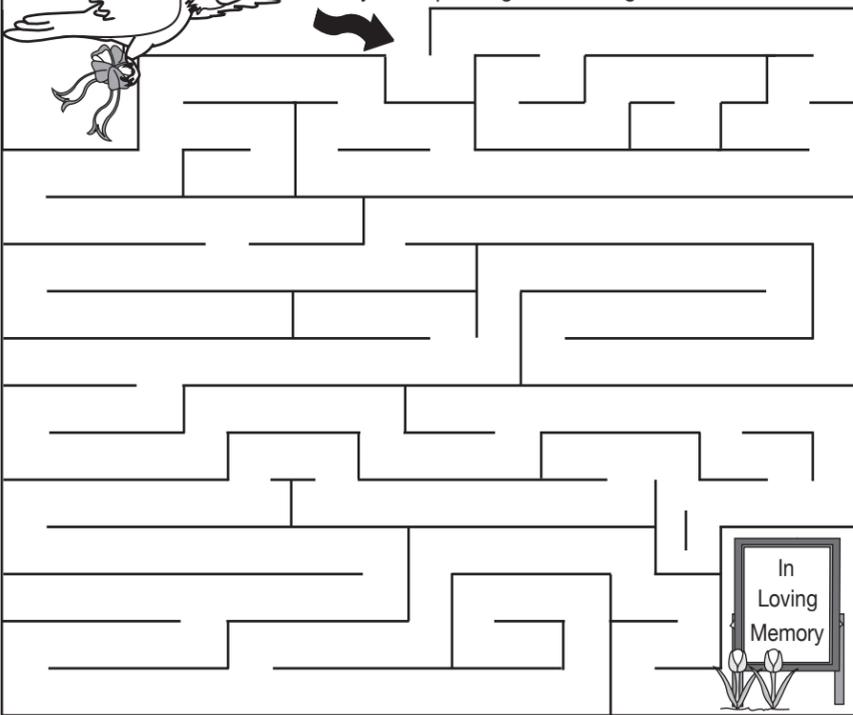
Fill in the crossword puzzle with these words about Memorial Day:

- | | | | | |
|--------|----------|-------|---------|-----------|
| family | soldiers | love | picnics | remember |
| graves | flowers | flags | parades | decorate |
| peace | prayers | May | honor | memorials |



Flyover!

Wing is flying over the cemetery to place a bow on the sign at the Memorial Garden. Can you help him get to the sign?



Keeping Memories Alive!

It is important to keep memories alive. It is a way to honor the people we have loved. Can you find and circle the underlined activities that can be done in memory of a loved or admired person?

- starting scholarships
- putting up statues
- holding church services
- planning parades
- naming schools or streets for them
- decorating graves
- writing a book
- producing a movie

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

We remember you!

We honor your life!

What's in a Name?

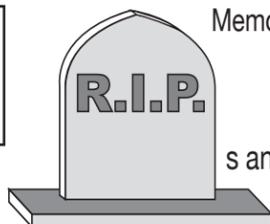
Grab your colored pencils and follow this key to color in this puzzle:

+ = Red

☆ = Blue

Memorial Day started when people began to visit soldiers'

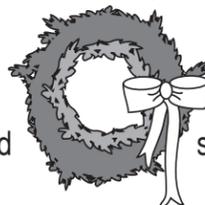
Some people still call this day " _____ " Day.



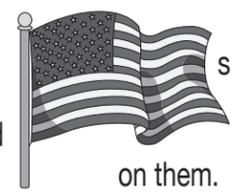
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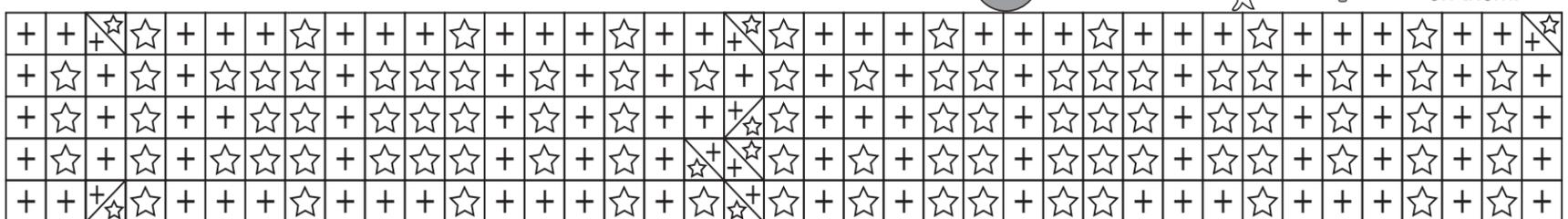
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Newspaper Fun! Created by Annimills LLC © 2022

