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The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 15 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2022 ♦ Established in 1889



Sun Dogs were out

Carrie Feser Cole took this photo of the Sun Dogs that were out last week due to the cold temperatures. A major winter storm hit the nation and had an impact in South Dakota. Nearly the entire interstate network was shut down from the blizzard conditions. Dangerously cold wind chills hit the area after the six inches of snow fell in the area. This winter storm had an impact on nearly every state from coast to coast with either winter conditioners or storms. An additional 0.97 of moisture accumulated from the last storm system, resulting in a total of 2.82 inches of moisture with the average at this time for December being 0.54. Gov. Kristi Noem ordered all state government executive branch offices statewide to be closed Thursday, Dec. 22, because of the winter storm in South Dakota. Schools were closed as well on Thursday. The Elementary Christmas Program will be held on Jan. 13 at 2:30 p.m.



Groton Police Officer Tom Strickland and city employee Paul Kosel distributed the Christmas food bags to residents in the community prior to Christmas. The Pantry and the Common Cents Thrift Shop helped with the purchase of the food.

Year end quiz

Oh, so you thought you were going to cruise into the new year without a pop quiz, huh? Well, settle down, slackers, and get to work. Look sharp, these scores are going on your permanent record.

- Why did North Dakota Lt. Gov. Brent Sanford step down?
 - One wedgie too many from Doug Burgum
 - It's not you, it's me. Both of us, really. But mostly you.
 - I need to work on myself.
 - Shot a man in Reno just to watch him die
- North Dakota Rep. Kelly Armstrong's take-away from Jan. 6 report:
 - Still pretty sure it was Antifa
 - Pelosi should have been more prepared for Trump's coup attempt.
 - I'll still vote for Inmate #666000666 if he runs again.
 - Why haven't we seen Hunter Biden's laptop, yet?
- Why is Tucker Carlson's program so popular in the Kremlin?
 - Tokyo Rose died.
 - He's the only one telling the truth about Ukraine's invasion of Russia.
 - Occasional nudity
 - Fox programs broadcast in original Russian.
- Recent dinner guest at Mar-a-Lago.
 - Avowed Nazi
 - Avowed anti-Semite
 - Avowed Attila the Hun
 - Vlad the Impaler
- Yes, Virginia, there is ...
 - A Santa Claus
 - An Easter Bunny
 - A West Virginia
 - Crypto

6. The Jan. 6 Commission referred this charge to the Department of Justice:

- Insurrection
- Introspection
- Infection
- Left the seat up again

7. Why are eggs so expensive?

- Increasing number of gay chickens
- Fowl play
- Millions of chickens

run over trying to cross the road. No one knows why.

- Biden Administration blocking egg pipelines.

8. What do we call a "bomb cyclone" in North Dakota?

- No reason the buses can't run
- A riff-raff keeper-outer
- An opportunity for old-timers to tell stories about walking to school
- An unfortunate bathroom incident

9. What just reached an all time high in North Dakota?

- Lo Mein
- The population
- Price of eggs
- The stoner next door

10. The Minnesota Vikings lead the league in:

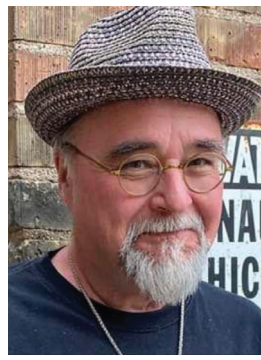
- Comebacks
- Throw-backs
- Crack-backs
- Boogers

BONUS: Why is there an upsurge in COVID and influenza cases?

- False readings from Microsoft tracking devices
- Entirely too much French kissing
- We're being good Republicans
- Darwinism at work

Okay, let's see how you fared. Answers: 1. b; 2. d; 3. c; 4. c; 5. c; 6. d; 7. b; 8. d; 9. d; 10. d; BONUS c. Grading: 9-11 correct: Your Wordle scores must be through the roof. 6-8 correct: My pet chicken got a 7. 3-5 correct: Don't worry. You could still make a race of it in Georgia. 0-2 correct: Are they still doing lobotomies?

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That's Life

by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Recap

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

In yet another stressful game, the Minnesota Vikings pulled out another exciting victory over the New York Giants thanks to a franchise-record 61-yard field goal by Greg Joseph. The Vikings move to 12-3 and continue to keep the 2nd seed in the NFC playoff race.

The Vikings jumped out to a 10-0 lead to start the game, leaving Vikings' fans to think that Santa was going to perhaps gift the Vikings an easy victory for once. However, the Vikings decided yet again to play a stressful game as the Vikings' offense stalled for half the game and allowed the Giants to claw back into the game.

As the Vikings headed into the 4th quarter, they found themselves down 13-0. For some reason, the Vikings have decided to play their best football in the 4th quarter this year as they hold the best point differential in the NFL in the 4th quarter. Today was no different as the Vikings came to life in the 4th quarter thanks to a TJ Hockenson touchdown and a blocked punt by Josh Metellus. And, even after the Giants tied the game with 2:01 in the game, the Vikings drove down the field to let Greg Joseph kick the longest field goal in Vikings' history for the win.

Today was a history-making day for the Vikings. First, Justin Jefferson broke the franchise record for receiving yards in a season, passing Randy Moss who held the record for two decades. Jefferson now sits at 1756 receiving yards on the season and needs only 122 yards in each of the next two games to eclipse 2000 receiving yards in a season, a feat that has never been accomplished in NFL history. It will be interesting to see if the Vikings decide to go for that record or decide to let Jefferson get some rest before heading into the playoffs.

The other history that was made today came from tight end TJ Hockenson, who broke the franchise record for receptions by a tight end in a game with his 13 receptions today. Hockenson was the star of the game as he came up with two clutch touchdowns in the game, one of which was an impressive catch over two Giants defenders on a clutch third down play. For a Vikings franchise that has had solid tight ends over the years, Hockenson provides an extra receiving wrinkle that this team has not had since the Steve Jordan days.

Even though the Vikings won today, I would not say it was a great game for Kirk Cousins. There were multiple third downs where he missed an open Jefferson, and also multiple sacks he took where the offensive line blocked fairly well. Cousins even got lucky late in the game as he threw an awful interception to a covered Adam Thielen that got overturned because Thielen made a great play dislodging the ball as the Giants' defender fell to the ground. However, for all of Cousins' moments of poor play this season, he has still managed to come up clutch when it matters. Today, he tied the NFL record for most 4th quarter comebacks in a season with his eighth comeback of the season.

Looking forward, the Vikings will head to Green Bay next week. Technically, the game only affects whether the Vikings will have the 2nd or the 3rd seed in the NFC playoffs. However, if the Vikings win, they will officially knock the Packers out of the playoffs. I think that alone is enough for Vikings fans to look forward to next week's New Year's Day game at Lambeau Field.

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We the People

The South Dakota Humanities Council is making available a weekly column -- "We the People" -- that focuses on the U.S. Constitution. It is written by David Adler, who is president of The Alturas Institute, a non-profit organization created to promote the Constitution, gender equality, and civic education.



By David Adler

Constitutionally Speaking, A Former President May Be Prosecuted

It is unclear if the Department of Justice will charge former President Donald Trump with four crimes referred by the January 6 Committee, but there should be no doubt, constitutionally speaking, that an ex-president is subject to criminal prosecution.

Chief Justice John Marshall, presiding at the Aaron Burr treason trial in 1807, observed that a former president is returned to the citizenry. The president, Marshall stated, "is elected from the mass of the people" and "returns to the mass of the people."

No special dispensation is required to permit prosecution of a citizen. And there is no evidence whatsoever—no statements, indications, or train of discussion—that the framers of the Constitution intended or even flirted with the idea of clothing an ex-president with any immunity from prosecution. Indeed, immunity was denied to him as president.

The founders, who lived in dread fear of a strong executive, grounded in their own experience under King George III and their keen reading of history, which taught lessons of tyranny, harbored no reason to insulate officials from criminal liability merely because they were elected or appointed to office. Like all citizens, they were responsible under the law. The Supreme Court, in 1882, in *United States v. Lee*, declared: "No officer of the law may set that law at defiance with impunity. All the officers of government, from the highest to the lowest, are bound to obey it."

