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The Groton Independent

Vol. 139 - No. 38 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Graduation 2022 ♦ Established in 1889



GHS Class of 2022

Class Motto

Success is a journey, not a destination
- Ben Sweetland

Class Flower: Silver Inch Plant

Class Colors: Black and Gold

Seniors on the move

<p>Northern State Univ. Madisen Bjerke Kaden Kurtz Riley Leicht Trinity Smith</p> <p>SouthEast Tech. College - SF Sarah Jacobs</p> <p>SDSU - Brookings Kennedy Anderson Jackson Cogley Madeline Flichs Seth Johnson Trista Keith Jace Kroll Kansas Kroll Allyssa Locke Michal Tabke Travis Townsend Christina Zoellner</p> <p>Univ. North Dakota Alyssa Thaler</p> <p>Paul Mitchell School - Rapid City Julianna Kosel</p> <p>Century Tech. College - Minneapolis Brooklyn Imrie</p> <p>Black Hawk College - Glava, IL Lane Krueger</p> <p>Continued Education Tatum Wright</p>	<p>Lake Area Technical College Jordan Bjerke Jace Craig Ryder Daly Andrea Davidson Kelsie Frost Hannah Gustafson Brayden Hansen Trey Johnson Kody Lehr Macine McGannon Cassandra Schultz</p> <p>Dakota State University Jayden Zak Landon Kokales</p> <p>NDSU - Fargo Megan Flichs Pierce Kettering Evin Nehls Emilie Thurston</p> <p>Air Force - San Antonio, TX Rease Jandel</p> <p>Marines - California Marcos Garcia</p> <p>Employment River Pardick Spencer Sperry Wyatt Hearnen Favian Sanchez-Gonzalez</p> <p>Presentation College Torrence Wiseman</p>
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Allyssa Raelynn Locke

With Highest Honor

Daughter of Matt and Tammy Locke of Groton.

Sisters and brother: Jerica, Sydney, Mason.

Hobbies: Play basketball, piano, watch movies, and read books.

School/community activities: basketball, soccer, volleyball, FCCLA, FCA, national honors society, and youth coach.

Favorite high school memory: going to state with my friends in Rapid.

Future plans: attend SDSU major in Exercise Science, then continue on to graduate school to earn a doctorate in Physical Therapy.

Awards: Richard 'Dick' Voss Memorial Scholarship, Susan Deann Weismantel Scholarship, Girls State representative, Jackrabbit Now – Girls State Officers Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Journey Scholarship, Cortland & Lois Kuehnert Valedictorian Scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, 2021 Payback Challenge Honorable Mention recipient, Northern Electric & Dakota News Now "Scholar of the Week", President's Award for Educational Excellence, Groton Community Fund Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, Lion's Scholarship, Dacotah Grown Scholarship from Dacotah Bank, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Touchstone Energy Cooperative & Dakota News Now Scholar of the week Scholarship, National Honor Society Member, Dr. T.J. Johnson Memorial Scholarship, Hopps Dow Scholarship, Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship, Regents' Scholar, Doug Doeden Memorial Scholarship, FCCLA Service award.



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Madeline Cheré Flihs

With Highest Honor

Daughter of Jeff and Bridget Flihs of Groton.

Brother and sisters: Elizabeth -15, Zachary-12, Sophia-10.

Hobbies: playing sports, watching sports, boating, wake surfing, fishing, hunting, shopping, baking, hanging with friends, traveling, organizing, trying new things, relaxing, and listening to music.

School/community activities: volleyball, soccer, club lacrosse, club volleyball, vice president of senior class, vice president of St. John's Lutheran Church Youth Group, FCCLA, national honors society, lifeguard, dance team, FCA.

Favorite high school memory: making it to state volleyball my sophomore year and getting the chance to start and play. It was an amazing atmosphere and feeling as I realized we were the 1st team in our school history to make it.

Future plans: attend South Dakota State University to study Human Biology with a Dental Emphasis, then to attend Medical/Dental School.

Awards: SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship; Cortland & Lois Kuehnert Trade, Technical, Science, Math, or computer technology Scholarship; 2022 Bob Peterson Memorial Telecommunications Scholarship, National Honor Society Member, Regents' Scholar, Kenny Beck Memorial Scholarship, President's Award for Educational Excellence, FCCLA Service award, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship, SDSU Jacks Journey, Principal Student Service Award



JAMES VALLEY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS



jamesvalley.com

Seth Wayne Johnson

With Honor

Son of Greg and Mary Johnson of Bristol.

Brothers and sister: Cole-20, Angie-39, and Scott-37.

Hobbies: snowboarding, traveling, hanging out with friends.

School/community activities: 4.0 honor roll, football, student of the month, Richard Dura Scholarship, member of Bergen Lutheran Church, church youth group, volunteering for church and Bristol community.

Favorite high school memory: football.

Future plans: attend SDSU for Ag Systems Technology.

Awards: Richard Duerre Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, Anthony O. Brokaw Scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Jerald W. Peterson Scholarship, Cortland & Lois Kuehnert Top Student Scholarship, Lake Region Cooperative Scholarship from Day County, President's Award for Educational Excellence



M&L Real Estate

Merry Lone, Broker: 605/590-0000

425 4th Ave. E., Bristol, SD 57219

Charlotte Andres, Broker Assoc.: 229-9888

Your future is bright! Best Wishes Seth!