Brown County May 17, 2022

Meeting Minutes MAY 17, 2022 – GENERAL MEETING

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

An opportunity for public comment was given. Public comment regarding the request by Demkota Beef to lay pipe to drain into Moccasin Creek was heard during that item.

DEMKOTA BEEF REQUEST TO DRAIN WEST CELL OF LAGOON INTO MOCCASIN CREEK FOR REPAIRS:

Demkota Beef met to request to lay pipe along 388th Ave to drain west cell of the lagoon into Moccasin Creek. Public comment was heard regarding drainage, flow, and quality of water. Questions arose over if the county or township has authority to issue a permit. Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to defer action to determine authority. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

COURT RESOURCE HOME PILOT APPLICATION:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize chair sign letter of support for the implementation of a pilot program, Court Resource Home Project facilitated through the State's Attorney Office. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES 217 – MINI AG REZONE – FIRST READING:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to approve first reading of proposed ordinance 217, Applicant Jared Steger requesting to rezone from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG): "Boesl Addition" in the SE1/4 of the SE1/4 of Section 32-T122N-R63W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38980 142nd St, Warner). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 218 – MINI AG REZONE – FIRST READING:

Moved by Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve first reading of proposed ordinance 218, applicant Edwards Legacy Family Limited Partnership requesting to rezone from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Chapter 4.07 Mini Ag District (M-AG): Proposed Lot 1, "Bauer-Edwards First Addition" in the SW1/4 of Section 10-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the general meeting minutes of May 10th, 2022. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Feickert to approve the following claims:

Professional Fees: AGTERRA TECHNOLOGIES, INC. \$70.00; DEPENDABLE SANITATION INC \$28,122.20; DREW BECKER \$200.00; HEATHER M. LACROIX \$393.90; LEWIS & CLARK BHS \$736.00; MICHELLE GAIKOWSKI \$49.40; Pennington County Sheriff's Office \$1,890.00; SANFORD HEALTH OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE ABERDEEN \$156.00; SD DEPT OF REVENUE & REGULATIONS \$1,352.17; YANKTON COUNTY TREASURER \$520.10. Publishing: GROTON INDEPENDENT \$193.68. Repairs & Maintenance: ASPHALT ZIPPER, INC. \$117.31; AUTO GLASS SOLUTIONS INC \$40.00; Consolidated Electrical Distributors Inc \$390.00; GRAHAM TIRE INC \$52.81; GROTON FORD \$1,096.06; JASON'S ELECTRIC INC \$360.31; MIDWEST PUMP & TANK \$20.34; PIERSON-FORD-LINCOLN-MERCURY \$1,154.48; POMPS TIRE SERVICE, INC \$835.84; PRECISION KIOSK TECHNOLOGIES \$2,700.00; PRO WINDMILL INC \$440.00; SIOUX FALLS CRANE & HOIST, INC. \$22.19; STEVEN LUST AUTOMOTIVE \$150.79; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$1,932.66; TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$375.00; WOODMAN REFRIGERATION, INC \$120.41. Supplies: ABERDEEN MEDICAL CENTER PHARMACY \$2,331.64; ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$575.48; ARAMARK UNIFORM & CAREER APPAREL GROUP, INC \$126.29; ASPHALT ZIPPER, INC. \$1,610.22; Body Cams by Retired Cops \$8,699.00; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS \$648.54; COLE PAPERS \$700.88; DAKOTA SUP-