Pretensions of executive immunity from prosecution wither under the heat of the Impeachment Clause. Article 1, section 3 of the Constitution provides that "the Party . . . shall nevertheless be liable and subject to indictment." Former Solicitor General Robert H. Bork, long a darling of conservatives, writing on October 5, 1973, that then Vice-President Spiro Agnew could be indicted before being impeached, stated: "A civil officer could be both impeached and criminally punished even absent the Article 1, section 3 proviso." Bork's conclusion was anticipated by the Supreme Court, in 1879, in *Langford v. United States*, where Justice Samuel F. Miller wrote that "the ministers personally, like our President, may be impeached; or if the wrong amounts to a crime, they may be indicted."

The only explicit immunity in the Constitution is the limited immunity granted in Article 1, section 6, to members of Congress: "The Senators and Representatives . . . shall in all cases, except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective Houses, and in going to and returning from the same."

The framers were fastidious draftsmen, and they knew very well how to provide for immunity, where they wished to grant it. It is logical to assume that where no immunity is mentioned, none exists.

Charles Pinckney, a delegate to the Constitutional Convention from South Carolina and one of the most active of the framers, declared that that no immunity was intended. Speaking in the Senate in 1800, Pinckney said that "it never was intended to give Congress any but specified privileges, and those were very limited privileges indeed." He added, "No privilege of this kind was intended for your Executive, nor any except which I have mentioned for your Legislature. The Convention well knew that no subject had been more abused than privilege."

James Wilson, second in importance to James Madison as an architect of the Constitution—a status confirmed by George Washington,

who considered Wilson "to be one of the strongest men in the Convention"—assured the Pennsylvania Ratifying Convention that, "not a single privilege is annexed to the President's character. The executive power," he stated, "is better to be trusted when it has no screen." In his landmark Lectures on the Constitution, delivered in 1791 while serving as a Supreme Court Justice, restated the principle: "The most powerful magistrates should be amenable to the law. No one should be secure while he violates the constitution and the laws."

The legal distinction between the English King, who could do no wrong, and the American president, subject to the law at every turn, presented precisely what the framers had in mind when they discussed the rule of law. Alexander Hamilton rebuffed throughout the Federalist Papers efforts by opponents of the Constitution to draw parallels between the authority of the king and that vested in the president. In Federalist No. 68, he was constrained to rebut attacks on grants of power to the president by those, "calculating upon aversion of the people to monarchy," who portrayed the president "as the full-grown progeny of that detested parent." A king could not be indicted, but the president could.

Time will reveal whether the Department of Justice will act on the historic criminal referrals recommended by the January 6 committee. The charges are among the most serious that can be made against a sitting president. If the DOJ decides against prosecution, it won't be because of lack of authority.

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

Team Standings: Chipmunks – 3, Jackelopes, 3, Foxes – 3, Cheetahs – 1, Coyotes – 1, Shihtzus – 1

Men's High Games: Brody Sombke – 207, Mike Siegler – 206, Roger Spanier – 204

Women's High Games: Vicki Walter – 187, Darci Spanier – 168, Brenda Madsen – 163

Men's High Series: Brad Waage – 566, Roger Spanier – 560, Mike Siegler – 545

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter – 487, Darci Spanier – 466, Brenda Madsen – 446

Fun Game: Most 6 Spares – Shihtzus with 5!

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2023
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Happy New Year
2023

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The Groton Independent

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Conde National League

Dec. 26 Team Standings: Giants 4, Tigers 3, Braves 3, Cubs 1, Pirates 1, Mets 0

Men's High Games: Jeff Lahammer 204, Steve Hargis 191, Brody Sombke 189

Men's High Series: Brody Sombke 519, Jeff Lahammer 499, Butch Farmen 493

Women's High Games: Vickie Kramp 165, Sam Bahr 151, Venessa Bethke 135

Women's High Series: Vickie Kramp 430, Sam Bahr 412, Venessa Bethke 345

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Moving Snow

The city crew was out early in the morning removing the snow from the downtown district. Terry Herron is seen here driving the road grader. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The businesses on the west side of Main Street had a drift as high as four to five feet in some areas.

Groton 2023 Events

These are the events that are scheduled. To ad an event, call/text Paul at 605-397-7460 or email paperpaul@grotonsd.net

- 01/29/2023 Groton Robotics Pancake Feed at the Community Center 10am-1pm
- 01/29/2023 85th Carnival of Silver Skates 2pm & 6:30pm (Last Sunday of January)
- 03/25/2023 Spring Vendor Fair, 10am-3pm, Community Center
- 04/01/2023 Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt 10am Sharp at the City Park (Saturday a week before Easter)
- 04/01/2023 Dueling Duo Baseball/Softball Fundraiser at the Legion Post #39 6-11:30pm
- 04/22/2023 Firemen's Spring Social at the Fire Station 7pm-12:30am (Same Saturday as GHS Prom)
- 04/23/2023 Princess Prom 4:30-8pm (Sunday after GHS Prom)
- 05/06/2023 Lion's Club Spring Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday in May)
- 05/29/2023 Legion Post #39 Memorial Day Services (Memorial Day)
- 07/04/2023 Firecracker Couples Tourney at Olive Grove Golf Course 9am Registration, 10am Start (4th of July)
- 07/09/2023 Lion's Club Summer Fest/Car Show at the City Park 9am-4pm (Sunday Mid-July)
- 09/09/2023 Lion's Club Fall Citywide Rummage Sale 8am-3pm (1st Saturday after Labor Day)
- 9/09/2023 Common Cents Community Thrift Store One Year Anniversary
- 10/14/2023 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
- 10/31/2023 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm (working day on or closest to Halloween)
- 10/31/2023 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
- 11/23/2023 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm (Thanksgiving)



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January 2023 Groton Community Calendar of Events

Sunday, Jan. 1

Emmanuel Lutheran Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; No Sunday School or Choir.
United Methodist: Conde worship with communion, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship with communion, 10:30 a.m.
Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.
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.

Monday, Jan. 2

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 3

Senior Menu: Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, carrots and peas, mixed fruit, whole wheat bread.

Basketball doubleheader in Groton with Warner: Girls JV at 4 p.m. followed by Boys JV, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Emmanuel: Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 4

Senior Menu: Chicken breast, rice pilaf, broccoli, pineapple strawberry, ambrosia, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Eggs and breakfast potatoes.

School Lunch: Cheese nachos.

Chamber Board Meeting, noon, at City Hall
Emmanuel: Sarah Circle, 5 p.m.; No Confirmation.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

Thursday, Jan. 5

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, apple crisp, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.

School Lunch: Chicken sandwich, fries.

Girls Basketball hosts Clark/Willow Lake: C game at 5 p.m. followed by JV and Varsity.

Emmanuel: Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 6

Senior Menu: Ham and bean soup, egg salad sandwich, fresh fruit, cookie.

School Breakfast: Biscuits and jelly.

School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, green beans.

Boys Basketball at Clark: JV game at 6 p.m. followed by varsity.

Middle School Wrestling at Milbank, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 7

Wrestling at Garretson Invitational, 8 a.m.

Boys Basketball hosts Sioux Falls Lutheran, JV at 2 p.m. followed by varsity.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 8

Open Gym: Grades JK-8; 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Grades 6-12; 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

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.

Monday, Jan. 9

Senior Menu: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes, carrots, frosted brownie, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Egg bake.

School Lunch: Chicken nuggets, mahes potatoes.

Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.

Middle School Wrestling Invitational at Webster, 5 p.m.

Boys Basketball hosts Sisseton with JV game at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity (Rescheduled from Dec. 15)

School Board Meeting, 7 p.m.

The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Senior Menu: Lemmon baked fish, au gratin potatoes, California blend vegetables, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Sausage, egg and cheese wraps.

School Lunch: Old school BBQ sandwiches, tri taters.

Girls Basketball vs. Aberdeen Christian at the Aberdeen Civic Center, JV at 6 p.m. followed by varsity.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Church Council, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Senior Menu: Spaghetti, mixed vegetables, garlic toast, fruit.

School Breakfast: Hashbrown pizza.

School Lunch: Chicken alfredo, cooked broccoli.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

Thursday, Jan. 12

Senior Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes with gravy, Cauliflower and broccoli, apple sauce, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Oatmeal with toppings.