Jordan Carl James Bjerke

With Honor

Son of Jerry and Kathy Bjerke of Groton.

Sister and Brother: Cameron Johnson-36, Breanne Bjerke-35, Becca Haisch-29, Tori Bjerke-25, Jessica Bjerke-22, and Maddie Bjerke-18.

Hobbies: sports, hunting, fishing, spending time at the lake, spending time with friends, family, and my dog Kirby.

School/community activities: football, SEAS catholic legion baseball, 2 years of basketball, 1 year of FFA.

Favorite high school memory: winning NEC championship senior year of football.

Future plans:

Attend Lake Area for Building Trades Technology.

Awards: Hopps Dow Scholarship, President's Award for Educational Excellence, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Build Dakota Scholarship, Brenda Harms Memorial Scholarship, Don



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Best of Luck! Congrats!

Trista Jean Keith

With Highest Honor

Daughter of Tricia and Bary Keith of Groton.

Brothers: Brandon Keith-22, Brady-24.

Hobbies: Spending time with friends and family, watching movies, longboarding, and going to the lake in the summertime.

School/Community activities: soccer, volleyball, track, FCCLA, member of St. John's Lutheran youth Group.

Favorite high school memory: My favorite high school memory is when a group of my friends went to formal my freshman year. We had so much fun dancing and singing all night.

Future plans: attend South Dakota State University for a degree in Pharmacy.

Awards: National Honor Society Member, Kay and David Donovan Memorial scholarship, Regents' Scholar, Nomination for PEO Scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Irvin & Janice Flihs Family Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Principal Student Service Award, President's Award for Educational Excellence, Wilfred N. & Lucille A Heinz Memorial Scholarship, Vicki Strom Memorial Scholarship



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Congratulations Graduate!

Travis Michael Townsend

With Highest Honor

Son of Dean and Kellie Townsend of Andover.

Sister: Cassandra Townsend.

Hobbies: robotics

School/community activities: 4-H, robotics, and FFA.

Future plans: Attend SDSU for Mechanical Engineering.

Awards: President's Award for Educational Excellence, Gwendolyn O'Connor Broman Memorial Scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, National Honor Society Member, Groton STEM Scholarship, Groton Faith Forever Scholarship, BDM rural water system Scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Groton FFA Scholarship, Eastern Star Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, Lion's Scholarship, Cortland & Lois Kuehnert Financial Need Scholarship



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Alyssa Opal Thaler

With Honor

Daughter of Jeff and Nancy Thaler of Groton.

Brother: Conner Thaler-21.

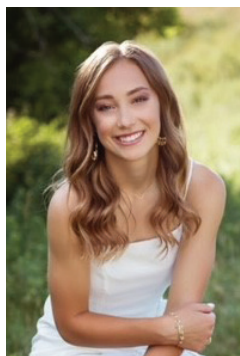
Hobbies: playing sports and music, hunting, hanging out with family and friends, cheering on the Groton Tigers!

School/community activities: National honors society member, student body president, class president, FCCLA, FBLA, FCA, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Youth Group, band, basketball, volleyball, show choir tech, softball and coaching softball and baseball.

Favorite high school memory: being involved in so many amazing groups and meeting lots of new people.

Future plans: attending the University of North Dakota majoring in Business and Economics with a minor in Pre-law.

Awards: Groton Area FCA 3:16 Scholarship, Principal Student Service Award, Knights of Columbus scholarship, President's Award for Educational Excellence, Eastern Star Scholarship, University of North Dakota Academic Achievement scholarship, Girls State representatives, National Honor Society Member, Regents' Scholar, PAC Community Service Scholarship, Groton Community Fund Scholarship, Shawn Weismittel-Kramer memorial Scholarship



Greg Johnson Construction, Inc.

Greg Johnson, Owner

Business: 605/492-3143 ~ Cell: 605/216-3143

Best wishes as you begin a new adventure!

Kansas Michelle Kroll

With Honor

Daughter of Craig and Lisa Kroll of Andover.

Hobbies: being outside, working on the farm, spending time with friends and family, and showing cattle.

School/Community activities: FFA and Day County 4 H.

Favorite high school memory: becoming the Groton FFA president this year.

Future plans: SDSU for Animal Science.

Awards: President's Award for Educational Excellence, Waldorf Scholarship Amount, Girls State representative, Farm Credit Services of America Scholarship, Dale D. Wolter Memorial Scholarship, Tom and Barbra Paepke Ag Scholarship, National Honor Society Member, Robert Schuring Memorial Scholarship, South Dakota Freedom Scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, Groton FFA Scholarship, Richard 'Dick' Voss memorial Scholarship, SDSU Jacks Journey Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, Ruden Family Ag Scholarship



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Congratulations Graduate!

Pierce Gerald Kettering

With Honor

Son of Scott Kettering and Kara and Kevin Pharis of Groton.

Sisters and Brothers: Portia-21, Kale-20, Elise-9, and Henry-8.

Hobbies: working, lifting weights, learning.

School/community activities: football, wrestling, spring baseball, and FFA.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: attend NDSU for Ag. Business.

Awards: Regents' Scholar, Lion's Scholarship, President's Award for Educational Excellence, NDSU Provost Scholarship



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Best of Luck! Congrats!

Madisen Kaye Bjerke

With Honor

Daughter of Jerry and Kathy Bjerke of Groton.

Brothers and sisters: Cameron Johnson-36, Breanne Bjerke- 35, Tori Bjerke-25, Jessica Bjerke-21, Jordan Bjerke-18.

