



\$2

# The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 20 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 1, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889

## Military Appreciation Night at the Groton Arena

Everyone is invited to the Groton Arena on Feb. 2 to watch girls and boys basketball games and to show your support for active duty military and veterans. Our dress up theme for the night is Camo or Red, White, and Blue. Active duty personnel and veterans will be admitted FREE to the doubleheader.

There will be many veteran service organizations set up to provide current information on veteran benefits and some organizations that advocate for veterans, educate citizens, mentor youth, and promote patriotism, citizenship, peace and security.

SFC Brent Wienk, SDANG Senior Recruiter, will be present to answer study body questions about joining the military. We may even have a Drill Sgt. in the house ready to give potential recruits some basic training drills.

Veterans and active military can sign up for chances to win gift cards at the American Legion Auxiliary booth. Everyone is encouraged to find the card booth to create cards for the Army National Guard unit currently mobilized for their deployment to the Middle East and lastly, everyone is invited to donate money to DTOM Veterans Ranch.

According to the DTOM Veterans Ranch website, "The Mission of the DTOM 22/0 Foundation and Veterans Ranch is to provide a safe place for healing and recovery for military service members, veterans, and their families while encouraging engaging, and positively impacting their lives through hope, self-conviction, and family activities, while helping them learn to live again with purpose. Vision: To end suicide among our service men and women, through mentorship, support, and building stronger families. Chris Reder is the CEO and Founder and the MRMS Program was founded by Dr. Tracy Diefenbach, and is currently practiced at the DTOM Veterans Ranch. This program is an innovative, scientific-based Neural Oscillation Excitability and Sensory Recovery program that focuses on healing components of the brain's processing and function command centers." You can find out more information at this event or by going to <https://dtom220.org/>.

Please plan to cheer on the Groton Tiger basketball teams and groove to the pep band! Then show your support and thanks to active military and veterans by wearing Red, White, Blue or Camo, giving a cash donation to DTOM Ranch, participating in making cards for active duty soldiers, and learning about the organizations that support our active military and veterans, and joining in their programs like Boys and Girls State, playing American Legion Baseball, writing an Americanism Essay or Poem, or wearing a poppy, or making a poppy poster.

## Elk Point-Jefferson game to be made up on Saturday

Several games were cancelled at the DAK12-NEC Clash in Madison Saturday due to the weather impacting travel in the southern part of the state. One of those games was the Groton Area vs. Elk Point-Jefferson game. The game will be played Saturday, Feb. 4, with a C game at noon followed by JV and varsity. According to Athletic Director Brian Dolan, Elk Point-Jefferson will be added to the Groton schedule as a double header for the next two years.

The girls will host Elk Point-Jefferson on Feb. 9 with a JV game starting at 4 p.m.



**King Carter Barse**  
**Queen Anna Fjeldheim**  
(Photo by Tina Kosel)  
**2023 Carnival of Silver Skates**



**The executive board of the Carnival of Silver Skates recognized Jim and Melodee Lane for their contributions to the Skating Program. Pictured are Lindsey Tietz, Carrie Duncan, Jim Lane, Amanda Weber, Tina Kosel, Katie Anderson, Sarah Hanten and Desiree Craig.** (Photo from GDIVLIVE.COM)

## Vision, faith, and resolve make the difference

You don't have to drive far to see ghost towns on the Northern Plains. Sometimes I idly wonder why one town died and why its neighbor didn't.

Some of had to do with the railroad. In the beginning, towns needed to be spaced along the route every 10 miles because steam engines needed to be serviced at those intervals. Being along a railroad could make or break you. Or both. Railroad towns were built and when the trains didn't stop there anymore many of them crumbled.

Ashley, ND actually moved, lock, stock and barrel, three miles from Hoskins, where a nice recreational lake graces the landscape, to a location where the railroad was to be located. They moved the town! That took resolve and vision.

Of course, the railroad lines don't service all these communities anymore, but with a solid foothold, some geographical luck, and selfless ingenuity by community builders who, in those days, were as patriotic about their fair cities as many are about Uncle Sam, many communities thrived. After 135 years, Ashley's still standing.

Until a few years ago, the last vestiges of Hoskins, Reinie's Barber Shop, had a place on Main Street but time finally did it in. You won't find Reinie putting with his buddies out on that splendid Ashley golf course, anymore, either. Reinie was one of those beloved community boosters. Times change. The faces change. Sometimes the community spirit and vision endures, sometimes it doesn't.

This is all at the forefront of my mind because of a decision facing the Ashley School District patrons in a week. There's a \$4.85 million issue on the ballot to renovate a school that was constructed when Eisenhower was president and the Interstate system he envisioned sprang into existence, transforming the country and its economy.

The school renovation involves a good chunk of money and it'll mean taxes on a \$100,000 home will go up about \$175. An acre of land will be taxed about \$1.60 more a year. On a fixed retirement income, in inflationary times, that can mean something. So, just as it was every step along the way, people are being asked to build something for their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. To sacrifice. To invest in a future. To have the same vision community builders had nearly 65 years ago.

I've been back here for 25 years. I was born in Ashley. When Eisenhower was president. We invested here, purchasing the Ashley Tribune and Wishek Star because we saw a future and a present—wonderful communities in which to raise our kids, a school where they could have elbow room and individual instruction when needed.

We understood geography, too. The communities were far enough away from big cities—about 100 miles in every direction, which meant these towns necessarily had an independent streak. We arrived on the eve of Wishek's Centennial. Now, the 125th is just around the corner. We've seen businesses spring up, expand and flourish. And yeah, a few didn't make it.

I witnessed first-hand the successes and attrition along the railroad line from Aberdeen, SD to Edgeley, ND, a stretch two small crews with muscle and cherry-pickers covered one summer in the late 70's, retrieving, grading, and bundling railroad ties. I remember the first half-day we tested out the system and the specially-built wagons that had been welded for the job. We almost died. My crew consisted of a marshmallowy lead guitar player, a 50-ish chain smoker, me, and a Baptist minister.