School Lunch: Hamburgers, fries.

Basketball Double Header at Tiospa Zina: Girls JV at 5 p.m. followed by Boys JV, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity.

Friday, Jan. 13

Senior Menu: Chili, corn bread, coleslaw, pears.

School Breakfast: Cereal.

School Lunch: Pizza, cooked carrots.

Elementary Christmas Concert, 2:30 p.m. (rescheduled from Dec. 22)

Saturday, Jan. 14

Wrestling at Potter County Tournament, 10 a.m.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 15

Open Gym: Grades JK-8; 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Grades 6-12; 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Avantara worship, 3 p.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

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.

Monday, Jan. 16

Senior Menu: Parmesean chicken breast, baked potato with sour cream, wild rice, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.

School Lunch: Taco salads.

Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.

Girls Basketball hosts Langford Area: JV game at 6 p.m. followed by varsity.

Middle School Wrestling at Redfield.

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The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 17

Senior Menu: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, beets, chocolate cake, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: French toast.

School Lunch: Meatballs, mashed potatoes.

Middle School Wrestling at Aberdeen Civic Arena, 4 p.m.

Wrestling at Willow Lake with Clark/Willow Lake and Hamlin, 6 p.m.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran; Groton Ministerial Meeting at UMC, 11 a.m.

United Methodist: Conde Ad Council.

Wednesday, Jan. 18

Senior Menu: Cabbage hot dish, carrots, pears, muffin.

School Breakfast: Egg omelets.

School Lunch: Chicken strips, tri tators.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.; Groton Ad Council, 7 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

Thursday, Jan. 19

Senior Menu: Oven fried chicken, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, banana, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Muffins.

School Lunch: Hot dogs, baked beans.

Basketball Double Header at Milbank: C girls at 5 p.m. in elementary gym; JV girls at 4 p.m. followed by Boys JV, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity.

Friday, Jan. 20

Senior Menu: Breaded codfish, rice pilaf, pea and cheese salad, fruit, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Eggs and sausage.

School Lunch: Mac and cheese, peas.

Wrestling hosts Deuel at 6 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 21

Wrestling at Arlington, 10 a.m.

Girls Basketball at Great Plains Lutheran: C game at 11 a.m. followed by JV and Varsity.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship at Rosewood Court, 10 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 22

Open Gym: Grades JK-8; 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Grades 6-12; 3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with Milestones for 6th grade at sophomores, 9 a.m.; Annual Meeting; Sunday School at 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

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.

Monday, Jan. 23:

Senior Menu: Spanish rice with hamburger, green beans, Mandarin orange dessert, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Mini pancakes.

School Lunch: Oriental chicken, egg rolls.

Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, potluck at noon.

Basketball Doubleheader hosting Northwestern: Girls JV at 5 p.m. followed by Boys JV, Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity.

Middle School Wrestling Invitational at Ipswich, 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 24

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, buttermilk biscuit, glazed carrots, apricots, cookie.

School Breakfast: Sausage and cheese egg cups.

School Lunch: Corn dogs, sweet potatoes.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 25

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, creamy noodles, California blend, carrot bars, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Egg and breakfast potatoes.

School Lunch: Grilled cheese, chips.

Emily's Hope Assembly at GHS Arena, 1 p.m., sponsored by Groton Fire & Rescue.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Service Night for Confirmation Students, 6 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 4 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

Thursday, Jan. 26

Senior Menu: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, creamed peas, fruit, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.

School Lunch: Goulash, fresh baked bun,

corn.

Boys Basketball at Webster: Jv at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity.

Friday, Jan. 27

Senior Menu: Potato soup, chicken salad sandwich, tomato spoon salad, cinnamon apple sauce, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Biscuits and gravy.

School Lunch: Fish and nuggets, spudsters.

Girls Basketball hosts Webster: JV at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity.

Saturday, Jan. 28

NEC-DAXXII boys basketball clash at Madison.

Groton Area Wrestling Tournament, 10 a.m.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic: SEAS Confession, 3:45-4:15 p.m.; SEAS Mass, 4:30 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 29

Groton Robotics Pancake Feed, 10am-1pm, Community Center

Carnival of Silver Skates, 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Choir, 7 p.m.

United Methodist: Conde worship, 8:30 a.m.; Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Groton worship, 10:30 a.m.

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:45 a.m.

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.

Monday, Jan. 30

Senior Menu: Goulash, corn, garlic breadstick, baked apples.

School Breakfast: Egg bake.

School Lunch: Peperoni pizza, green beans.

Girls Basketball vs. Florence/Henry at Florence: JV at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity.

The Pantry, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 31

Senior Menu: Ham, sweet potatoes, mixed vegetables, tropical fruit, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Pancake on a stick.

School Lunch: Tacos.

Boys Basketball at Langford: JV at 6 p.m. followed by Varsity.

Common Cents Community Thrift Store, 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

The Pantry, 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

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**Groton School
Dec. 12, 2022**

Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6

REGULAR MEETING
December 12, 2022

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room with some members joining via zoom. Members present: Flihs, Harder, Gengerke, Pharis, Rix, Smith, and Weismantel. Absent: Harder. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals B. Schwan and Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Rix, second Weismantel to approve the agenda with one amendment under new business item #9 – remove discussion on potential football field and 1969 addition renovation. Motion carried.

Pursuant to SDCL 23-3, there was no potential conflict disclosure reported.

Moved by Smith, second Flihs to approve consent agenda items: November 14, 2022, minutes, financial report, custodial accounts, investments, transportation report, and school lunch report. Motion carried.

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary – 211,769.36; FIT – 19,497.68; Medicare – 7,987.90; FICA – 34,155.10; American Funds – 508.00; SD Retirement – 34,196.64; Health Savings Account – 100.00; Fiduciary Trust Company – 440.00; Horace Mann – 907.61; Thrivent – 250.00; AFLAC – 2,587.66; Delta Dental – 3,748.93; SD Supplemental Retirement – 3,022.22; Division of Child Support – 372.28; US Dept of Treasury – 252.04; Wellmark – 60,221.78; Standard – 774.63; Wage Works – 1,041.64; Avesis – 277.25; Aberdeen Awards – awards, 1,062.00; Advance Auto – supplies, 1,009.09; Allied Climate Professionals – services, 438.78; Amazon – supplies, 586.14; Capital One – supplies, 39.36; Churchill, Manolis, Freeman, Kludt, Shelton – services, 120.34; Clubhouse Hotel – lodging, 1,192.00; Cole Papers – supplies, 1,567.93; Custodial Funds – advanced pays, 14,111.05; Dakota Electronics – repairs, 90.50; Dependable Sanitation – service, 1,238.00; Dollar General – supplies, 43.75; EMC Insurance – auto deductible, 500.00; Farm Tire – tires, 1,600.00; Foreman

Description	MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6									
	General Fund	Assigned Gen Funds	Capital Outlay	Special Education	Bond Redemption	Enterprise Fund	Custodial Fund	Total for District		
1. Beginning Balance	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69		
a. checking	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.69	3,955,162.69		
b. petty cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
2. Transfers in										
3. Revenue to date	2,036,572.99	9,307.25	660,395.40	313,644.06	143.34	141,374.56	409,918.44	3,571,356.04		
4. Total accounted for	3,519,224.99	152,629.90	2,350,355.01	650,679.02	143.34	290,135.34	563,351.13	7,526,518.73		
5. Transfers out										
6. Expenditures to date	1,850,815.65	3,652.52	1,133,002.14	271,035.46	0.00	125,636.52	455,111.61	3,839,253.90		
a. encumbrances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00		
b. disbursements	1,850,815.65	3,652.52	1,133,002.14	271,035.46	0.00	125,636.52	455,111.61	3,839,253.90		
7. Ending Balance	1,668,409.34	148,977.38	1,217,352.87	379,643.56	143.34	164,498.82	108,239.52	3,687,264.83		
a. checking	1,668,409.34	148,977.38	1,217,352.87	379,643.56	143.34	164,498.82	108,239.52	3,687,264.83		
b. petty cash	(0.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)		
November Receipts	1,006,112.33	735.00	522,157.65	276,507.94	6.34	34,536.29	105,940.60	1,945,996.15		
November Expenses	480,349.49	896.01	681,522.85	91,610.68	0.00	34,241.33	29,258.81	1,317,879.17		
Custodial Checking		108,239.52								
District Checking		3,594,690.73								
USDA Supply Chain Defer		(15,665.42)								
Total all Funds		3,687,264.83								