Hobbies: I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, traveling, being at the lake, watching Netflix, and spending time with kids.

School/community activities: volleyball, cheer, dance team, track, FCCLA, FCA, year-book, student council.

Favorite high school memory: cheering at the Boys State Basketball Tournament my senior year.

Future plans: Attend NSU and major in Elementary and Special Education.

Awards: WolfPack scholarship, NSU Dual Credit scholarship, South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, President's Award for Educational Excellence, FCCLA Service award, Groton Area Teaching Scholarship, Millicent Atkins scholarship, Hatterschiedt scholarship, National Honor Society Member, Regents' Scholar



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Greg Johnson, Owner

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Best wishes for a successful future!

Kennedy Lynn Anderson

With Honor

Daughter of John and Stacey Anderson of Claremont.

Sister: Kaitlyn Anderson.

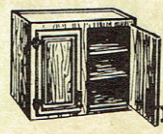
Hobbies: hanging out with friends, working on the farm.

School/community activities: FFA. 4H.

Favorite high school memory: National FFA convention.

Future plans: Major in Agriculture Business at South Dakota State University.

Awards: Jack & Helen Walter Scholarship, Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship, FCCLA Service award, Groton FFA Scholarship, Ruden Family Ag Scholarship, Barry Schuring Memorial Scholarship, SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, SDSU Jackrabbit Journey Scholarship



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Congratulations! Best of Luck!

Jackson Patrick Cogley

Son of Steve and Michele Cogley of Claremont.

Brothers: Ryland Strom-28, David Strom-27, Chance Strom-25, Quinn Cogley-12.

Hobbies: hunting, fishing, working out, hanging out with friends.

School/Community activities: football, baseball, track, basketball, soccer, golf, and FFA.

Favorite high school memory: Winning the Northeast Conference Championship in football my senior year.

Future plans: Attend South Dakota State University majoring in Aviation Education Specialization.

Awards: SDSU yellow & Blue Scholarship, Jackrabbit Journey Scholarship, South Dakota Freedom Scholarship, Samuli – Rix Scholarship



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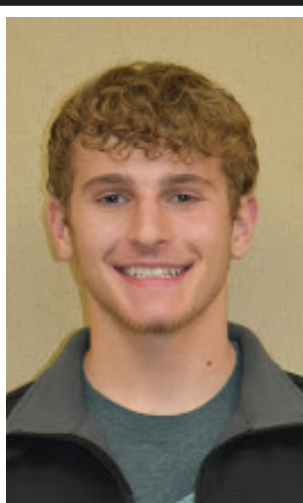
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Best of Luck! Congrats!



Jordan Bjerke
Build Dakota
Scholarship



Seth Johnson
Anthony O'Brokaw Memorial Scholarship
Jerald W. Peterson Memorial Scholarship
Richard Duerr Memorial Scholarship

Julianna Grace Kosel

With Honor

Daughter of Paul and Tina of Groton.

Sister: Jeslyn-16.

Hobbies: working out, reading, being with friends, watching Netflix and podcasts.

School/community activities: show choir, dance team, skating, and FCCLA, All State Choir, Byron Bible Camp Counsellor.

Favorite high school memory: going to the finals for show choir for the first time in Aberdeen Center Stage and the Florida show choir trip.

Future plans: go to Paul Mitchell the school in Rapid City for Cosmetology.

Awards: Samuli – Rix Scholarship, Paul Mitchell the School Cuts, Colors, and Creatives Scholarship, President's Award for Educational Excellence



Groton Daily Independent
We are so proud of you! Have a great future!

Hannah Jo Gustafson

With Honor

Daughter of John and Beth Gustafson of Groton.

Brother and Sister: Taylor Gustafson and Alexis Gustafson.

Hobbies: camping, hanging out with friends and family, golfing, playing with my dog Buddy, and going snowmobiling.

School/community activities: FCCLA member and yearbook member.

Favorite high school memories: water my plants in the greenhouse.

Future plans: I plan on attending Lake Area Technical college to attain a Paramedic diploma.

Awards: President's Award for Educational Excellence, Dennis K. & Shirley R. Larson Family Scholarship



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PIONEER

Jace Lon Craig

Son of Lon and Carmen Craig of Claremont.

Brother: Braden-23.

Hobbies: fixing up old pickups and driving them.

School/community activities: trap shooting, FFA, underwater basket weaving club.

Favorite high school memory: spending time in the shop with Mr. Donley and my classmates.

Future plans: attend Lake Area Tech for Diesel Technology.



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Ryder James Daly

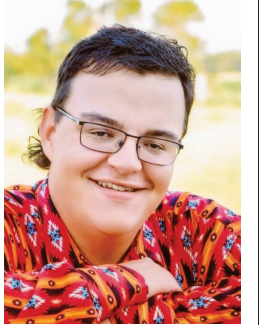
Son Doug and Kay Daly and Darlyne Daly of Groton

Hobbies: Rc racing, hunting, go kart racing.
School/community activities: trap shooting.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: Lake Area for Ag Business.

Awards: Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship, Robert Knickrehm Agricultural Scholarship, Howard Memorial Fund Scholarship



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Allyssa Locke

Dr. T.J. Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Doug Doeden Memorial Scholarship



Madeline Flihs

James Valley Telecommunications
Bob Peterson Memorial Scholarship

Andrea Linn Davidson

Daughter of Russel and Karla Davidson of Groton.