PLY GROUP \$3,038.55; FEDEX \$34.82; GOVCONNECTION INC \$1,059.72; GREAT WESTERN TIRE INC \$9,104.17; HEATHER M. LACROIX \$14.88; HF JACOBS & SON CONSTRUCTION INC \$42,159.87; KESSLERS \$196.73; LEIDHOLDT TOOL SALES, LLC \$445.10; MENARDS \$183.80; MIDSTATES PRINTING \$127.50; MIDWEST PUMP & TANK \$996.04; MIKE DINGER \$11,029.11; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$26.76; PLUMBING & HEATING WHOLESALE, INC. \$3,494.62; RUNNINGS \$964.81; SHARE CORP \$639.60; SIOUX FALLS CRANE & HOIST, INC. \$286.19; Talent Buyers Network \$1,000.00; TITAN MACHINERY - ABERDEEN NH \$306.66; TOWN & COUNTRY BUILDING SUPPLY \$463.78; TRANSOURCE TRUCK & EQUIPMENT, INC. \$969.68; WEB WATER BOTTLING COMPANY \$37.50. Travel & Conference: Erica Coughlin \$117.30. Utilities: ADVANCE AUTO PARTS \$52.78; CITY OF ABERDEEN \$1,057.62; CITY OF HECLA \$166.13; JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS \$216.70; NORTHERN ELECTRIC COOP, INC \$2,339.62; NORTHERN VALLEY COMMUNICATION \$4,589.33; NORTHWESTERN ENERGY & COMMUNICATIONS \$2,745.94; QWEST CORPORATION \$1,541.93; STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA \$121.07; VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES LLC \$3,227.01. Rentals: ARAMARK UNIFORM & CAREER APPAREL GROUP, INC \$262.86; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc. \$47.62. Others: SD ASSOC. OF COUNTY OFFICIALS \$1,134.00; SD DEPT OF REVENUE & REGULATIONS \$647,558.22. Jury: BETH VERSLUYS \$10.84; CHARLES MOORE \$10.84; Meredith Haney \$10.84; RICHARD WEBER \$11.68; Taylor Carlson \$10.84. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following Human Resource Report:

Acknowledge employment ending for Jesse Jensen, Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; effective May 11, 2022. Request to fill.

Approve hiring of Rhaecine Sam as Brown County JDC Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage \$18.87/hour; effective May 17, 2022.

Approve hiring of Logan Rohrbach as Brown County Jail Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage \$18.87/hour; effective May 31, 2022.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ANNUAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE RENEWALS:

Moved by Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve applications for renewal of Malt Beverage Licenses to operate outside of a municipality. RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE: Marge Frohling DBA The Connection, Houghton (Lots 10-11-12-13 & 14 Block 2, Sec 31, T 127 R61); Richmond Oasis LLC - Chantal Gortmaker (Lt 4 Schaeffer Richmond Lake 2nd ADD NW & NE 25-124-165 (5AC)); Bath Quick Stop - Dustin Guthmiller (Lt B Weismantels 1st SD Lt 1 Ex N 12' Jenkins SD Inc Adjn 12' Lt Jenkins SD E2 SE 18-123-62); Brown County Speedway - Motor Sports, LLC (Brown County Fairgrounds - SW 1/4, Sec 1, T123 N, R64W); Elm Lake Resort - Travis Swenson (Lt 1 Elm Lake Resort SE 1/4 8-128-65 (that portion of road R 10/W)); Flatland Fyways - ARR LLC, Art Russo (Lodge OL Art Russo OLS in Gov Lt 3&4 NW 1-127-62); Centennial Village Inc (Brown County Fairgrounds SW 1/4, Sec 1, T123N, R64 W - Centennial Village); Anchors Away Lodge & Resort - PZA Inc (Palmer's Richmond Resort SD Lot 1 (SD OL1 Richmond OL 1 & 2)); Aberdeen Hockey Association Inc. (Brown County Fairgrounds SW 1/4 Sec 1, T123N, R64W (Odde Ice Center)); Moccasin Creek Country Club (Prairiewood Vlg, OL 7, E2 33-124-63)). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID – ENTERTAINMENT CONSULTANTS – SET BID OPENING:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Gage to authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider sealed bids for entertainment consultants at 8:45 a.m., on June 7, 2022 in the Commissioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Specifications are online brown.sd.us and on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Feickert to approve the following fair contracts: T&K Tent Rentals for rental of tents for 2022 @ \$16,400 and NSU Women's Swim Team for Stagehand Services for 2022 @ \$7,000, 2023 @ \$7,000, and 2024 @ \$7,000; award low quote to Karlen Electric for wire 60 campsites in the amount of \$24,999. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT