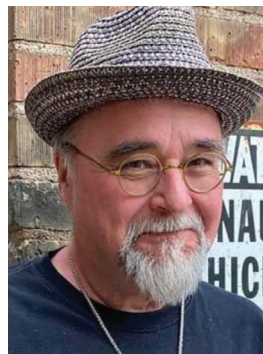
Despite that first miserable day, we got into the best shape of our lives. Railroad tie by railroad tie, we walked the line, saw veritable ghost towns and bustling small towns.

Frederick, where I spent my formative years, still has an expansive consolidated school thanks to a vision that was falling into place in the late 60's. The business community would never grow beyond the necessities because of geography—26 miles from Aberdeen, 12 miles from Ellendale—but that gleaming school remains the town's heartbeat.

I published the Adams County Record in Hettinger, ND for about eight years, and soon recognized the genius of the doctors who started the regional hospital there. A small army of medical professionals located among desolate buttes because they imagined an unlikely future we now see. They willed it. Other communities around it shrank; Hettinger's still standing. Not without losses and change, but where would the community be without that medical center?

We're forever evolving, being tested. Crossroads. Decisions. Will. Faith. Endurance. Perseverance. Vision. Sacrifice. Those are the things that separate the standing and the fallen.

© Tony Bender, 2023



## That's Life

by Tony Bender

entered the game on a 12-game winning streak and would be the first real test for the Eagles who were able to avoid playing any of the top teams in the NFL this season. However, that excitement quickly went away as the 49ers' quarterback, Brock Purdy, hurt his elbow in the first quarter and was taken out of the game. Then the 49ers had to bring in Josh Johnson, the 15-year NFL journeyman with 14 teams to his name, to take over as their quarterback. And then when Johnson went down with a concussion, Purdy had to come back into the game even though he was unable to throw the ball.

For a 49ers' team that had everything stacked against them, they did themselves no favors throughout the game. They not only had three fumbles lost, but they also committed 11 penalties, many of which came on key third and fourth down stops by the 49ers' defense. The biggest mistake of them all came at the end of the first half when Josh Johnson fumbled a perfectly snapped ball out of the shotgun formation. At the time 49ers were still within one score of the Eagles and were set to get the ball to start the second half. Instead, Eagles recovered the fumble and extended their lead to 21-7 at half-time. The game was essentially over from that moment on.

As for the Eagles, their performance was not as dominant as the score reflects. The team only had a total of 269 yards of offense and Jalen Hurts threw for a measly 121 passing yards. Unless they get gifted another quarterback injury in the Super Bowl, the Eagles' offense will need to pick it up to keep up with the Chiefs' offense in Super Bowl LVII.

Eagles 31 - 49ers 7

## Cincinnati Bengals vs. Kansas City Chiefs

After watching a complete blowout in the NFC Championship game, we thankfully were gifted a great back-and-forth game between the Cincinnati Bengals and the Kansas City Chiefs. The AFC Championship rematch from last year showcased arguably the two best quarterbacks in the NFL in Joe Burrow and Patrick Mahomes. Although it was not a perfect game by either of the star quarterbacks, the plays they made when it mattered the most are what makes them so special.

The number of stars on offense for both teams was so impressive to watch. Bengals' wide receivers, Tee Higgins and Ja'Marr Chase, both made impressive catches over double coverages by Chiefs' defensive backs in do-or-die situations for the Bengals. For the Chiefs, Travis Kelce and Marquez Valdes-Scantling combined for an impressive 13 catches, 194 receiving yards, and a touchdown each.

With 2:30 remaining, the game was tied 20-20 and the Bengals got the ball on their 6-yard line with a chance for Burrow to drive the Bengals down the field and beat the Chiefs for the fourth straight time in his short career. However, the Chiefs' defensive lineman, Chris Jones, put the game into his hands and sacked Burrow on third down.

With limited time remaining, the Chiefs got the ball back with a chance to put themselves in field goal position to win the game. With 20 seconds remaining, Mahomes, who had been hobbling in pain all game from his injured ankle, scrambled out of the pocket to the sideline. As he stepped out-of-bounds, Bengals' linebacker, Joseph Ossai, pushed Mahomes late, leading to a 15-yard penalty. The flag put the Chiefs into field goal range with 8 seconds remaining in the game. Harrison Butker, who I feel is becoming like the modern Adam Vinatieri with his clutch playoff kicks, nailed the 45-yard field goal to give the Chiefs the AFC title.

Chiefs 23 - Bengals 20

Looking ahead, the NFL Pro Bowl game will be this weekend. There will be a skills competition on Thursday, followed by a flag football match on Sunday. Seven Vikings made it to the Pro Bowl, a total surpass by only the Eagles (8) and tied with the Cowboys (7), and Chiefs (7). Representing the Vikings will be WR Justin Jefferson, QB Kirk Cousins, RB Dalvin Cook, TE T.J. Hockenson, OLB Za'Darius Smith, and long snapper Andrew DePaola and OLB Danielle Hunter as a Pro Bowler

## Groton Chiropractic Clinic

Carol McFarland-Kutter, D.C.  
1205 N 1st St., Groton 397-8204

## JOHNSON AGENCY

Real Estate & Insurance  
Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com

102 N Main St. Office: 605/397-2424  
Groton, SD 57445 Home: 605/397-8565



## MEYERS TRACTOR SALVAGE

ABERDEEN, SD

1000+ Salvaged Tractors & Combines  
400+ Reground Crankshafts  
500+ Tractor Tires  
300+ Rebuilt Radiators

Large Line of Swather, Baler & Cutter Parts.

GREAT BUYS & SERVICE!

WANT TO BUY TRACTORS, COMBINES & SWATHERS FOR SALVAGE



Phone (605) 225-0185

5 Miles North & 1 Mile West of CASE-IH

SD-1622105D

## Weekly Vikings Recap - Championship Round

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

### 49ers vs. Philadelphia Eagles

With the San Francisco 49ers losing both of their quarterbacks to injuries Sunday, the Philadelphia Eagles coast their way to victory and their fourth Super Bowl appearance in their franchise's history.