Brothers and sisters: Kris, Michaela, Alec, and Clarie.

Hobbies: hanging out with friends and family.

School/Community Activities: soccer and FCCLA.

Favorite high school memory: building floats for homecoming.

Future plans: Human Services- Lake Area



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Megan Kathleen Fliehs

Daughter of Jarod and Kristie Fliehs of Groton.

Sister and Brother: Ashley Fliehs-20, Brevin Fliehs-15.

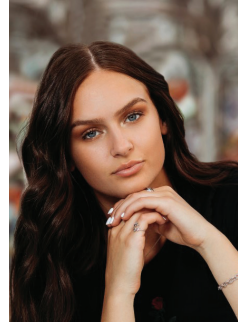
Hobbies: dancing, singing, spending time with family and friends, babysitting, going to the lake in the summer.

School/community activities: show choir, chamber choir, volleyball, marching band, cheerleading, dance team, flag corp, FCCLA, FBLA, FCA, St Elizabeth Ann Seton Youth Group, band.

Favorite high school memory: homecoming week senior year or going to state basketball to cheer.

Future plans: attend NDSU and major in Interior Design.

Awards: DAR Good Citizen Award, Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship, Groton Class of 1969 Scholarship, Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, Tom & Barbra Paepke Fine Arts Scholarship, Stratford Community Theatre Scholarship, Lion's Scholarship



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Congratulations Graduate!

Brayden Jack Hansen

Son of Craig and Stacy Hansen of Aberdeen.

Sisters: Brooklyn and Kennedy Hansen-15.

Hobbies: hunting, hanging out with friends, fishing.

School/community activities: soccer.

Future plans: attend Lake Area Tech for Ag Business.



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Wyatt John Hearnen

Son of Becky and Ryan Hearnen of Groton.

Hobbies: buying bitcoin, playing basketball, hanging out with friends, going to the lake, and going hunting.

School/community activities: I played on the Groton basketball team.

Favorite high school memory: going to state in basketball my senior year.

Future plans: Move to Colorado and join the workforce.



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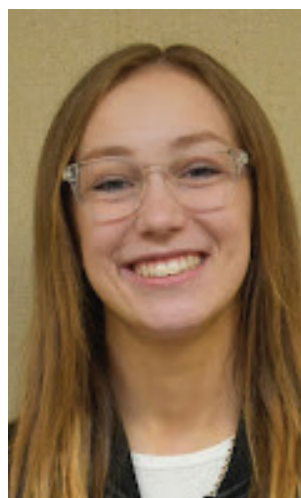
Left
Allyssa Locke

Susan Deanne
Weismantel
Scholarship

Right
Alyssa Thaler

Shawn
Weismantel
Kramer
Scholarship

Groton
Community Fund
Scholarship



Alyssa Thaler

MS/HS PAC Community Service
Scholarship

Groton Area FCA 3:16 Scholarship

Kelsie Marie Frost

Daughter of Jason and Britt Frost of Groton.
Sister and Brother: Hollie Frost-17 and Charlie Frost- 15.

Hobbies: I enjoy being at the lake and hanging out with my friends and family.

School/community activities: I was stats/team manager for the volleyball team. I am currently an FCCLA officer. I am also a part of the SEAS youth group.

Favorite high school memory: My favorite high school memory is all of us volleyball seniors going to state volleyball together.

Future plans: I plan on attending Lake Area Tech and get a degree in Business Administration.

Award: FCCLA Service award, Knights of Columbus scholarship, Edna Bugner Scholarship



Sponsored by Kari Goldade
Good Luck Kelsie!

Marcos A. Garcia

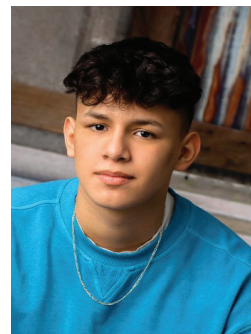
Son of Anthony Garcia and Melissa Garica of Groton.

Brothers and Sister: Nathalia-16, Anthony Garcia-13, and Micheal Garica-6.

Hobbies: sports, hanging out with friends, and family time.

School/community activities: football.
Favorite high school memory: football NEC champions.

Future plans: Marine Corps.
Awards: United States Marine Post 9-11 Government Issued Bill. Montgomery GI Bill Military Tuition, Fees, book allowance & Living expenses.



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Brooklyn Clara Imrie

Daughter of Mike and Dawn Imrie of Groton.
Brother and sister: Braxton Imrie-16 and Brenna Imrie-13.

Hobbies: dance, Ice skating, and traveling.
School/community activities: ARCC dance, Carnival of Silver Skates and St. John's Lutheran Youth Group member.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: go to Century Technical School and major in Human Services.

Awards: Girls State representative, FCCLA Service Award



JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS
 jamesvalley.com

Sarah Noel Jacobs

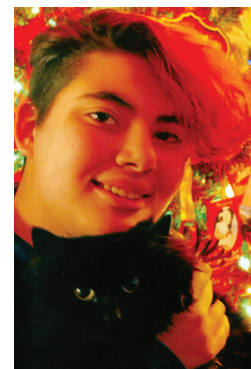
Daughter of Debbie and Henry Jacobs of Groton.

Brother: Spencer Jacobs.
Hobbies: reading, drawing, singing, bike rides.

School/community activities: work for Brock Abeln.

Favorite high school memory: Freshman year, the only year my brother was in band with me.