– SD DOT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve joint powers agreement between the SD Department of Transportation and Brown County for Rumble Strip/Pavement Marking project PH0010(157)PNC 06U8. Project is 100% funded by the Highway Safety Improvement Program through the State of South Dakota. The State will pay for all costs incurred under the agreement. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BC CONNECT SERVICE MOU:

Moved by Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize chair sign Memorandum of Understanding with Adamsoft LLC for services to BC Connect, a proprietary tax software and lien softing aye. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:05 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor
Published once at the total approximate cost of \$92.99. 21221

Brown County Entertainment Consultants

NOTICE TO ENTERTAINMENT CONSULTANTS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M on June 7, 2022, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Project – Entertainment Consulting and Buying Services for the grandstand entertainment in years 2023, 2024, and 2025 at the Brown County Fair located on the Brown County Fairground, 400 24th Ave NW, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 and be marked on the envelope.

"Brown County Fair Entertainment Consultant" to be opened on June 7, 2022.

CONTRACT: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall enter into a contract with Brown County.

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax.

Copies of the specifications are on file at the Brown County Website Brown.SD.US; Brown County Fair Office 400 24th Ave NW Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. PHONE: 605-626-7116, Brown County Auditor's Office, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. Phone: 605-626-7110. and obtained at no charge.

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, Brown County Auditor (0525.0601)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$36.43. 21222

Brown County Testing Tabulating Equipment

NOTICE OF TESTING AUTOMATIC TABULATING EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the automatic tabulating equipment will be tested to ascertain that it will correctly count the votes for all offices and measures that are to be cast at the Primary election held on the 7th day of June, 2022. The test will be conducted on the 01st day of June, 2022, at 2:00 o'clock p.m. at the following location: Brown County Auditor's Office, 25 Market St STE 1, Aberdeen, SD 57401. Dated this 25th day of May, 2022.

ATTEST: Cathy McNickle, County Auditor Brown County

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$7.05. 21223

Brown County Notice of Primary Election

NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION

A Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2022, in all the voting centers in Brown County.

The election polls will be open from seven a.m. to seven p.m. central time on the day of the election.

The polling place vote centers of this county is as follows:

1-1 AmericInn Event Center, 301 Centennial St S, Aberdeen, SD 57401

1-2 Best Western Ramkota, 1400 8th Ave NW, Aberdeen, SD 57401

1-3 Brown County Community Courthouse, 25 Market St Aberdeen, SD 57401

1-4 Columbia Legion, 102 N Broadway St, Columbia, SD 57433

1-5 Westport Town Hall, 13 W Main St, Westport 57481

1-6 Warner Community Center, 11 W Main St, Warner 57479

1-7 Stratford Community Center, 293 E Rondell Ave, Stratford 57474

1-8 Groton Community Center, 109 N 3rd St, Groton 57445

1-9 Claremont City Hall, 606 6th Ave, Claremont 57432

1-10 Hecla Community Center, 206 Main St, Hecla 57446

1-11 Frederick Community Center, 2nd Ave, Frederick 57441

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor at 605-626-7110 before the election for information on polling place accessibility for people with disabilities.

Attest: Cathy McNickle, County Auditor Brown County (0525.0601)

Published twice at the total approximate cost of \$29.81. 21224

Groton City May 17, 2022 Meeting Minutes

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 PM at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Wells, Nehls, Wambach, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich, Doug Hamilton, and Valerie Baker.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1. Valerie Baker discussed the progress on the community garden idea and mentioned she was having difficulty gaining interest within the community. She will keep Council updated as to the progress.

Doug Hamilton discussed the Legion Baseball Program.

Doug Hamilton discussed the plans to add to the Veteran's Memorial at the cemetery.