There was a lot of excitement heading into this NFC Championship matchup as the 49ers

## SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

### PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Are you a skilled communicator looking for an opportunity to participate in a key role in the University? South Dakota State University is seeking a people-centered individual with strong interpersonal skills to lead the development and implementation of professional development for faculty and staff that focuses on Lakota/Dakota/Nakota culture and best practices to serve American Indian students in higher education. This position is located in Brookings, South Dakota and is a 12-month, full-time, benefits-eligible position.

For a complete listing of responsibilities, the minimum and preferred qualifications, the application deadline, contact information for questions on position, and to apply, visit <https://YourFuture.sdbor.edu>, search for the position, and follow the electronic application process. **Full Consideration Deadline: February 10, 2023.** For questions on the electronic employment process, contact SDSU Human Resources at (605) 688-4128.

Learn more about Brookings by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT8OnH5elgQ&feature=youtu.be>.

The department actively provides access to and opportunities for all to receive the benefit of and participate in education, research, and service and is especially interested in candidates that can contribute to this land-grant access mission.

South Dakota State University is an AA/EO employer - vets, disability.



605/397-2311

www.grotonford.com

# 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

## The Constitution and Government Classification of Secrets

Questions surrounding news that President Joe Biden and former Vice President Mike Pence have disclosed possession of classified documents in their homes justify interruption of this column's weekly focus on landmark Supreme Court rulings. Curious readers have asked about the constitutional, legal and historical foundations of government authority to classify documents.

First things first. Let's not confuse the voluntary and cooperative disclosure of possession of classified documents by the Biden and Pence camps with the deceit and obstruction that characterized former President Donald Trump's efforts to undermine the Justice Department's investigation of his secretive possession of classified documents at his home in Mar-a-lago. In the scheme of things, at least this far, Biden and Pence are apples to apples, while Biden and Pence are apples to Trump's oranges.

The U.S. Supreme Court has said little about the constitutional authority to govern classification of documents, but what it has said points to executive control of the secrecy system by virtue of the president's role as Commander in Chief of the military. Yet, questions abound. The Constitution is silent on the repository of authority to classify documents. Secrecy in a democracy, moreover, is guaranteed to be a source of enduring contention.

Nobody disputes the necessity of secrecy in the affairs of state. John Jay, who possessed as much knowledge about foreign affairs as any of his founding colleagues, wrote in Federalist No. 64: "So often and so essentially have we heretofore suffered from the want of secrecy and dispatch, that the Constitution would have been inexcusably defective if no attention had been paid to those objects." The only provision in the Constitution that addresses secrecy is found in Article 1, section 5, which grants to Congress, if it wishes, authority to keep its own proceedings secret.

In the 1790s, the Federalists—the party of Washington, Hamilton and Adams—interpreted the Constitution as it applied to foreign affairs as authority for executive secrecy when it came to negotiations and matters of intelligence. There was, however, a clear understanding in the first decade of American politics that the principle of "comity" between the president and Congress required presidential permission from Congress to withhold information from the citizenry. That practice worked efficiently, and the conflicts that arose typically reflected, not interbranch disputes, but rather the demands of aggrieved citizens who feared suppression of information.

The demands of democracy and the principles of self-governance were not to be denied. Democracy encouraged the principle of disclosure. From the beginning, our founders embraced the belief that disclosure and transparency represented the best remedies for resolving policy disputes. James Madison, chief architect of the Constitution, spoke for the generation that conceived the republic: "A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a Prologue to a Farce or a Tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance," he wrote, "and a people who mean to be their own Governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives."

Historic conflicts between secrecy and publicity have erupted most prominently during times of war when both principles have been urged with urgency. In wartime, governmental calculations are inspired by fears of espionage. Control of information is vital. But the fact of war focuses the citizenry; fear of death and the goal of survival become paramount. Because Americans are not, to borrow from Thoreau, mere "lumps of clay," but rather thinking, reasoning creatures, they prefer the light of knowledge to the impotence of darkness and demand information that empowers them to judge official strategies and decisions of war.

Until World War II, the United States did not have a formal classification system. Presidents, generals and admirals protected military secrets in a variety of ways. In World War I, General Pershing, headquartered in France, instituted the markings of "Secret, Confidential and For Official Circulation Only," in imitation of his French and British allies. For its part, Congress decided against passage of a statute that would have made it a crime to communicate national defense information that "might" be useful to the enemy.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt drew order from the chaos that surrounded questions of handling secrets when he recognized the threat posed by the espionage capabilities of the Germans and Russians, then united by the Hitler-Stalin pact. On March 22, 1940, Roosevelt issued an executive order creating a military classification system. FDR, who preferred to avoid assertions of inherent executive power, invoked as authority a 1938 statute that empowered the president to prohibit the creation of maps, photographs or sketches of vital "installations

or equipment." The test, FDR explained, "is what the Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy thinks it would be harmful to the defense of this country to give out." This test, he added, was what would be shared with the public, since congressional committees were already receiving this information in executive session.

This practice of executive determination of what might be shared with the citizenry has been adopted by presidents of both parties. With the assumption by America of global responsibility for maintaining peace and security against international aggression, the concept of national defense has become an ever-expanding net. The result is classification, in various categories, of roughly 50 million documents. And counting.

## Letter to the Editor

Good Morning,

Just wanted to send you a quick message to keep up the great work with live-streaming the Groton games. It's been so fun to be able to watch the basketball games from home. It's a great service to provide for the community, thank you!

Jessica Morehouse

## Letter to the Editor

Hey Paul

Just wanted to thank you for putting the Angela Kennecke information in the paper. There were many from the community that came. It was a great program and started some great conversations with students and their parents.

Just read the paper and your World of Experience article is so true. As they say with raising a family "it takes a village" ....I have found that so true in our community. I love where we live. All you have to do is put one request out there and you have tons of help. Thanks for what you always do!