Future plans: Live my life.



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Regents' Scholar Diploma

Six seniors (Madisen Bjerke, Madeline Flihs, Trista Keith, Allyssa Locke, Alyssa Thaler, Pierce Kettering) from Groton Area High School are recipients of a Regents' Scholar Diploma awarded by the South Dakota Department of Education and Cultural Affairs and the South Dakota Board of Regents.

The diplomas recognize students for academic achievement over the course of their high school career. Students earning the award automatically qualify for entry into any of South Dakota's six state-supported universities.

To earn a Regents' Scholar Diploma, students must have at least a 3.0 grade point average, no final grade below a C (2.0) and must complete four units each of English, mathematics and science, three units of social studies, two units of one modern or classical language and one-half unit each of fine arts and computer science.

Rease Katheryn Jandel

Daughter of Heather and Cole Jandel of Bath.

Sisters: Kya-20, and Shea-16.

Hobbies: hanging out with friends and family, working-out, hanging out with Mr. Franken, and petting my ducks.

School/community activities: FCCLA, show choir.

Favorite high school memory: watering my plant in the greenhouse.

Future plans: joining the Airforce.

Awards: Post 9-11 Montgomery GI Bill, Tuition assistance, & automatic acceptance into community college of the Air Force.



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Congrats and Best Wishes!

Trey Matthew Johnson

Son of Matt and Tanya Johnson of Huffton.

Brothers: Peyton, Aeydon, and Deylon.

Hobbies: underwater basket weaving, snowmobiling, and hanging out with friends.

School/community activities: underwater basket weaving club.

Favorite high school memory: leaving school everyday.

Future plans: Lake Area Tech for Ag production.



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Lane Robert Krueger

Son of Jermey and Amy Krueger of Henry township.

Sister-Liza 13.

Hobbies: hunting, sowing cattle and hogs, and livestock judging.

School/community activities: wrestling, trap shooting, FFA, 4-H, underwater basket weaving club.

Future plans: attend Blackhawk college to Livestock Judge and go on for Ag Transfer degree and then go on to a 4 year for Animal Science and then become an Animal Neurolysis.

Awards: South Dakota Beef Boosters, Groton FFA Scholarship



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Best of Luck! Congrats!

Kaden Lee Kurtz

Son of Ryan and Diane Kurtz of Groton.

Brothers and sister: Kasey-27, Courtney-25, Camryn-16

Hobbies: playing/watching sports, hanging with friends, going to the lake.

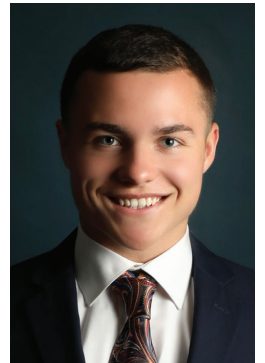
School/ Community Activities: football, basketball, track and field.

Favorite high school memory: being a participant in the 2022 State A Boys Basketball Tournament.

Future plans: Attend Northern State and get a degree in Exercise Science to hopefully become a Physical Therapist someday. I will also be playing football at NSU.

Awards: NSU Football Athletic Scholarship, Wolfpack Scholarship, Don

Scholarship, Corland & Lois Kue-



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 Jeremy Weber • 605/380-7811
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Sammuli Rix Scholarship
 Left Jackson Cogley
 Right Julianna Kosel



Groton Edna Bugner Memorial Scholarship
 Left Kelsie Frost
 Right Riley Leicht

Landon Kokales

Son of Todd Kokales and Paula Kokales of Aberdeen.

Sister: Kiana. Hobbies: video games.

School/community activities: FFA.

Favorite high school memory: State FFA.

Future plans: Pursue education at DSU for Computer Game Design.



JAMES VALLEY
TELECOMMUNICATIONS



jamesvalley.com

Jace Kroll

Son of Joel and Jessica Kroll of Groton.

Brothers: Ethan and Connor.

Hobbies: Video games, robotics, and FFA.

School/community activities: robotics, soccer, and FFA.

Future plans: go to SDSU.

Awards: SDSU Yellow & Blue Scholarship, SDSU Lohr Scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll



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Jeremy Weber • 605/380-7811

Best of Luck! Congrats!

Kody Jade Lehr

Son of Joan Lehr and Delwain Lehr of Bath.

Sister: Kayla Lehr.

Hobbies: watching football, working on cars, hanging out with friends.

School/community activities: soccer and 4-H.

Favorite high school memory: going to playoffs with the soccer team.

Future plans: Attend Lake Area Technical college for Custom Paint and Fabrication.

Awards: Groton Faith Forever Scholarship, Darlene Raap Scholarship



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Greg Johnson Construction, Inc.

Greg Johnson, Owner

Business: 605/492-3143 ~ Cell: 605/216-3143

Bristol, SD

Best wishes as you begin new adventures!

Riley Kay Leicht

Daughter of Sadie and Nick Leicht of Groton.

Brother and sisters: Regan-19, Sydney-15 Tucker-10.

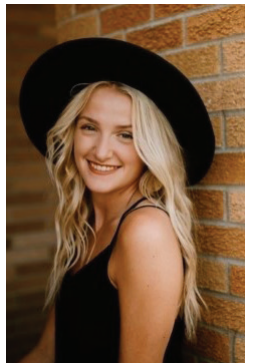
Hobbies: hanging with friends and family, shopping, being at the lake, playing soccer.