Sales/Service – parts, 337.32; Full Circle Ag – diesel, 4,419.66; Greg's Repair – service, 159.98; Groton Area – bank fee, 18.80; Groton Area – bank fee, 86.60; Groton Chiropractor – physical, 100.00; GDI – legal, 179.70; Harlow's – parts, 48.48; Hauff Mid-America Sports – warm ups, 1,243.49; Rebecca Hearnen – fees, 70.00; Hillyard – supplies, 1,794.73; House of Glass – service, 999.52; Rebecca Hubsch – mileage, 68.34; Hudl – subscriptions, 1,800.00; Jostens – cords, 296.16; Matheson – supplies, 320.50; McLeod's – checks, 156.46; MARC – supplies, 1,928.46; Midstates – clothing, 130.90; MJ's – fuel, 12,605.26; Nasco – books, 102.81; NSU – fee, 80.00; Northside Implement – parts, 3,145.32; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 6,506.74; Pfitzer – service, 140.58; Prorate – service, 344.88; SASD – fee, 150.00; Sheyenne Transport – repairs, 1,517.28; Smith Autobody – repairs, 250.15; Amanda Tarpein – fee, 43.25; Taylor Music – supplies/repairs, 592.79; Time Management – service, 210.20; Wage Works – fee, 102.50; MJ's – fuel, 12,605.26; Darin Zoellner – fee, 70.00. Total General Fund – \$445,828.53.

CAPITAL OUTLAY: A&B Business – print fee, 1,756.31; Amazon – kit, 68.69; Auto Value Aberdeen – tool, 723.99; Band Shoppe – baton, 244.95; Capital One – equipment, 155.20; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 411.61; Hauff Mid America Sports – uniforms, 5,121.50; Hillyard – vacuum, 908.64; Sigmiller Engineering – services, 45,600.00. Total Capital Outlay

Fund - \$54,990.89.

SPECIAL ED: Net Salary – 38,078.39; FIT – 2,808.91; Medicare – 1,383.62; FICA – 5,916.24; SD Retirement – 5,316.34; Fiduciary Trust Company – 100.00; AFLAC – 851.53; Delta Dental – 693.56; SD Supplemental Retirement – 100.00; Wellmark – 8,808.00; Standard – 235.39; Avesis – 78.10; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 18.36; Judy/Gene Williamson – mileage, 1,113.84. Total Special Education Fund – \$65,502.28.

ENTERPRISE: Food Service Net Salary – 6,400.78; FIT – 423.77; Medicare – 228.88; FICA – 978.64; SD Retirement – 928.16; AFLAC – 281.02; Wellmark – 1,604.00; Standard – 3.84; Avesis – 19.63; Ace Refrigeration – freezer repair, 616.08; Bimbo – baked items, 204.00; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 222.92; East Side Jersey Dairy – milk, 681.52; Janel Lone – refund, 29.05; Jodi or Andries Myburgh – refund, 32.65; Performance Foodservice – food, 5,608.17; SD DOE – food, 578.17; US Foods – food, 1,703.34. Total Food Service – \$20,544.62. OST Net Salary – 2,346.85; FIT – 139.27; Medicare – 82.56; FICA – 352.98; SD Retirement – 243.42; AFLAC – 163.93; Wellmark – 705.00; Standard – 23.28. Total Enterprise Funds – \$4,057.29.

CUSTODIAL FUND: Total – \$29,258.81.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes – 1,786,645.56; Other Local Sources – 137,401.02; County Sources – 2,758.98; State Sources – 6,652.00; Fed-

eral Sources – 12,538.59. Total Receipts – \$1,945,996.15.

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

Arena/Gym HVAC bids from the December 8th bid opening were announced: Allied Climate Professionals – Temperature Controls, \$96,000.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General, \$969,010.23; Temperature Controls deduction for Alternate #1, -\$6,200.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General deduction for Alternate #1, -\$181,110.00; Temperature Controls addition for Alternate #2, \$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General addition for Alternate #2, \$30,000.00. Fays Refrigeration & Heating – Temperature Controls, \$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General, \$932,500.00; Temperature Controls deduction for Alternate #1, -\$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General deduction for Alternate #1, -\$286,145.00; Temperature Controls addition for Alternate #2, \$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General, \$1,101,600.00; Temperature Controls deduction for Alternate #1, -\$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General deduction for Alternate #1, -\$242,000.00; Temperature Controls addition for Alternate #2, \$0.00; Mechanical, Electrical and General addition for Alternate #2, \$40,200.00. Deduction for Alternate #1 consists of omitting kitchen HVAC, lighting, and ceiling improvements. Addition for Alternate #2 consists of cleaning existing ductwork and registers. Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to approve bid from Fays Refrigeration & Heating for Mechanical, Electrical and General with Alternate #1 deduction, approve bid from Allied Climate Professionals for Temperature Controls, and decline all bids on Alternate #2 addition. Motion carried.

The board reviewed necessary action on District Covid-19 Learn On Plan. No changes were made.

Superintendent Schwan presented a 5-year Capital Outlay

expenditure plan. No action was taken.

The following topics were discussed in administrative reports: fiber replacement, Governor's Budget Address, scholarship letters sent by students to donors as a note of thanks and appreciation not an additional solicitation, class change days, dual credit enrollment, MAPS testing, SASD Leadership Academy, OST fundraiser, election webinar schedule and potential election dates.

Superintendent Schwan announced a South Dakota Department of Ed CTE Innovative Equipment Grant Award for \$236,522 to be used for a Health Science Simulation Lab at the high school.

Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to approve:

RESOLUTION TO ADAPT SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET FOR 2022-23 CTE INNOVATIVE EQUIPMENT GRANT

WHEREAS: The following budget function levels set by the Board of Education were not adequate to meet the 2022-23 CTE Innovative Equipment Grant operating needs

THEREFORE: Be it resolved to that the Board of Education, in accordance with SDCL 13-11-3.12, adopts the following supplemental budget for \$236,522 as follows:

General Fund Expenses
10-2213-000-315-680 Syn-Daver professional development training: \$ 10,500
10-2213-000-315-680 Two Nursing Anne Simulator and orientation: \$ 1,920
10-2213-000 315-680 Two EDPATHWAY professional development classes: \$ 1,920
Total General Fund: \$ 14,340
Capital Outlay Expenses
21-1131-000-471-680 SIM Pad PLUS handheld remote/mobile router: \$ 1,112
21-1131-000-471-680 All in One Pane PC for instructor and student: \$ 2,641
21-1131-000-471-680 SIM Pad PLUS Nursing Anne Simulator: \$ 3,615
21-1131-000-472-680 Two LLEAP (Program Licenses) for SIM Pad PLUS: \$ 5,790
21-1131-000-479-680 Syn-Daver Synthetic Human Anatomy Model: \$ 125,030
21-1131-000-479-680 Nurse Anne Simulator: \$ 28,436
21-1131-000-479-680

Nursing Anne Trainer: \$ 10,015
21-1131-000-479-680 Wound care assessment set: \$ 3,807
21-1131-000-479-680 Human muscular human anatomy model: \$ 8,697
21-1131-000-479-680 Two electric hospital beds: \$ 6,580
21-1131-000-479-680 Patient lift and sling: \$ 1,555
21-1131-000-479-680 Welch Allyn Green Series 777 Integrated Wall System: \$ 2,764
21-1131-000-479-680 Welch Allyn 300 Series Vital Sign Reader: \$ 1,399
21-1131-000-479-680 Three taping station tables: \$ 16,083
21-1131-000-479-680 Interactive Newline Smart Board: \$ 2,250
21-1131-000-479-680 Storage cabinet and stackable storage cabinet: \$ 2,408
Total Capital Outlay: \$ 222,182
General Fund Revenue
10-4195-680 Governor's Emergency Ed Relief – CTE Innovation Grant: \$ 14,340
Capital Outlay Revenue
21-4195-680 Governor's Emergency Ed Relief – CTE Innovation Grant: \$ 222,182
Date of Resolution, December 12, 2022.