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

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

Payroll, \$24,139.18, Employee salaries; Administrative, \$4,183.04, ; Public Safety, \$9,548.86, ; Public Works, \$10,407.28, ; Jerke Rentals, \$520.00, Family Crisis Fund - Rent ; Brown Co. Treasurer, \$1,371.47, 2021 Real Estate Tax - 1st half; SD Municipal League, \$30.00, Budget Training Registration Fee; Beacon Athletics LLC, \$119.00, Cocoa Mop Drag 24"x18"; USPS, \$242.70, Utility Postage; Web Water, \$14,025.58, Water Services - April 2022; SD State Treasurer, \$9,629.03, Sales and Excise Tax - April 2022; City of Groton, \$401.05, Utility Deposit Refunds; Logan Harms, \$148.95, Utility Deposit Refund; City of Groton, \$1,610.00, Change Bags for Summer Recreation; Dacotah Bank, \$4,885.36, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$576.24, HSA Contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee Savings; Dacotah Bank, \$3,208.92, Withholding/SS/Medicare; US Bank, \$11,320.38, RR Sewer & West Sewer Debt Payment; USPS, \$20.00, Postage Due Drawdown Account; Osheim & Schmidt Funeral Home, \$3.00, Burial Fee Overpayment; SD Department of Revenue, \$150.00, Malt Beverage License Renewal for MJs Sinclair; Todd & Kara Anderson, \$200.00, Refund for Cemetery Lot; Ecolab Pest Elimination Div., \$106.00, Exterior Rodent Services; Aaron Severson, \$2,160.00, Jr. Teener Umpire Pay; Heartland Waste,

\$8,223.25, Garbage hauling; Locke Electric, \$1,632.46, Dig service into water tower, boiler work at City Hall, New stat in west city shop; A-1 Sanitation & Recycling, \$2,763.42, Spring Clean Up; Colonial Research, \$511.03, Cleaning products for Swimming Pool, Community Ctr, Park, & Shop; Menards, \$38.05, Light Bulbs for Community Ctr & Pool; Stacy Mayou, \$34.51, Med Flex; Kellie Locke, \$131.76, Med Flex; Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Mileage Reimbursement - Uniform Pickup from Geffdog; Meierhenry Sargent LLP, \$13,260.00, Bond Counsel - Drinking Water Project Revenue Borrower Bond; Galls, Inc, \$135.96, Tactical Waterproof Boots; Badger Meter, \$32.93, Cellular Service Fee; Heartland Consumer Power, \$54,972.62, Power Services - April 2022; Geffdog Designs, \$361.44, Pink Softball Shirts; A&B Business Solutions, \$416.52, Printer Lease; Aramark, \$36.84, Rug Rent; WAPA, \$18,190.94, Power Services - April 2022; Groton Daily Independent, \$571.90, Publication Fees & Subscription Fee; April Abeln, \$580.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Umpire Pay - U10 - 7 games @ \$80/game; Landon Johnson, \$20.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Paul Kosel, \$20.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Douglas Heinrich, \$20.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Brandon Abeln, \$20.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - 4/2022; Dacotah Bank Visa, \$2,064.89, Sewer sample postage, water sample postage, various book series for library, Ramkota Hotel - Todd Gay, fuel purchases, Taser Certification course & hotel stay - Officer Garcia, baseball registration, hanging folders, ink cartridges for printer(s), envelopes, case of paper (10 reams); Ken's Food Fair, \$865.97, Fuel, coffee, water; MJs Sinclair, \$1,440.78, Fuel Purchases & car wash; James Valley Telecomm., \$949.74, Telephone and Internet Services; Altex Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Lease for Digger Truck; Team Lab Chemical Co., \$214.00, Fine Road Patch - 6 bags; Associated Supply Co., Inc., \$6,355.00, Swimming Pool Diving Board Replacement; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$240.00, Employee Supplemental Retirement; Samantha Weber, \$1,040.00, Umpire Pay - U12 - 13 games @ \$80/game; Kristen Dolan, \$560.00, Umpire Pay - U10 - 7 games @ \$80/game; Aflac, \$458.36, Employee Insurance; IMEG Corp., \$6,952.50, Engineering Services - Water Improvement Project; Biersch-