School/community activities: played soccer for 5 years, captain of soccer team, played volleyball for 5 years, ran track for 2 years, joined yearbook for 1 year, FCCLA member for 2 years, dance team for 2 years.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: attend Northern State University and major in Hsychology.

Award: Edna Bugner Scholarship



Residential ~ Ag & Commercial ~ General Contractor

New Construction and Remodeling ~ Concrete Basements ~ Flatwork & Foundations

Greg Johnson Construction, Inc.

Greg Johnson, Owner

Business: 605/492-3143 ~ Cell: 605/216-3143

Bristol, SD

Best wishes for a successful future!



Raap Memorial Scholarship

Cassandra Schultz & Kody Lehr



Hopps Dow Scholarship

Allyssa Locke & Jordan Bjerke



**Tom & Barbra Paepke Scholarship
Kansas Kroll (Ag Scholarship)
Megan Flihs (Fine Arts Scholarship)**

Groton Independent ♦ Graduation 2022 ♦ 9

Macine Jo McGannon

Daughter of Sarah Sigdestad and Travis McGannon of Groton.

Brothers and sister: Tanner McGannon-17, Kayliegh McGannon-15, Dylan McGannon-13, Hudson McGannon-8.

Hobbies: Hanging out with friends.

School/Community activities: FCCLA.

Favorite high school memory: freshman year of formal

Future plans: Lake Area- 2 years for Human Services

Award: Lion's Scholarship



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Evin Edwin Nehls

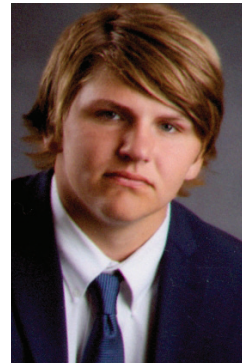
Son of Kevin Nelhs and Shana Schoreder of Fargo.

Brother: Garrett Schroeder- 20.

Hobbies: sports, bowling, and video games.
School/community activities: football, baseball, and soccer.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: attend college at NDSU for a major in Pharmacy.



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Cassandra Ann Schultz

Daughter of Shawn and Melissa Schultz of Bath.

Brother: Garrett-14.

Hobbies: archery, dance

School/community activities: FFA, youth group.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: LATI, Physical Therapy Assisting.

Awards: Darlene Raap Scholarship, Groton FFA Scholarship



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Trinity Lyn Smith

Daughter of Missi and Jeremy Smith of Claremont.

Brother: Trey Smith-12.

Hobbies: dance, show choir, cheer, cooking.

School/community activities: show choir, dance, cheer.

Favorite high school memory: State!

Future plans: attend NSU for Psychology.

Awards: Girls State representatives, Sandford Dean's Scholarship, Dennis K. & Shirley R. Larson Family Scholarship



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Principal Student Service Award

Three seniors (Madeline Flihs, Trista Keith, Alyssa Thaler) at Groton Area High School, have been nominated for the Principal's Student Service Award. To be eligible for this award the students had to document exemplary community service during high school and complete an application and essay.



Madisen Bjerke

Groton Area
Teaching
Scholarship

River Haven Pardick

Son of Jerrid Pardick and Tina Pardick of Conde.


Brothers and Sisters: Nevaeh, Sahara, Destin, Isabella, Noah, and Oliver.

Hobbies: Robotics and video games.

School/community activities: robotics and football.



Favorite high school memory: going to Iowa for Robotics.

Future plans: Undecided.

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Fertilizer

Joel Bierman
397-4003

Favian Sanchez-Gonzalez

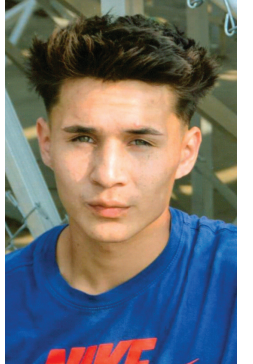
From Rapid City.

Brother and sister: Angel-16, Estella-12.

School/community activities: football.

Favorite high school memory: graduating.

Future plans: work hard and become successful in life and possibly have a family of my own.




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Perry Blocker

Congrats and Best Wishes!

Spencer Travis Sperry

Son of Ginger Conklin and Ty Sperry of Groton.

Sister: Reagan Sperry-14.

Hobbies: hunting and fishing, hanging out with friends.

Future plans: pursue a job in the Hunting Industry.



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TJ Sperry: 380-7915
Tyler Sperry: 216-8431

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Michal Elizabeth Tabke

Daughter of Bruce Tabke and Catherine Friesen of Groton.

Sister and Brother: Melissa and Matthew.

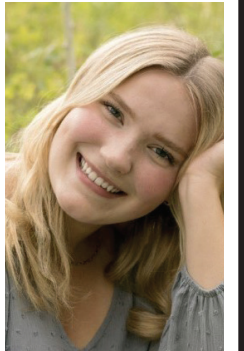
Hobbies: listening to music, barrel racing.

School/community activities: 4H and FFA.

Favorite high school memory: National FFA convention.

Future plans: attending SDSU.

Awards: Groton FFA Scholarship, SDSU Jack-rabbit Journey Scholarship




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**Kennedy
Anderson**

**Jack & Helen
Walter Memorial
Scholarship**



Travis Townsend

**Masonic Lodge
Scholarship**

**Groton Area STEM
Scholarship**

**Gwendolyn
'O Connor Broman
Scholarship**



**Kansas Kroll and Kennedy Anderson
Ruden Family Ag Scholarship**

Emilie Corrine Thurston

Daughter of Tood Thurston and Debbie Thurston of Groton.