Patti Woods



**Many people helped out at the Robotics Pancake Feed held Sunday at the Groton Community Center.**

**Lions members (l-r) Topper Tastad, Dave Pigors, Nancy Radke, Deb Frederickson, Nancy Larsen**

**Groton Robotics-back row (l-r) Melissa Schultz, Weston Dinger, Neil Warrington, Jack Dinger, Ethan Clark, Logan Clocksene, Liz Clocksene, BJ Clocksene, Shane Clark; middle row (l-r) Emily Dinger, Gretchan Cleveland, Laura Clark, Bradyn Wienk; front row (l-r) Connor Kroll and Grant Cleveland.**

(Courtesy Photo)

## Groton Lions paired up with Groton Robotics for a successful Pancake Feed!

Thank you to all those who came out to the community center on Sunday to support the Groton Robotics teams, including parents and Lion club members. The event was a huge success! People were able to visit with robotist and check out their robots used in tournaments. It was decided to pair the event with the Carnival of Silver Skates so families could come out and enjoy a big breakfast before heading to the rink! Dine-in or take-out options were available. We hope to see you next year! STAY TUNED!

Groton Robotics is open for all kids grade 6th-12th, contact Neil Warrington or Weston Dinger to find out more! The group meets once a week and travels to about 5 Saturday tournaments a year located in Canton, Harrisburg, Mitchell, Rapid City, Sioux Falls and Valley city, ND. Groton hosts one tournament a year, typically in January. Please visit the Groton Tigers Robotics Facebook page for the latest updates and tournament information. Our next tournament will be in Rapid

City at the School of Mines on Saturday, February 11th. Visit our Facebook page for the link to view the livestream, pictures, and tournament results!

Submitted by Groton Robotics

# The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NEWS (6397)  
Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher [paperpaul@grotonsd.net](mailto:paperpaul@grotonsd.net) ~ 605-397-7460

Tina Kosel, Office Manager [office@grotonsd.net](mailto:office@grotonsd.net) ~ 605-397-7285

Notices: [legals@grotonsd.net](mailto:legals@grotonsd.net)  
News Items: [news@grotonsd.net](mailto:news@grotonsd.net)

Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday]  
Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below.  
The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.

**Postmaster: Send address changes to Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD 57445**

© 2023 The Groton Independent

**Weismantel Agency**  
Marty Weismantel  
605/396-7341  
[weisag@nvc.net](mailto:weisag@nvc.net)

PROGRESSIVE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE COMPANY OF PROPERTY POLICE GREAT PLAINS NORTH STAR NORTHWEST GF SFM  
ACCESS TO MANY MORE COMPANIES!

## Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

- 1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
- 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
- 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
- 4th consecutive week is free

### EMPLOYMENT

**FULL-TIME DEPUTY SHERIFF**, Hyde County, Highmore, SD. Must be certified in law enforcement or willing to be trained and certified within one year of hire date. Experience preferred. Request application at [hydeaud@venturecomm.net](mailto:hydeaud@venturecomm.net) or 605-852-2519 and submit completed application to Hyde County Auditor's Office, 412 Commercial Ave. SE, Highmore, SD 57345. Open until filled. EOE.

**ENEMY SWIM DAY SCHOOL** is seeking bid quotations for facilitation of the development of a five-year Strategic Plan that utilizes input from stakeholders that includes Beliefs, Objectives/Strategies, 2023-24 Activities and new Mission and Vision Statement. Services Requested: Two days of onsite teaming process with stakeholders (April 14-15, April 21-22, or April 28-29), virtual assistance to ESDS Leadership Team for revisions (4 – 6 hours). Bids due to [neastman@esds.us](mailto:neastman@esds.us) with all required documentation by March 8, 2023. Full RFP available at [www.esds.us](http://www.esds.us).

**HOWARD FARMERS COOP**, Howard, SD, is hiring full-time feed manager. Position offers full benefit package. Pay is DOE. Contact Bruce Yanish at [manager@howardcoop.com](mailto:manager@howardcoop.com) or 605-772-5568. Open until filled.

### LAND

**FARMLAND** rents are strong. Do you need representation or a Farmland Manager? Contact Tim Peters at 605.270.9410 or [tpeters@pifers.com](mailto:tpeters@pifers.com). Pifer's Land Management, [www.pifers.com](http://www.pifers.com)

### MISCELLANEOUS

**BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES** in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at **AFFORDABLE PRICES!** Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 855-799-3330

Over \$10K in debt? Be debt free in 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call National Debt Relief at 888-448-0987.

### NOTICES

**ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS** statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Statewide Full Digital Ad is \$300 for 1 week. Call the Groton Independent at 397-7460 for details.

#### TODD LANKENAU

Owner  
605.295.0011  
[todd.lankenau@gmail.com](mailto:todd.lankenau@gmail.com)

Authorized Sukup Dealer  
Grain Bins,  
Grain handling equipment



30 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE GRAIN HANDLING INDUSTRY!

## Harry Implement

"Family Owned & Operated Since 1935!"



(605) 395-6421

Ferney

## Robotics go to Valley City Tournament

Groton Robotics traveled up to Valley city, North Dakota to participate in the Valley City Frozen Classic on Saturday, January 28th competing against 11 teams from 4 towns- Groton (3), Valley City (1), Britton (2), Grand Forks (5): Groton Teams included: Galaxy 9050E-Logan Clocksene, Axel Warrington, Corbin Weismantel, not present Kianna Sanders. Gear Heads 9050B-Ethan Clark, Jack Dinger. Gladiators 9050F-Garrett Schultz, De Eh Tha Say, not present Bradyn Wienk.

The competition started off with 22 qualifying matches, each team competing 8 times. At the end of the 22 qualifying matches Gear Heads 9050B was ranked 2nd, Gladiators 9050F - 4th, and Galaxy 9050E - 10th.

Gear Head Seniors-Ethan and Jack, added an expansion arm to help catapult their end game expansion feature more efficiently and faster. They also added a sensor laser to add more precision when shooting disks into goals. Gear Heads fought their way to the finals but ended up walking away second place in the overall tournament. The team was up against a pretty tough opponent from Grand Forks who was able to precisely shoot disks and also won their autonomous.

Gladiators, Garrett and De Eh Tha Say, made changes to their robot by taking off one expansion feature to reduce some bulk. Their robot is able to shoot, but the team is still working on intake or being able to take a disk and shoot it. The Gladiators worked their way to the semi-finals competing against Gear Heads but ended their day here with a score of 66-49.