Deborah Gengerke, President M. J. Weber, Business Official (Resolution carried.)

The board reviewed a draft of the 2023-24 school calendar. No action was taken.

The board reviewed a letter of resignation from Kiersten Sombke, MS/HS Principal effective at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Moved by Flihs, second Rix to approve. Motion carried.

The board reviewed a letter of resignation from Mike Weber, Business Manager, effective at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Moved by Weismantel, second Flihs to approve. Motion carried.

Moved by Rix, second Weismantel to declare 30 computer bags as surplus property. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Flihs to approve managed print contract with A&B Business. Motion carried.

Moved by Flihs, second Rix to hire Amanda Bisbee as all-school play director for 2022-23 at 5% of base salary. Motion carried.

Moved by Flihs, second Weismantel to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Motion carried.

M. J. Weber, Business Manager Deborah Gengerke, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published December 28, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$155.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21800

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2023

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Groton, South Dakota

Olive Grove Golf Course

**Brown County
Dec. 20, 2022
Meeting Minutes**
DECEMBER 20, 2022 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COMPENSATION STUDY: Erica Coughlin, HR Director met with the Commissioners and asked them to implement the Wage Study for Non-Union Employees using Plan A Modified, which goes back to a Step-Scale and would be effective for the 1st payment in January. She is still in negotiations with Union at this time and will come back to the table once they come to an agreement to get that approved at that time. Commissioner Wiese commented that there will be significant changes, but it is a step in the right direction. We hired the professionals to do the wage study and they interviewed the employees to get an assessment of each position. Going to be a little tough with the Property Tax Caps that Counties are left with and have been for 30 years now. Erica shared that the Company also created brand new job descriptions for each position as well. Commissioner Sutton also commented that he feels it was money well spent, it is something the employees have been asking for and we agreed that whatever the results were we'd seriously consider implement what the results were. Commission Feickert commented that he is glad we were able to do a wage study and try to pay our employees what they are worth and show appreciation for what they have done and try to maintain the employees that we got. After further discussion in regard to budgets and sustaining this down the road, Commissioner Feickert motioned to implement Plan A Modified of the wage study beginning with first payroll of January for Non-Union Employees, seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the December 13, 2022 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Feickert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following:

Claims: Professional Fees: Daniel L. Fox \$336.75; Darcy Lockwood \$15.00; Kristi Brandt \$434.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine Aberdeen \$397.00; Tonja Jungwirth \$2,225.00; Tyler Technologies Inc \$2,895.00; Valerie J. Larson \$15.00; Yankton County Sheriff Office \$50.00; Zylstra Investigations \$932.50. Publishing: Groton Independent \$832.19; Ingstad Family Media \$400.00. Rentals: Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$47.62.

Repairs & Maintenance: Century Business Products \$153.71; Jalene M. Palmer \$1,340.46; Joshua L. Halsey \$80.00; Lawson Products, Inc \$67.15; Lien Transportation \$696.25;

Pierson-Ford-Lincoln-Mercury \$577.50; Pumps Tire Service, Inc \$65.94; Steven Lust Automotive \$383.89; Titan Machinery, Inc Aberdeen Case IH \$9,149.00; Two Way Solutions, Inc \$265.99; Weismantel Rent-All \$285.00. Supplies: Advance Auto Parts \$840.81; Avera McKennan \$23.25; Century Business Products \$3,037.31; Cole Papers \$2,058.11; Dakota Supply Group \$64.31; Daniel L. Fox \$4.49; Farm Power Mfg Inc \$66.11; GovConnection Inc \$1,461.28; LabSource, Inc \$918.13; Larry Becker \$355.75; Lawson Products, Inc \$795.51; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$1,023.28; Mac's Inc \$58.37; Marco Inc \$21.04; MB LLC \$20.00; Menards \$627.69; Midwest Art Conservation Center \$100.00; Nelson Sales & Service LLC \$6.94; Nicholas R. Volk \$40.00; Northern Valley Communication \$26.76; Performance Oil & Lubricants \$178.00; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$995.06; Pumps Tire Service, Inc \$106.50; Runnings \$776.92; Tyler Business Forms \$303.26. Travel & Conference: Dale Kurth \$122.10; Darwin Bettmann \$16.50; David North \$114.45; Doug Fjeldheim \$496.30; James Meyers \$30.90; Lynn Heupel \$204.22; Patrick Keatts \$12.34; Stan Beckler \$19.86. Utilities: City of Aberdeen \$288.78; City of Hecla \$188.55; Economy Propane LLC \$1,378.65; James Valley Telecommunications \$209.10; Lumen \$1,203.10; Northern Valley Communication \$4,856.56; Northwestern Energy & Communications \$3,475.73; State of South Dakota \$121.41; Verizon Wireless Services LLC \$5,186.41. Machinery & Equipment: Joshua L. Halsey \$485.00; Karl Chevrolet \$52,994.97. Fair Premiums: Barb Crawford \$5.00; Briella Klipfel \$10.00; Ellen Niblet \$10.00; Emma Carlsgaard \$10.00; Kylie Herman \$10.00; Linda Yates \$10.00; Marie Goetz \$10.00; Ryan Mattson \$5.00; Terry Salfrank \$5.00. Others: Wex Health Inc \$4,000.00.

Payroll: Commission \$4,503.96; Auditor \$13,644.81; Treasurer \$14,283.33; SA \$29,909.28; Maintenance \$9,986.92; Assessor \$15,103.01; Register of Deeds \$8,157.60; VSO \$4,143.28; GIS \$2,483.72; IT \$6,095.97; HR \$4,061.37; Sheriff \$40,489.29; Jail \$58,568.97; Court Security \$6,568.66; JDC \$29,114.61; Welfare \$2,161.43; Museum \$8,155.94; Parks/Fairgrounds \$3,240.55; Fair Board \$4,790.80; 4-H \$638.80; Weed \$1,492.84; Planning & Zoning \$6,481.44; Highway \$41,683.55; Dispatch \$31,695.07; Emergency \$4,285.81; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,425.67; Landfill \$12,423.69. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report: Acknowledge the resignation of Brianna Haugen, Brown County States Attorney Deputy, full-time, effective December 16, 2022. Request to fill. Resignation of Michael Carlson, Brown County Coroner; effective December 31, 2022. Approve payment of retirement award for Brian Koens in the amount of \$150.00 before taxes, the requirement was met. Approve hiring of Mackenzie Beminghaus as Brown County JDC Correctional Officer, full-time; starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective December 26, 2022. All mem-

bers present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following abatements on Tax Deed Properties: Parcel #9609 @ \$25,298.75; Parcel #13188 @ \$16,521.10. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CENTENNIAL VILLAGE FAIR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Feickert, seconded by Gage to acknowledge receipt of revenue generated at Centennial Village for 2022 in the amount of \$14,082.75. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SHERIFF REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following October 2022 Sheriff Reports: Incidents and offenses, Prisoner care, JDC, and Money deposited with the County Treasurer. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENT: Moved by Feickert, seconded by Wiese to authorize and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignment against an individual to the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to go into executive session to discuss Personnel and Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Feickert, seconded by Gage to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:55 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published December 28, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$79.34 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21801

**Groton City
Dec. 20, 2022
Meeting Minutes**
December 20, 2022

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Babcock, Wambach, Wells, Cutler, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson and Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.