bach Equip. & Supply, \$532.44, Float switch, submersible trash pump, part f male adaptor; Coca-Cola Bottling, \$713.50, Baseball Concessions - Soda for Resale; NorthWestern Energy, \$51.73, Natural Gas Service - Water Tower; Dakota Supply Group, \$205.31, Pool valve replacement, cable ties, water dept supplies; Chuck Padfield, \$317.86, Baseball Concessions - Candy, Foam Cups; BK Custom T's & More, \$1,123.00, Youth blue jerseys, red little league hats, red Jr Legion & Legion hats, grey Jr Teener hats; Runnings Supply Co, \$309.97, Impact driver kit, transplanter - wood grip; Dakota Doors Inc., \$4,747.41, Hoop Barn Replacement Door; Irby, Inc., \$818.40, Underground Supplies - Electric;

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Nehls to approve the April finance report. All members voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wambach to table the approval of the electricity installation at the airport to allow more time to delve into the details associated with the electricity installation. All members voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Bahr to table the approval for the City of Groton to provide mosquito control services to the City of Groton. All members voted aye.

A Special Event Alcoholic Beverage License for Amateur Baseball games at 411 W 3rd Ave in Groton was approved on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Nehls. All members voted aye. The approved dates are as follows: 5/22/2022, 6/5/2022, 6/12/2022, 6/26/2022, 7/10/2022, 7/17/2022, and 7/23/2022 through 7/31/2022.

The progress at "The Pantry" was discussed.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal items 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:53 PM. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:23 PM.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wells to hire Seth Erickson as the Legion Baseball Coach. All members voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wambach to continue Deputy Finance Officer's pay raise until June 21st. Council will readdress the pay raise at that time. All members voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Nehls to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM. All members voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published once at the total approximate cost of \$66.23. 21225



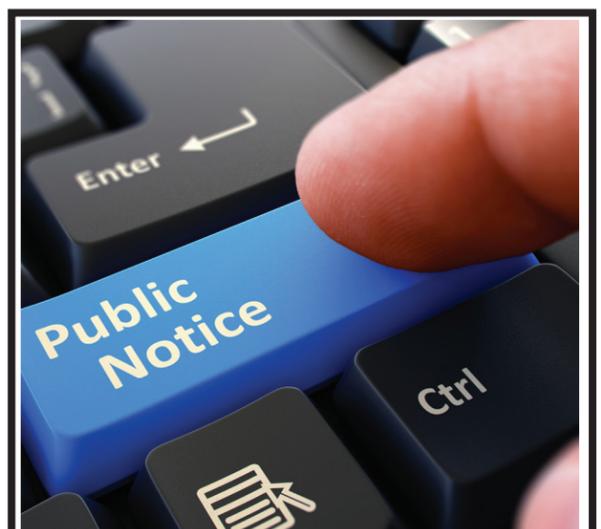
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Dear EarthTalk: Why is lithium mining so bad for the environment?

-- Jane B., Atlanta, GA

EARTHTALK



An expanding lithium mine in Arizona is threatening the Hualapai tribe's cultural and historic sites. Credit: Richard Martin, FlickrCC.

Lithium is called "white gold" for good reason: the metal's value has been growing exponentially over the last several years, in large part because it is an essential component of lithium-ion batteries, themselves indispensable in several key sustainable technologies where energy storage is of utmost importance. As electric cars, wind and solar power have grown into major players in the energy industry, lithium has become key to engineering a future free of fossil fuels.

But acquiring lithium comes at an enormous cost. As with most metals, its mining is destructive. It often works like this: Briny water, containing lithium as well as salts and other metals, is pumped to the surface from underground aquifers and mixed with freshwater. The concoction then sits in pools to allow the water to evaporate, leaving the rest of its contents behind as brightly-colored toxic sludge. Refineries use heat and chemical reactions to extract the lithium from that, refining it into powder which is then packaged and shipped to buyers around the world. The remaining wastewater is pumped to pools, where it can sit indefinitely. Any accident that releases mine contents into surrounding communities or the groundwater supply could have devastating long-term impacts.