Galaxy, Corbin, Axel and Logan, also worked on their robot the last couple weeks adding new roller flex wheels, which are soft wheels making it easier to turn rollers. The team continues to work on the design of their shooter.

Tournament champions were both from Grand Forks, ND. Congratulations to all the robotist who participated!

Groton Robotics will be headed back out to Rapid City February 11th to compete in the VRC Robot Rumble at the SD School of Mines.

For more information check out the vex VRC robotics website, download the VEX via app and follow Groton Tiger Robotics on Facebook.

Thanks to all who support Groton Robotics!

Submitted by Groton Robotics

## The Groton Independent Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition Subscription Form

- All prices listed include 6.5% Sales Tax
- Black & White.....\$48.99/year
  - Colored.....\$79.88/year
  - Colored.....\$42.60/6 months
  - E-Weekly\*.....\$31.95/year

\* The E-Weekly is a PDF file emailed to you each week. It does not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Groton Daily Independent www.397news.com Subscription Form

This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

- 1 Month.....\$15.98
- 3 Months.....\$26.63
- 6 Months.....\$31.95
- 9 Months.....\$42.60
- 12 Months.....\$53.25

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

The following will be used for your log-in information.

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Password \_\_\_\_\_



Pay with Paypal. Type the following into your browser window:

[paypal.me/paperpaul](https://paypal.me/paperpaul)

Mail Completed Form to:

Groton Independent

P.O. Box 34

Groton, SD 57445-0034

or scan and email to [paperpaul@grotonsd.net](mailto:paperpaul@grotonsd.net)



[www.harrmotors.com](http://www.harrmotors.com)

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

**Hanlon Brothers Gravel Hauling**  
New & Cleaning of Stockdams with our 60' reach trackhoe  
**605/395-6531**

"From minor scratches to a complete rebuild... we can do it all!"

**Flarrs Auto Body** ABBN

225 Brown County Hwy 19 South  
Aberdeen: 605/725-4900

**Dakota Outdoors**

Erik Dean  
402 N Main St  
Aberdeen, SD 57401  
605.229.0123

[dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com](mailto:dakoutdoors@midconetwork.com)



# Groton Area Boys Wrestling

## Four wrestlers place at Groton Tournament

Four Groton Area wrestlers placed at the Groton Invitational Tournament held Saturday. Korbin Kucker placed first at 12 pounds, Christian Ehresmann was second at 138 pounds, Cole Bisbee was second at 170 pounds and Walker Zoellner was third at 113 pounds. The Tigers placed seventh in a field of 16 teams.

**Team Scores:** 1 Faulkton Area- 161.0; 2 Warner/Northwestern- 117.0; 3 Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle- 114.0; 4 Watertown JV- 106.5; 5 Wessington Springs/Wolsey/Wessington- 105.5; 6 Potter County- 96.0; 7 Groton Area- 77.0; 8 Huron JV` - 49.0; 9 Britton/Hecla- 45.0; 10 Clark/Willow Lake- 42.0; 11 Milbank JV- 40.0; 12 Sioux Falls O`Gorman JV- 35.0; 13 Lemon- 32.0; 14 Webster Area- 22.0; 15 Canistota- 13.0; 16 Doland- 6.0

### **90-98: Noah Scepaniak (0-6)**

Champ. Round 1 - Tayten Kurkowski (Webster Area ) 10-12 won by fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 0:34)

Cons. Round 1 - Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 0-6 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Lincoln Kilker (Britton/Hecla) 1-2 won by fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 0-6 (Fall 0:24)

### **106: Lincoln Krause (0-2)**

Champ. Round 1 - Easton Scheidt (Sioux Falls O`Gorman JV) 12-14 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 0-2 (Fall 1:50)

Cons. Round 1 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 0-2 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Lane Stuwe (Potter County) 19-18 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 0-2 (Fall 0:34)

### **106: John Bisbee (2-8)**

Champ. Round 1 - Tanner Atkinson (Britton/Hecla) 8-11 won by fall over John Bisbee (Groton Area) 2-8 (Fall 0:58)

Cons. Round 1 - John Bisbee (Groton Area) 2-8 won by decision over Hayes Christensen (Wessington Springs/Wolsey/Wessington) 3-5 (Dec 5-2)

Cons. Round 2 - Cade Gaikowski (Clark/Willow Lake ) 19-9 won by fall over John Bisbee (Groton Area) 2-8 (Fall 0:35)

### **113: Walker Zoellner (18-13) placed 3rd and scored 18.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 18-13 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 18-13 won by fall over Jacob Giles (Milbank JV) 2-12 (Fall 2:40)

Semifinal - Kutler Swenson (Watertown JV) 12-6 won by decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 18-13 (Dec 9-5)

Cons. Semi - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 18-13 won by fall over Andrew Folk (Milbank JV) 2-11 (Fall 0:50)

3rd Place Match - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 18-13 won by fall over Kamryn Rhodes (Faulkton Area) 11-11 (Fall 1:36)

### **120: Kellen Antonson (4-12)**

Champ. Round 1 - Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-12 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Ashton Hill (Wessington Springs/Wolsey/Wessington) 20-16 won by fall over Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-12 (Fall 1:20)

Cons. Round 2 - Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-12 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Logan Foster (Clark/Willow Lake ) 8-15 won by decision over Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-12 (Dec 7-4)

### **132: Tristan McGannon (2-10)**

Champ. Round 1 - Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-10 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Tyce Huber (Huron JV`) 3-6 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-10 (Fall 4:12)

Cons. Round 2 - Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-10 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Jack Conn (Canistota) 4-8 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-10 (Fall 1:58)

### **132: Isaiah Scepaniak (2-12)**

Champ. Round 1 - Aidyn Jorgenson (Watertown JV) 4-1 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 2-12 (Fall 0:51)

Cons. Round 1 - Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 2-12 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Jack Conn (Canistota) 4-8 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 2-12 (Fall 1:18)

### **138: Christian Ehresmann (20-3) placed 2nd and scored 19.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 won by fall over Trace Genzler (Potter County) 9-15 (Fall 1:37)

Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 won by major decision over Clayton Dulany (Warner/Northwestern) 27-9 (MD 12-2)

1st Place Match - Tanner Frickson (Potter County) 29-9 won by decision over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 20-3 (Dec 6-5)

### **145: Easten Ekern (15-13) scored 4.0 team points.**

Champ. Round 1 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 15-13 won by fall over Zayne Winson (Huron JV`) 6-12 (Fall 0:31)

Quarterfinal - Beau Schilling (Ipswich/Leola/Bowdle) 2-1 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 15-13 (Fall 2:22)

Cons. Round 2 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 15-13 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Ben Suther (Britton/Hecla) 15-10 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 15-13 (Fall 0:17)

### **152: Korbin Kucker (2-0) placed 1st and scored 20.0 team points.**

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 2-0 received a bye () (Bye)

Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 2-0 won by fall over Tyler Oines (Sioux Falls O`Gorman JV) 10-14 (Fall 5:04)

1st Place Match - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 2-0 won by decision over Hayes Havlik (Wessington Springs/Wolsey/Wessington) 17-15 (Dec 1-0)

### **170: Cole Bisbee (14-10) placed 2nd and scored 16.0 team points.**

Quarterfinal - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 14-10 won by fall over Erick Alpizar (Huron JV`) 3-6 (Fall 4:24)

Semifinal - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 14-10 won by decision over Drake Mueller (Faulkton Area) 19-14 (Dec 6-5)

1st Place Match - Alex Pudwill (Warner/Northwestern) 24-10 won by decision over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 14-10 (Dec 5-2)

### **220: Gavin Englund (3-12)**

Quarterfinal - Carson Leonhardt (Faulkton Area) 15-14 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 3-12 (Fall 1:27)

Cons. Round 1 - Hunter Reede (Milbank JV) 2-3 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 3-12 (Fall 1:52)

## Boys hoop teams beat Langford Area

The Groton Area boys basketball teams posted a double win Tuesday at Langford.

The varsity team won its game, 74-22, leading at the quarterstops at 32-8, 51-17 and 70-20.

Four players hit double figures for the Tigers with Lane Tietz having 13 points, one rebounds, two assists and three steals. Cole Simon had 13 points, one rebound, three assists and one steal. Taylor Diegel had 12 points, two rebounds, two assists and one steal. Jacob Zak had 10 points, two rebounds, two assists and two steals. Tate Larson had seven points, two rebounds, three assists and three steals. Ryder Johnson had five points, five rebounds, one assist and one block shot. Logan Ringgenberg had five points, three rebounds and two steals. Keegan Tracy had three points, four rebounds, two assists and two steals. Cade Larson had two points, three rebounds and one assist. Colby Dunker had two points and three assists. Braxton Imrie had two points. Gage Sippel had three rebounds.

Groton Area made 24 of 30 two-pointers for 80 percent, five of 15 three-pointers for 33 percent, 11 of 15 free throws for 73 percent, 26 rebounds, 12 turnovers, 19 assists, 14 steals, 17 fouls and one block shot.

Kassen Keough led Langford Area w with 16 points and Jesse Keough had six. The Lions made seven of 25 field goals for 28 percent, six of nine free throws for 67 percent, had 15 team fouls and 23 turnovers.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 48-19, leading at the quarters tops at 18-3, 29-8 and 37-12.

Scoring for Groton Area: Logan Ringgenberg 9, Taylor Diegel 6, Dillon Abeln 6, Braxton Imrie 5, Ryder Johnson 5, Keegan Tracy 5, Carter Simon 4, Gage Sippel 4, Holden Sippel 2 and Caden McInerney 2.

Ethen Olson led Langford Area with seven points followed by Jacob Samson with six, Rennan Bruns four and Kalen Godel added two points.

Both games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The junior varsity game was sponsored by Kent and Darcy Muller. The varsity game was sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

Groton Area is now 8-2 on the season and will host Deuel on Thursday. Langford falls to 3-11.

- Paul Kosel

## Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

**Team Standings:** Coyotes – 16, Jackelopes – 15, Chipmunks – 15, Shihtzus – 9, Foxes – 9, Cheetahs – 8

**Men's High Games:** TJ Sperry – 232, Randy Stanley – 218, Lance Frohling – 212

**Women's High Games:** Vicki Walter – 200, Lori Giedt – 176, Michelle Johnson – 173

**Men's High Series:** TJ Sperry – 568, Lance Frohling – 552, Roger Spanier – 547

**Women's High Series:** Vicki Walter – 532, Nicole Kassube – 448, Lori Giedt – 440

**Fun Game:** Most 8 Counts with no fill – Foxes!

## Two 13-point rallies boost Flacons past Tigers

Two 13-point runs by Florence-Henry propelled the Falcons to a 47-21 win over the Groton Area Tigers in girls basketball action played Monday in Florence. The Falcons led at the quarters tops at 13-2, 25-7 and 41-14.

Sydney Leicht led the Tigers with seven points and one steal. Brooklyn Hanson had five points, one rebound and one steal. Jerica Locke had four points and four rebounds. Jaedyn Penning had three points and three rebounds. Faith Traphagen had two points, one rebound, one assist and two steals. Aspen Johnson had two rebounds and one steal. Brooke Gengerke had four rebounds and two assists. Elizabeth Flihs and Rylee Dunker each had one steal.

Groton Area made six of 25 two-pointers for 24 percent, one of 11 in three-pointers for 9 percent, six of nine free throws for 67 percent, had 15 rebounds, 21 turnovers, three assists, seven steals and 15 team fouls.

Florence-Henry was led by Caylin Kelly with 15 points followed by Trinity Watson with eight, Taylor Watson seven, Reese Schmidt and Aubrie Hartley each had six, Katelyn Klitzke four, and Haley Hlavacek added one. The Falcons made 18 of 44 field goals for 41 percent, eight of 11 free throws for 73 percent, had 17 turnovers and 11 team fouls.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 39-13. Scoring for Groton Area: Kennedy Hansen 8, Brooklyn Hansen 6, Kella Tracy 6, Laila Roberts 5, Faith Traphagen 4, Talli Wright 4, Taryn Traphagen 2, Elizabeth Flihs 2, Rylee Dunker 2.