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

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

Payroll, \$22,885.77, Employee salaries; Executive, \$221.63; Administrative, \$4,311.57; Public Safety, \$7,200.46; Public Works, \$11,152.11; Dacotah Bank, \$5,250.47, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$576.24, HSA Contributions; USPS, \$269.16, Utility billing postage; Erdmann Properties, \$82.20, Utility deposit refund; Eh Moo, \$567.95, Utility deposit and overpayment refund; Debbie Protas, \$239.29, Utility deposit and overpayment refund; Sharon Young, \$563.67, Utility deposit and overpayment refund; Rod & Arlys

Kluess, \$55.59, Utility deposit and overpayment refund; Dirk & Jennifer Rogers, \$89.13, Utility deposit refund; Laurie Muscha, \$107.43, Utility deposit refund; City of Groton, \$321.24, Utility deposits applied to bills; Justin Cleveland, \$1,559.72, Med Flex; Maguire Iron, \$185,419.00, Pay Request #1; IMEG Corp., \$9,963.79, Engineering Fees; City of Groton, \$225.00, Holiday Lighting Contest Utility Credits; Dacotah Bank, \$2,424.24, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA Contributions; Hauge Associates, Inc., \$250.00, Wage Assignment; Accounts Management, Inc., \$75.00, Wage Assignment; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$240.00, Employee Supplemental Retirement; Heartland Waste Management, \$10,128.25, Garbage Hauling - November 2022; Dakota Supply Group, \$308.25, Toilet for Community Center, ball valve, pipe nipple; Menards, \$24.25, Adapter for extended antenna, flex tape; Locke Electric, \$714.28, LED lightbulbs for City Shop; Cole Papers, \$186.01, Paper towels & garbage bags; Dakota Pump and Control, \$3,458.87, Installation of ground storage tank mixer; Lori's Pharmacy, \$198.39, Santa Comes to SD books, flower arrangement; Avera Medical Group, \$90.00, Employee drug/alcohol testing; Mike's Heating & Cooling, Inc., \$217.45, Installation of new toilet at Community Center; Krueger Brothers, \$9,768.61, Crushed gravel & washed sand; MJ's Sinclair, \$1,833.59, Fuel purchases & tire repairs; Ken's Fair Foods, \$386.87, Fuel purchases, bottled water, toilet paper; Dacotah Bank Visa, \$1,311.82, 2023 planners, winter overshoes, notary training, cemetery deed filing system, roll of stamps, sewer/water sample postage, fuel; James Valley Telecommunications, \$805.93, Telephone & Internet Services; Dan Richardt, \$100.00, Santa Day reimbursement; Irby, Inc., \$1,198.85, Electric Tools - Hotstick & Impact Socket Adapter; Altec Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Digger Truck Lease; OnSolve, LLC, \$270.00, One Call Now Credits; Groton Daily Independent, \$51.05, Publishing Fees; NW Energy, \$40.95, Natural Gas Service - Water Tower; Farmers Union Co-op Assoc., \$1,295.40,

#1 Dyed Diesel; Kellie Locke, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; April Abeln, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; Douglas Heinrich, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; Landon Johnson, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; Branden Abeln, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; Paul Kosel, \$40.00, Employee Cell Phone Reimbursement - Nov/Dec; Share Corporation, \$389.57, Car shampoo, headlamp, shop supplies; MN Municipal Utilities Assoc., \$495.00, 2023 Associate Member Dues;

Moved by Wells and seconded by Babcock to approve the November finance report. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wambach to approve Change Order No. 2 for Maguire Iron. All members present voted aye.

The second reading of Ordinance #765 - Supplemental 2022 Appropriations was approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Wells. All members present voted aye.

The 2023 Fee Schedule was approved on a motion by Wambach and seconded by Cutler. All members present voted aye.

Discussion took place regarding the Economic Development Meeting from December 7, 2022. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

Applications for Baseball Coordinator, Softball Coordinator, Legion Coach, Jr. Legion Coach, and Jr. Teener Coach are due by January 16, 2023, at 5:00pm.

Congratulations was given to the Holiday Lighting Contest Winners:

1st - Paul and Tina Kosel
2nd - Nathan and Brandy Flajole

3rd - Hope and Bryce Dargatz
President Brian Bahr entered the meeting at 8:04pm.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Wambach to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:07pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:24pm.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wells to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published December 28, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$52.98 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21802

**Groton City
Supplemental
Ordinance**

ORDINANCE NO. 765
2022 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE

SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota that the following sums are supplementally appropriated to meet the obligations of the City of Groton and shall be effective immediately following passage.

E 101-41410 Legal: \$1,700
E 101-41470 General Financial Admin: \$13,000

E 101-43100 Streets & Highways: \$6,000
E 101-45134 U10/U8 Baseball: \$501

E 101-43700 Cemetery: \$200
E 101-45123 Soccer: \$173
E 101-45129 Tennis: \$20,000
E 101-45240 Forestry: \$3,200
E 266-43500 Airport: \$18,000

... TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS: \$62,774

SOURCE OF FUNDING
E 101-41150 Contingency: \$50,000

E 101-41420 Finance Office: \$12,774

TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE: \$62,774

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 20th day of December, 2022.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

1st Reading: 12/6/2022
2nd Reading: 12/20/2022
Published: 12/28/2022
Effective: 12/31/2022

Published December 28, 2022, at the total approximate cost of \$15.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21803

Kelly & Brittany



2023
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Amid historic decline, 2022 pheasant season off to strong start



Scott Waltman
South Dakota
News Watch

Few if any people in South Dakota will argue that the state's vaunted pheasant hunting industry in 2022 is as strong as in the past.

Compared to prior decades, the slow and steady declines are apparent in both license sales and bird numbers and, to some extent, how out-of-state visitors who pump millions into the East River economy plan their trips.

Still, state officials with ties to the pheasant and tourism industries remain optimistic about this year's season and what the future might hold. Hunters interviewed recently report solid results in the field, and businesses that rely on pheasant hunting revenues are also seeing strong financials so far this season.

While the odds of the glory years returning are long, hunting the state bird is still a popular activity that generates hundreds of millions of dollars into the South Dakota economy each year.

South Dakota remains home to a lucrative but steadily declining pheasant hunting industry that generated nearly \$300 million in direct spending in the state in 2016, a majority of that from non-resident hunters.

The state Game, Fish and Parks Department estimates the number of pheasants taken each year by hunters. Last year's total was roughly 1.07 million. There are no 2022 numbers yet as the season stretches until the end of January, but GFP spokesman Chris Hull said he checks in with businesses on a weekly basis, has been out hunting and has visited with other hunters. Anecdotally, he said, this season is going better than last year when it comes to pheasant numbers.

"I would be shocked if the number wasn't well over 1 million birds shot," Hull said of this season.

In 2020, more than 1.1 million pheasants were taken by roughly 121,000 hunters. Those numbers, perhaps aided by the COVID-19 pandemic that left many people looking for more outdoor activities, are higher than they were in 2019, when 111,000 hunters collected about 830,000 birds.

License numbers are also going to be modestly higher again this year, according to GFP statistics. Sales of combination small game/fishing licenses, available only to South Dakota residents, were 48,746 in 2021 and 47,395 through Nov. 16 this year.

There are no numbers yet to track how much



The 2022 pheasant season is off to a good start in South Dakota, according to hunters and experts in the industry. Photo: News Watch file

pheasant hunters have spent in South Dakota this season. But it is substantial. The overall revenue generated in recent years, according to GFP and South Dakota Department of Tourism numbers, include:

- 2021: \$246.8 million
- 2020: Not available
- 2019: \$202.4 million
- 2018: \$218 million
- 2017: \$287 million

Katlyn Svendsen, global media and public relations director for the South Dakota Department of Tourism, said GFP tracks more details about the economic impact hunting has on the state than her office. Tourism numbers in South Dakota are strong and hunting is one reason why, she said.

In 2021, 13.5 million overall visitors to South Dakota spent an estimated \$4.4 billion, according to department statistics. For comparison, 13.7 million visitors spent \$3.8 billion in South Dakota in 2015.

Svendsen said the reports she is hearing about pheasant hunting are that the season is going well and hunters are having a great time.

In Brown County, pheasant hunting has an economic impact of \$12 million to \$16 million a year, said Casey Weismantel, executive director for the Aberdeen Convention & Visitors Bureau. That number was down to \$8.7 million in 2013 before rebounding, he said.

Critical non-residents adapt to changes

Through recent decades, South Dakota has depended more and more on out-of-state hunters, according to GFP data. The last time more hunting licenses were sold to residents than visitors was in 2002, and the number of in-residents has been generally decreasing since then. The low was 47,403 in 2019, before an uptick the past few years.

Falling out-of-state license numbers is also a concern. Between 2014 and 2018, the number of non-resident hunters declined from 79,195 to 69,018, GFP statistics show. In recent years, most out-of-state hunters stay at lodges or outfitters that provide everything from lodging to dogs to land, Weismantel said.