Brothers: Mitchel-22, Riley-20, and Drew -15.

Hobbies: Track, dance, working out, shopping, creating art, spending time with family and friends, taking care of my pets, outdoor activities.

School /Community Activities: FCCLA, track, and dance team.

Favorite High School Memory: High school prom memories.

Future plans: Attend North Dakota State University and major in Nursing to specialize in Aesthetics.



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Torrence Jade Wiseman

Daughter of Kandi and Dustin Wiseman of Aberdeen.

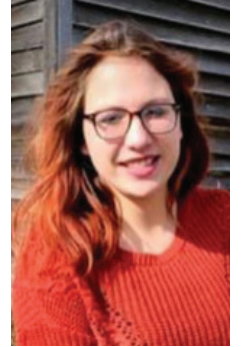
Brothers and sisters: Stehpanie, Christine, Nicole, Samantha, Ava, GraceLynn, and Brayson.

Hobbies: hunting, fishing, snowboarding, swimming, listening to music, driving, hanging with friends and family, and bowling.

School/Community Activities: church group.

Favorite high school memory: going to Pierre for a field trip for a full day, prom, graduation.

Future plans: college, family, and work.



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Tatum Nicole Wright

Daughter of Adam and Nikki Wright, Turton.

Sister: Talli - 14

Hobbies: Listening to music, spending time with family and friends, camping at the lake and watching movies.

School/Community Activities: Participating in Special Olympics (bowling, swimming and track).

Favorite High School Memory: Going to my senior prom with my friends Maddie Bjerke and Riley Leicht, and attending sporting events cheering on my sister and E (Becky Erickson).

Future Plans: Continuing my education.



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Happy Graduation Day!

Jayden Michael Zak

Son of Krissi and Jesse Zak of Columbia and moved to Groton in the 1st grade.

Brothers: Jacob Zak-16, Karson Zak-13.

Hobbies: Playing basketball, working out, hanging out with friends, listening to music.

School/Community Activities: basketball, soccer, baseball, track.

Favorite high school memory: playing in the state tournament this year in basketball.

Future plans: Playing college basketball and studying Business Marketing at Dakota State University.



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Best of Luck! Congrats!



**Eastern Star
Scholarship**

Alyssa Thaler

Travis Townsend



**Schuring Memorial
Scholarships**

**Kansas Kroll
(Robert Schuring)**

**Kennedy Anderson
(Barry Schuring)**

Christina Caroline Zoellner

Daughter of Bill and the late Wanda Zoellner of Groton.

Sister: Tia Thompson.

Hobbies: shooting, spending time with friends and family, and working on the farm.

School/community activities: FFA, dance team, cheerleading, and trap shooting.

Favorite high school memory: when I finally shot a 50 straight at trap practice.

Future plans: Attend SDSU for Agricultural Sciences and then come home and help run the farm.



Awards: Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship, Principal's 4 year Honor Roll, Dennis K. & Shirley R. Larson Family Scholarship, Groton FFA Scholarship





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Congratulations and Best of Luck!



**Richard 'Dick' Voss Memorial Scholarship
Jesse and Julie Morehouse,
Kansas Kroll and Allyssa Locke**



**Don Bartz Memorial Scholarship
Kaden Kurtz**



Principal's Honor Roll

These 7 students have been selected for the Principal's Honor Roll at Groton Area High School. To be eligible for this award, the seniors had to be on the honor roll at Groton Area High School every quarter for four years.

Back Left: Pierce Kettering, Jace Kroll, Jordan Bjerke, Seth Johnson
Front Left: Trista Keith, Madeline Fliehs, Madisen Bjerke, Trista Keith
Not Pictured: Travis Townsend