The Tigers won the C game, 32-16. Scoring for Groton Area: McKenna Tietz 9, Kella Tracy 7, Talli Wright 6, Mia Crank 3, Sydney Locke 2, Emerlee Jones 2, Emily Clark 2, Ashlyn Warrington 1.

The C and JV games were broadcast and recorded on GDILIVE.COM sponsored by Craig and Tasha Dunker. The varsity game was sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

- Paul Kosel

## Free throws propel Lady Tigers to win over Webster

Groton Area girls' basketball team put together a stronger fourth quarter (compared to the first three) to overcome Webster Area, 31-24. The game was played Friday in Groton.

Groton Area held a 3-2 lead after the first quarter, a 10-8 lead at halftime and a 17-15 lead after three quarters. Webster Area took the lead, 18-17, early in the fourth quarter. The Tigers quickly reclaimed the lead, 19-18, but it was close until the score was 25-24. The Tigers made six of eight free throws down the stretch to pull out the win.

Sydney Leicht led the Tigers with 14 points, five rebounds, one assist and five steals. Brooke Gengerke had four points and two rebounds. Kennedy Hansen had four points, one rebound, one assist and two steals. Jaedyn Penning had four points, eight rebounds, two assists and two steals. Aspen Johnson had two points, two rebounds and one steal. Jerica Locke had two points, three rebounds and four steals. Rylee Dunker had one free throw, two rebounds and one steal. Brooklyn Hansen had one rebound, one assist and one steal. Faith Traphagen had one steal.

Groton Area made 10 of 27 two-pointers for 37 percent, one of 18 three-pointers for six percent, eight of 15 free throws for 53 percent, and 24 rebounds, 14 turnovers, five assists, 17 steals and 11 team fouls.

Webster Area was led by Carrington Hanson and Erin Sannes with seven points apiece, Payton Snell and Karli Sannes each had four points and Erin Case had two points.

The Bearcats made 11 of 31 field goals for 35 percent, five of six free throws for 83 percent, had 15 team fouls and 25 turnovers.

Groton Area now goes to 10-3 on the seasons while the Bearcats fall to 3-9. Groton Area heads to Florence on Monday.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 33-23, leading at the quarters tops at 16-2, 24-6 and 27-12.

Kennedy Hansen led the Tigers with 15 points while Brooklyn Hansen had nine, Laila Roberts five, Rylee Dunker two and Elizabeth Flihs and Mia Crank each had one point.

Karli Sannes led the Bearcats with 16 points.

Webster Area won the C game, 23-20. It was tied at four after the first quarter, Groton Area had a 10-8 lead at half time and a 16-15 lead at the end of the third quarter. The game was tied four times and there were two lead changes with the final at the end as Webster scored the last three points to come from behind to win.

Taryn Traphagen led Groton Area with 12 points while Talli Wright had four, Kella Tracy three and McKenna Tietz one.

Mallory Steiner led the Bearcats with six points, Chesney Deibert had five, Abby Vanderbilts Linden and Karli Sannes each had four points and Alyssa Zacher and Ryan Johnson each added two points.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The C game was sponsored by Doug and Wanda Hamilton. The junior varsity game sponsored by Mr. Anonymous and the varsity game sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

- Paul Kosel

## Tigers have clean sweep over Webster Area

Groton Area's boys basketball teams had another clean sweep Thursday night as the teams brought home three wins against Webster Area. The games were played at the Webster Armory.

Groton Area won the varsity game, 62-21. Webster scored the first bucket for a 2-0 lead, but then the Tigers rattled off 17 unanswered points to take a 17-2 lead at the end of the first quarter. The Tigers led, 40-8 at halftime and 50-11 after three quarters.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 16 points, two rebounds, one assist and five steals. Ryder Johnson had 11 points, two rebounds, one assist, one steal and one block. Jacob Zak had 10 points, nine rebounds, three assists and three steals. Tate Larson had six points, one rebound, one assist and one steal. Cade Larson had four points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Colby Dunker had four points, four rebounds and one assist. Logan Ringgenberg had four points, one rebound and one steal. Cole Simon had three points, two rebounds, four assists and three steals. Gage Sippel had two points, two rebounds and one block shot. Holden Sippel had two points. Taylor Diegel and Tyson Parrow each had had one rebound. Keegan Tracy had two rebounds.

Groton Area made 19 of 35 two-pointers for 54 percent, five of 13 three-pointers for 38 percent, nine of 18 free throws for 50 percent, 30 rebounds, 14 turnovers, 12 assists, 15 steals, 15 turnovers and two blocks.

Webster was led by Ian Lesnar who came off the bench to hit three three-pointers and finished with nine points. Jaiden McCreary had four points. Jeron McCreary, who fouled out with 2:19 left in the first half, ended with three points. Matthew Mount and Tommy Vergeldt each had two points and Jacob Keller had one free throw.

The Bearcats made eight of 31 field goals for 26 percent, two of nine free throws for 22 percent, had 18 turnovers and 17 team fouls.

Groton won the junior varsity game, 40-31, leading at the quarter breaks at 15-7, 25-14 and 29-22. Scoring for Groton: Taylor Diegel 9, Keegan Tracy 7, Braxton Imrie 6, Logan Ringgenberg 6, Ryder Johnson 4, Colby Dunker 4, Holden Sippel 2, and Get Sippel 2. Martin Dorsett led Webster Area with 11 points.