There are still visitors who want to access public land that offer hunting without resort fees. But, he

said, more often than not, they prefer a lodge that can guarantee bird numbers.

As the number of businesses that offer those services has grown, the days of knocking on the doors of farmers and asking to walk through their fields have largely fallen away. That can be aggravating for South Dakotans looking for hunting opportunities.

A lodge is where first-time pheasant hunter Mike Larsen of California stayed when he and five friends visited northeastern South Dakota to hunt. They stayed at Doland Hunting Lodge in eastern Spink County.

Larsen said the setup was great, as the lodge even had a spare shotgun for a member of the group who needed one. He said his group shot its limit of 18 pheasants on Nov. 22 and got 10 of a possible 18 the next day, when marksmanship was an issue. Larsen said he saw hundreds of birds even though his gang missed plenty of them.

Return visitors make up the bulk of business at Doland Hunting Lodge, said owner Joe Remily. Hunters return year after year because they enjoy their time, he said. Sometimes wives join their husbands, he said. The lodge is generally booked for much of the season and even offers a couple's hunt, he said.

Luring more pheasant hunters to South Dakota



Casey Weismantel

A big part of Weismantel's job is drawing pheasant hunters to the Aberdeen area, even though he hears complaints that hunting isn't what it once was. To do that, he visits shows like Pheasant Fest each February in Minneapolis.

"The golden days of pheasant hunting, they're in the past," he admitted.

But there remain plenty of good opportunities and birds, he said.

Weismantel said he doesn't pull any punches as he chats with would-be visitors. He is honest about what he hears concerning pheasant numbers and conditions, and reminds them there is no way to ensure a visiting hunter will get a limit of pheasants or even one bird. But Weismantel can promise those interested in hunting in northeastern South Dakota that there are ample opportunities. And a lot of that, he says, has to do with public land access.

There are visiting hunters who don't want to pay to stay at a hunting lodge and favor public land, Weismantel said. That land can make for tough walking because of the habitat, but it has pheasants, he said, so some out-of-staters are willing to find a base for lodging and drive 100 miles a day to find accessible land, he said.

For many out-of-state hunters, the experience is more about camaraderie and spending time with friends and family than it is about limiting out in birds, Weismantel said.

Most surrounding states have focused on increasing pheasant habitat and/or releasing birds to increase the population. And all have some kind of survey to track pheasant numbers. South Dakota discounted its summer brood surveys in 2000, which sparked criticism

Continues on next page

2023

Drop the last year into the silent limbo of the past. Let it go, for it was imperfect, and thank God that it can go.

- Unknown

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Weismantel Agency

Marty Weismantel ~ 605/396-7341 ~ weisag@nvc.net

Continued from Previous Page

from some who thought the decision was made to hide the decreasing pheasant population.

Discussing the issue can sometimes require thick skin, Hull said, but most folks just want to be heard.

The surveys were not used for management practices, and Hull said there could be hope for people who miss the annual reports.

"I wouldn't be shocked if it came back, but I also wouldn't be shocked if it didn't," he said.

Hunters report positive results

The first Chinese ring-necked pheasants were released in Spink County in 1908, and the first season, a one-day hunt in Spink County, was in 1919.

It turns out the hardy birds didn't mind South Dakota's extreme weather. The state bought pheasants in the early years, and the bird population took off.

By 1945, South Dakota had roughly 16 million pheasants, according to numbers tracked by the South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks, and an estimated 7.5 million were harvested that year. An industry was born.

Numbers fluctuated for decades, but have not topped 10 million since 2008. In recent history, 2007 was an exceptional year with an estimated pheasant population of 11.9 million. Some 180,000 licensed hunters gathered about 2.1 million birds, according to GFP statistics. But the number of pheasants and licenses have decreased since then and have become a concern for the state.

Last year, more than 129,000 licenses were issued, with about 1.07 million birds harvested, according to the GFP.

Certainly, things have changed as the generations have rolled by, but that's not to say hunters aren't seeing birds.

Ken Hubbart of Aberdeen was out hunting a public walk-in area west of town the Sunday after Thanksgiving. He bagged a bird in 90 minutes of walking with his German shepherd-Weimaraner cross.

Hubbart said he had hunted about 15 times this season, mostly near Aberdeen, but also in the Brookings and Wessington Springs areas. He said he had yet to be skunked. The Thursday and Friday of Thanksgiving week near Brookings, he said he got a couple of birds each day. And during the in-state pheasant opener, which is the week before the traditional opener that draws tens of thousands of visitors to South Dakota, he and his dad got their combined limit of six pheasants that Saturday. The next day, his group of three bagged seven birds out of a combined maximum of nine, again on public land.

Hunting in the Wessington Springs area was a little slower, Hubbart said. There, he hunted on his in-law's property. But generally, he has hunted in state walk-in areas.

"I've been fairly impressed with the public land. You would think it'd get kind of trampled



An Aberdeen Pheasant Coalition sign indicates a field that is open to public hunting southwest of Aberdeen. Photo: Scott Waltman

for News Watch

down (as the season goes on), but we've been able to scratch out a pheasant or two," he said after finishing a trip through public land as the sun set on a mild Sunday that capped the holiday weekend.

That day, he said, he saw plenty of birds, but getting near them was a challenge. Some of the public land can make for tough walking, but it also provides excellent cover for pheasants.

Tony Julik, who splits his time between South Dakota, Minnesota and Arizona, said pheasant numbers seem higher this year compared to recent years. He visits South Dakota three or four times each fall to hunt on land he and friends own near Hosmer. There's no way to know for sure, he said, but there seem to be more pheasants in more places, he said.

He noted that the weather in the past year has been good for pheasants. Across much of northeastern South Dakota, generally mild weather and timely rains have provided good habitat this fall. And, Julik said, it didn't get too hot during the summer. The heat can kill bugs that young pheasants eat, he said. He didn't believe an ice storm in the second half of November harmed pheasants because they could find cover.

A focus on public land available to hunters

South Dakota is working to gather more public land for hunting, which should mean more pheasants and more hunters, said Hull, communications specialist with GFP.

Habitat is the key to keeping the pheasant industry a strong part of South Dakota's economy and helping bird numbers increase, he said.

"The discussion starts and ends with habitat. If you have habitat, the birds are going to be there," Hull said.

Between 2006 and 2012, South Dakota lost 1.8 million acres of grassland, according to an April 2014 study by the South Dakota State University Plant Science Department. Higher returns for corn and

soybeans have led to farmers and ranchers breaking the grassland to maximize crop profits.

South Dakota had nearly 1.8 million acres protected under the CRP program in 1994, according to data reported to the state. In the next 20 years, that number dipped to 930,000 acres. By 2019, it had rebounded to 1.1 million acres.

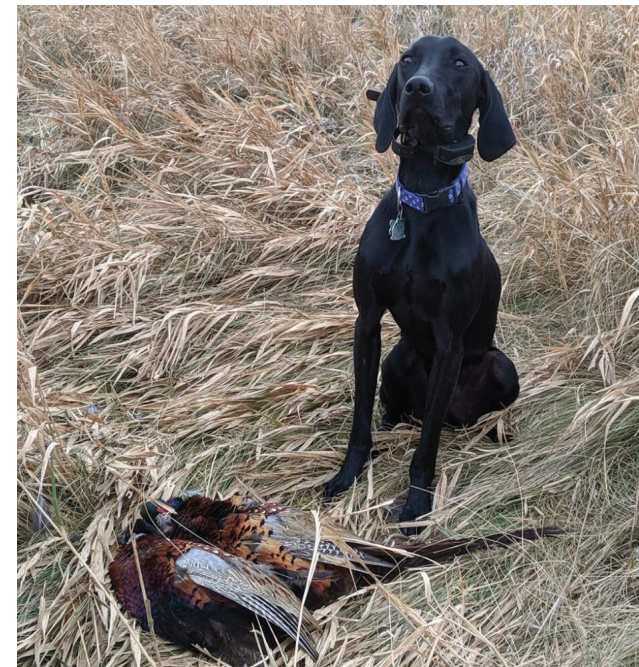
In recent years, GFP has added about 6,000 acres of public land in the James River Valley area in northeastern South Dakota, Hull said. Another similar project will add about 25,000 public acres along the Big Sioux River, he said. It's part of what's called the Conservation Enhancement Reserve Program, which offers payments for land in the program that can be used by hunters.