How much environmental degradation can be tolerated locally in the name of conservation globally has led to debates in places as far-flung as Chile, Serbia and Arizona. Indigenous communities often bear the brunt of the damage, and political leaders have typically given little weight to their concerns. In Arizona, for example, an expanding lithium mine is threatening the Hualapai tribe's cultural and historic sites. While Hualapai leaders have been fighting to protect their land, Supreme Court precedent dating to the 1820s has left them with little legal leverage to wield against the massive power of the mining industry and federal government. And for politicians who have pledged to work with native peoples to confront climate change, mining lithium and other precious metals is bringing priorities into conflict: How do you ensure the availability of materials essential to the future of renewables while protecting tribal rights?

The U.S. currently produces just one percent of the global lithium supply, according to The Wall Street Journal. But as the Biden administration moves to boost production of electric vehicles and challenge China's market domination, mining of the metal is expected to increase dramatically in coming years. Over time, experts say, that will reduce fossil fuel emissions by making electric cars more affordable, and therefore more popular. Still, environmental leaders disagree as to whether the benefits of those cuts would outweigh the harm done to the people who rely on the mine-scarred land.

Some new research suggests a slightly more positive future scenario. A 2020 University of Córdoba study in Spain found that the batteries could be recycled and reused, and could even work effectively without cobalt, another metal that requires destructive mining practices. For now, though, lithium mining is poised to grow rapidly to meet soaring demand. As environmentally conscious consumers buy electric cars in ever-greater numbers, it's important to be aware of the dirty process that powers those clean air vehicles.

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MEMORIAL DAY MAY 30TH
Memorial Day Store Hours:
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Dairy
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\$2.99

Frozen
Brew Pub Lotzza Motzza Pizza
22.7-28.25 Oz. Pkg.
\$6.99

Liquor
Jim Beam Devil's Cut
1.75 Liter
\$39.99

Household
Xtra 2 X Liquid Laundry Detergent
56-67.5 Oz. Jugs
2/\$5

Bakery
Hamburger Buns
12 Ct.
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Is it my thyroid?

Hypothyroidism, the condition of the thyroid gland not making enough thyroid hormone, is a common hormonal disorder. Perhaps because hypothyroidism is common and its symptoms can be widespread and vague, misconceptions abound. Let's cover the facts.

Symptoms of hypothyroidism can include fatigue, dry skin, weight gain, and hair loss. These symptoms can occur for many other reasons, so fortunately a very simple blood test can tell us whether an underactive thyroid is the culprit.

If hypothyroidism is suspected, the best thing to test first is TSH, or Thyroid Stimulating Hormone. TSH is made by the pituitary gland in the brain which physiologically responds to levels of thyroid hormone circulating in the patient's body. Under normal conditions, the pituitary gland signals the thyroid gland to make more thyroid hormone. So, if thyroid hormone levels are low, TSH levels will be high. The pituitary gland is trying to tell the thyroid gland, "wake up and make some more hormone, pal!"

If the TSH level is normal, in short, the thyroid is not the problem and probably no other testing needs to be done along those lines. If the TSH is elevated, another blood test for free T4 should be done. Free T4 is one type of thyroid hormone. Other types of thyroid hormones do exist but testing for them is far less reliable. In hypothyroidism, the TSH will be elevated, and the free T4 will be low.

Okay, so when we find a patient has hypothyroidism, what next? In general, we do not need to dig for a cause. Unless the person has had removal or ablation of the thyroid gland, we can assume they have Hashimoto's thyroiditis, the most common reason for hypothyroidism. Hashimoto's is an autoimmune disease which eventually destroys thyroid producing cells. Antibody testing is possible for Hashimoto's disease, but it generally is not necessary.

Treatment of Hashimoto's thyroiditis and any cause of hypothyroidism is simple...replace the thyroid hormone. This is done with a synthetic version of T4 hormone, the most reliable and standardized form of which is levothyroxine. Other types of thyroid replacement exist, but levothyroxine is universally recommended in all but a small minority of cases. Pretty much all patients can expect to take medicine indefinitely, though repeat TSH testing should be done periodically to make sure the dose is proper.

In summary, hypothyroidism is an easily diagnosed and easily treated condition. If you are having symptoms of this hormonal deficiency, discuss a TSH blood test with your primary care provider to see if a simple intervention might help you feel better.

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.prairiemedoc.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.



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