**Kay & David Donovan
Memorial Scholarship
Richard Donovan and Trista Keith**

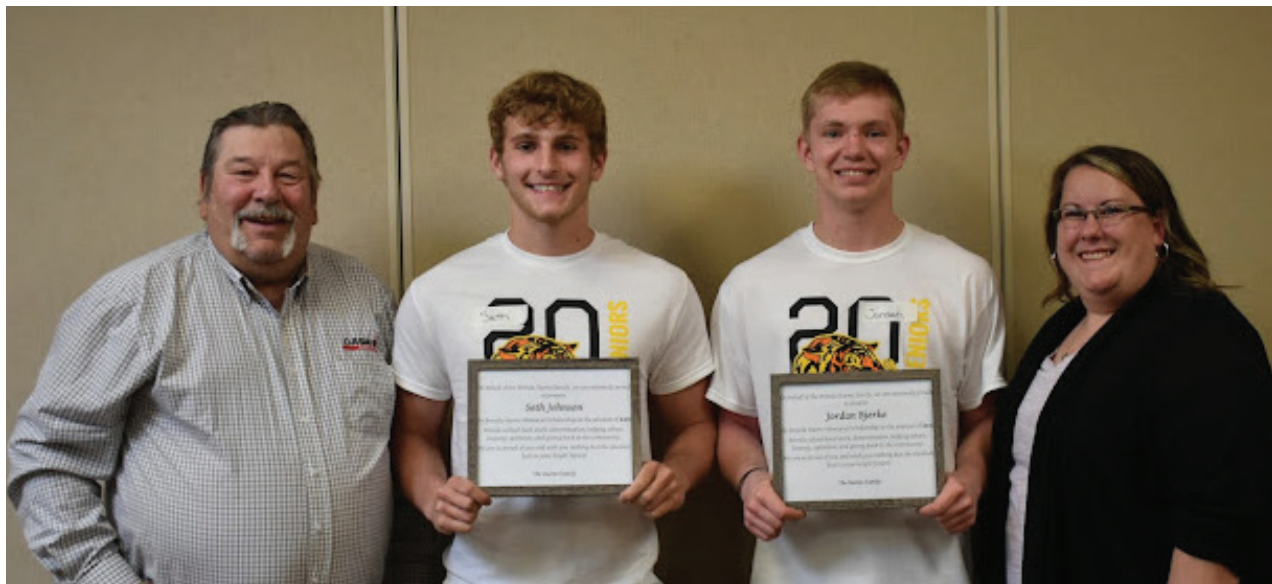


Groton Lions Scholarship

Students Left: Pierce Kettering, Travis Townsend, Megan Fliehs
Students Front: Allyssa Locke & Macine McGannon
Lions Members Karyn Babcock on far left, and Topper Tastad and Mike Nehls on the far right.



**Dacotah Grown Scholarship
from Dacotah Bank
Katelyn Nehlich and Allyssa Locke**



Brenda Harms Memorial

Left: Mike Harms, Seth Johnson, Jordan Bjerke and Sarah Harms



**Dennis K. & Shirley R. Larson Family Scholarships
Hannah Gustafson, Trinity Smith and Christina Zoellner**



Class of 1969 Scholarship

Students: Travis Townsend, Megan Fliehs and Madeline Fliehs

Members of Class of 1969 are Tom Hienz and Tom Mahan on the left and Val Fliehs and Jerry Schley on the right.



**Columbia American Legion Auxiliary Scholarship
Kennedy Anderson, Cara Dennert, Megan Fliehs
Not Pictured: Ryder Daly**



Groton Chamber of Commerce Scholarship

Students: Trista Keith & Megan Fliehs

Chamber Board Members Katelyn Nehlich and Kellie Locke on the left and April Abeln on the right.



**Left: Trista Keith
(Vickie Strom Memorial Scholarship)
Right: Christina Zoellner
(Renee McKiver Memorial Scholarship)**



Cortland & Lois Kuehnert Scholarships

**Madeline Fliehs Kuehnert science, math, or computer technology Scholarship
Kaden Kurtz Kuehnert athletic Scholarship
Allyssa Locke Kuehnert valedictorian Scholarship
Seth Johnson Kuehnert Top Student Scholarship
Travis Townsend Kuehnert Financial need Scholarship**



**Faith Forever Scholarship
Travis Townsend and Kody Lehr**



President's Education Awards Program

Twelve students in the Class of 2022 have qualified for the President's Education Awards Program. The awards are an effort by the U.S. Department of Education to recognize outstanding educational achievement and effort. The criteria have been developed to reflect changes occurring in the schools and to provide schools with both clear guidelines and flexibility. They are meant to reflect the state, local and national efforts to raise academic standards as embodied in the National Education goals.

"It is really nice to be able to recognize these seniors. They have worked hard for four years, have exceptional grade point averages, and have performed well on standardized testing," stated Jodi Schwan, Groton Area High School Opportunities Coordinator. The President's Award for Educational Excellence is signed by the President, Secretary of Education, and the school principal. Criteria include a grade point average of 3.5.

**Back Left: Kansas Kroll, Hannah Gustafson, Madisen Bjerke, Julianna Kosel, Madeline Flihs, Seth Johnson, Jordan Bjerke
Front Left: Trista Keith, Allyssa Locke, Alyssa Thaler, Pierce Kettering**



**Flihs Family Scholarship
Loren Flihs & Trista Keith**



**Kenny Beck Memorial Scholarship
Madeline Flihs and Diann Morehouse**



South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship

The South Dakota Opportunity Scholarship was established for Regents Scholar and CTE recipients with an ACT score of 24 or greater. The scholarship provides \$6,500 over four years to a qualifying student who attends an eligible higher education institution in South Dakota. While in college, students must maintain certain criteria. This scholarship is non-competitive; all students who meet the requirements and complete the application can receive the scholarship.

**Left: Allyssa Locke, Trista Keith, Seth Johnson, Madeline Flihs, & Madisen Bjerke
Not Pictured: Travis Townsend**



**Wilfred N. Lucille A. Heinz
Memorial Scholarship
Tom Heinz and Trista Keith**



FCCLA Service Award

**Allyssa Locke, Madisen Bjerke, Brooklyn Imrie,
Kelsie Frost, Kennedy Anderson, Madeline Flihs**



**Rob Luecke Memorial Scholarship
Becky Hunter and Allyssa Locke**



Groton FFA Scholarship
Adam Franken, Kansas Kroll, Michal Tabke, Christina Zoellner, Travis Townsend, Lane Krueger, Cassandra Schultz and Kennedy Anderson



Kiersten Sombke, MS/HS Principal, announced the special senior awards. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



School Board President Deborah Gengerke announced the staff recognition Award of Deb Winburn who has retired. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Groton Area Superintendent Joe Schwan gave the welcome to the 129th Annual Commencement. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Good Luck To The GHS Senior Class!

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Julianna Kosel did the student-led prayer. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Allyssa Locke and Kaden Kurtz were the senior speakers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Thank You For The Memories!