The program offers farmers a chance to get payments for marginal or non-farmable land, Hull said.

CREP improvements are funded, in part, by the habitat stamp approved by the state legislature in 2020. Adult hunters and anglers pay \$10 for in-state residents and \$25 for out-of-staters. It generated more than \$9 million in the first two years, with the money dedicated toward land and water improvements.

Weismantel said there's also a local program working to improve habitat.

The Aberdeen Pheasant Coalition has gathered money for extra payments to farmers who have land in the Conservation Reserve Program that is open to the public for hunting. Chris Goldade with the coalition said it has 4,000 Brown County acres in the program. No land has been added in the past few years, he said, but as the James River CREP program wraps up, the Aberdeen Pheasant Coalition will again begin raising another \$100,000 for its program. The project is a joint effort with Pheasants Forever and local businesses and organizations.



The German shepherd-Weimaraner cross owned by Ken Hubbart of Aberdeen found success in the field. Photo: Ken Hubbart Facebook page

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Dear EarthTalk: I hear that world population just topped eight billion. Is this growth wreaking havoc on the environment/climate and what is the prognosis for population growth globally over next few decades?

-- Peter.

W., Albuquerque, NM

Global population has indeed reached eight billion, but it won't remain there for long. Lower mortality rates and longer life expectancies have contributed to elevated population numbers. Although richer countries have lowered their birth rates in recent decades, poorer countries—specifically those in sub-Saharan Africa—continue to have high birth rates. Whether or not we will be able to support a continually growing population is still a hotly debated topic.

Many analysts still subscribe to philosopher Thomas Malthus' hypothesis, first postulated in a 1798 essay, that humans' ability to provide more and more resources will always be overwhelmed by ever-increasing population growth numbers. But others believe that

growing population numbers can be supported with proper and effective resource allocation. Regardless, a growing population coupled with climate change will have an impact on resource availability and distribution.

Population projections are inherently tricky. It's impossible to account for every scenario that could be a determinant over the course of a century. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat (UNPD) projects that human population will pass 10 billion by 2100. However, a convergence of population forecasts created by the Wittgenstein Centre projected a global population of 8.79 billion by 2100 after an initial peak of 9.73 billion in 2064. This projection is vastly lower than UNPD's projections due to their different modeling approaches.

The Wittgenstein Centre's models arrived at different population totals based on variables such as fertility, mortality and migration pattern changes. The models predicted a lower total fertility rate (TFR) as access to education and contraception for childbearing people increased. A low TFR will have long term impacts on the overall global population. A reduced global population would reduce carbon dioxide output and lower resource needs and stresses, but climate change will continue to have consequences that will affect resource availability for decades to come even if we are successful at reining in emissions.

Social programs and systems will need to adapt as populations age and access to contraception and education increases. Age gaps will expand in countries with low TFRs. Labor forces will decrease, social security and



The environmental consequences of global human population numbers cresting four decades from now are anybody's guess. Credit: James Cridland, FlickrCC.

universal healthcare systems will become strained and economic growth will be lowered as a result. These factors create a daunting task to support a growing global population, but it is possible.

Global population numbers do put a large strain on the environment, so it is important to elect policymakers who support a sustainable future with commitments to reduce fossil fuel emissions and who uphold and encourage reproductive education and healthcare for everyone, especially childbearing people. Whether our future will be some sort of Malthusian hell or a global garden where most of us receive the nourishment and resources needed to survive is still anybody's guess.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

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2023 Happy New Year!

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

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

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

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

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Ken's Super Fair Foods is honored to announce a new NFL partnership with local athletes, featuring Lashon Rogers and Augustin "Gus" Reade of NSU. Ken's is a proud supporter of NSU Athletics, and we will be highlighting athletes in this sponsorship with more upcoming promotional events.

Meat

Ken's Fresh **85% Lean Ground Beef Family Packs**

\$3.99 Per Lb.

SAVE \$2.80 Per Lb.

USDA Choice Demkota **Boneless New York Strip Steak**

12 Oz. **\$6.99** Each

USDA Choice Demkota **Boneless Bread & Butter Roast**

3 Lb. Bag **\$3.99** Per Lb.

Dairy

Cass Clay **Swiss Chocolate Milk**

97 Oz. Jug **\$3.99**

Taylor Farms **Vegetable Platter**

36 Oz. Tray **\$6.99**

Chi-Chi's **Tortilla Chips**

11 Oz. Bags OR Salsa 16 Oz. Jars **2/\$5**

Frozen

Pizza Corner **Pizza**

13" **2/\$13**

Hunts **Ketchup**

20 Oz. Bottle **\$1.39**

Circus **Wing Sauce**

Medium or Hot Only 18 Oz. Jar **\$3.99**

Liquor

Cook's **Champagnes**

750 ML **\$6.99**

Hidden Valley **Ranch Dressing**

10-16 Oz. Bottle **\$3.99**

Ragu **Pasta Sauce**

15.5-24 Oz. Jars **3/\$5**

Household

Dawn **EZ-Squeeze DishDetergent**

12.2-14.7 Oz. Bottle **\$2.99**

Ken's Fresh **White Party Buns**

12 Count Pkg. **\$2.99**

Deli

Cello **Cheese Flights**

10 Oz. Pkg. * Assorted Flavors **\$10.99** Each

Ken's Gourmet Coffee

delightfully delicious™

Collie • Gourmet Drinks

Gourmet Foods

Sunday 9 AM - 1 PM

Monday-Friday 7 AM - 5 PM

Saturday 8 AM - 2 PM

Call 605-725-6671

Wind & Willow

Cheeseballs

\$2.00 OFF

Flavor of the Week!

Caramel Praline

\$3.97, \$4.49

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PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS
December 25th THRU December 31st

MON 26 TUE 27 WED 28 THUR 29 FRI 30 SAT 31

If it sounds too good to be true

At my house, classic TV is a given. My 93-year-old father-in-law enjoys watching reruns of westerns, Perry Mason, Andy Griffith, and Gomer Pyle. With these old favorites come commercials targeting an aging population: Medicare Advantage plans, reverse mortgages, and "miracle solutions" for neuropathy, with free consultations for the first 250 people who call!

Every time we see one of these neuropathy advertisements, my father-in-law looks at me hopefully.

His neuropathic foot pain has been intractable for decades. All the usual medical solutions have either brought minimal relief, or intolerable side effects. It interferes with his sleep, and the shuffling of his feet in response to the pain literally wore holes in the dining room linoleum.

Any situation without a clear solution leaves an opportunity for the unscrupulous to pounce. As I watch those TV ads, I wonder how many people send in their money or otherwise fall victim to medical quackery.

Years ago, I accompanied a friend to a hair loss "consultation". He was awed by the trappings: white coat, scientific sounding terms, glossy pamphlets with patient testimonials. I was less impressed. What was in their product? They couldn't tell me, it was secret. Where were their studies? They pointed to those patient testimonials. Did they have any published data? That wasn't available yet. I was struck by the scientific babble, too. It sounded impressive, but it didn't make any sense to me.

Today similar organizations offer invitation-only dinners at local establishments, followed by the opportunity to sign up for treatment that may cost you out of pocket because insurance won't cover it. They have professional looking websites with quotes, supposedly from delighted customers, and perhaps a few references to publications doctors might call "throw away" journals, or to decades-old articles, or research that doesn't actually involve the treatment at hand. There might be claims that the treatment is ancient, or brand new, or that "they" (usually doctors, the government, or Big Pharma) don't want you to know about it.

Legitimate medical treatments are not kept secret. They are presented to other professionals, for critique, evaluation, and replication. Researchers try to determine if a treatment might be effective only in certain situations, or more broadly. If it is promising, it becomes widely available, and insurance coverage often follows.

Sadly, neuropathy, like many chronic pain conditions, has a variety of causes, and a variety of often less than satisfactory treatments. It is an easy target for "snake oil" salesmen. As always, talk to your doctor before you try something that sounds too good to be true.

Debra Johnston, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices family medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc®...based on science, built on trust, at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

Based on Science, Built on Trust

Debra Johnston, M.D.

12 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Dec. 28, 2022