Groton led at the quarter breaks at 16-6, 25-8 and 32-16 en route to a 40-26 C game win. Scoring for Groton: Caden McInerney 9, Gage Sippel 9, Logan Warrington 6, Jayden Schwan 4, Turner Thompson 4, Carter Simon 2, Karter Moody 2, Blake Pauli 2 and Logan Pearson 2. Thomas Kucker led Webster Area with 10 points.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The C game was sponsored by Darcie and Eric Moody. The junior varsity broadcast was sponsored by Coach Kyle and The Gerlach. Varsity game sponsors were Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Bahr Spray Foam, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

- Paul Kosel

### Higher Power Sports



➤ FREE Event

➤ OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

### Groton Fellowship of Christian Students presents TWO motivational speakers,

**Tim Weidenbach & Deb Hadley**

➤ Sunday, February 5<sup>th</sup> 3:16pm  
➤ at the Groton Methodist Church



#### Tim's Character Coaching & Be Kind Talk:

Higher Power Sports supports & serves HS & College athletes, coaches & families throughout the Midwest. He focuses on leadership, perseverance, opportunity, integrity, loyalty & making an impact on the teams he serves. Tim shares a fun & inspiring message on how kindness is contagious & encourages acceptance.

#### Deb's Overcoming Adversity Presentation:

Adversity is inevitable. Deb has had more than her share of loss. Often our students are caught off guard & lack the skill set to cope with hardships that come their way. Broken relationships, setbacks from COVID, bullying, lack of playing time, academic struggles, poor body image & low self-esteem, struggles at home &/or the death of loved ones, are some of the possibilities that can send the life of a student spiraling out of control. The goal of this seminar is to equip today's youth with the tools to help prepare them to handle the hardships that come their way & inspire them to turn their setbacks into opportunities to better their lives!

Dear EarthTalk: Google has a huge amount of influence around the world. What are they doing to promote sustainability that drives real change?  
-- P. Paulson, Alexandria, VA

Google's stance on sustainability has always been extremely positive, so much so that it has become an integral part of who they are as a company. As is stated on their official site page on sustainability, "We unify our practices, partnerships, and products around a single mission—to foster sustainability at scale." Thankfully this is not all talk. Google has adopted a number of changes to the way their search engine works, changes that put sustainability at the forefront of the average Google-user's mind.

Some of these new features include an automatic carbon footprint analyzer that chooses the greenest options for you, be it flights, hotels, driving routes or appliances. Incredibly, the analyzer is so advanced that it gathers information pertaining to a particular flight's carbon output per seat; a hotel's green practices (waste reduction, water conservation etc), and whether or not they are Green Key or EarthCheck Certified; the greenest and most cost-effective routes to drive; and even the cost-effectiveness and sustainability ratings of energy intensive appliances like water heaters and furnaces.

Now, all these features and services are

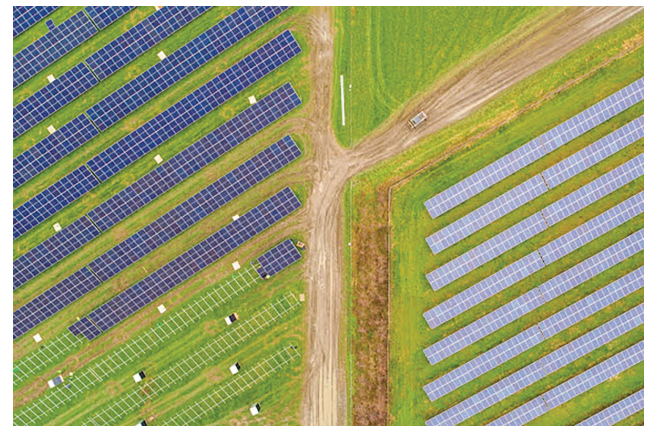
great for the user, but what about big-picture sustainability?

At their Google Cloud Sustainability Summit, which occurred near the end of June 2022, Google announced that they would be launching a sustainability platform for their customers to use to boost their own sustainability initiatives. The platform would grant users access to the Google Earth Engine, a tool previously only accessible by scientists and nonprofit organizations. The aim is to give customers the ability to extrapolate how their company's actions affect not only their immediate marketplace, but the world around them.

Furthermore, Google has been using their research into artificial intelligence to optimize the efficiency of traffic lights. The research, which was piloted in Israel, managed to predict traffic conditions and improve traffic light timing so well that they saw a 10 to 20 per cent reduction in fuel consumption and intersection delay time. In the future, they hope to expand this operation into Rio de Janeiro, and hopefully further, should it continue to see success.

While Google has accomplished a great deal in their quest for a more sustainable future, their use of wording may be slightly misleading for some, in particular, their use of the term "carbon-neutral," especially as it pertains to one of their greatest achievements: Carbon Neutrality since 2007.

What most people don't realize is that carbon neutrality doesn't mean that the company in question produces no carbon, or that they remove the carbon they produced from the



**Google powers its energy-intensive data centers with some of the largest solar arrays in the world.**

atmosphere; it means they are offsetting their carbon output by investing in green initiatives, purchasing green energy and taking other actions that purportedly reduce other carbon outputs by as much as more than their own. By that definition, according to a report by Dezeen, Google has certainly been carbon neutral, but they have not been carbon net-zero (removing the carbon they produce from the atmosphere). In reality, the carbon that Google has produced since 2007 has accumulated to as much as 20 million tons!

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](mailto:question@earthtalk.org).

**Ken's SUPER FAIR FOODS**  
FOOD FAIR & SHELL EXPRESS  
www.kensuperfair.com  
• ABERDEEN • GROTON • CLARK • IPSWICH • EUREKA • BRITTON •

**Ken's Gourmet Coffee**  
delightfully delicious...  
Coffee • Gourmet Drinks • Gourmet Foods  
Sunday 9 AM - 1 PM  
Monday-Friday 7 AM - 5 PM  
Saturday 8 AM - 2 PM  
Call 605-225-6671

Gourmet Village Boxed Drink Mix **\$1.00 OFF**  
Flavor of the Week! **Vanilla Cheesecake \$3.49-\$4.49**

Ken's Super Fair Foods is honored to announce a new NFL partnership with local athletes, featuring Laurie Rogers and Augustin "Dus" Reede 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.

**USDA CHOICE DEMKOTA**  
SAVE \$3.00 Per Lb.  
**Boneless Top Sirloin Steak \$5.99** Per Lb.  
**Red or Green Seedless Grapes \$2.49** Per Lb.

**USDA CHOICE DEMKOTA**  
SAVE \$1.30 Per Lb.  
**Boneless Bread & Butter Roast \$3.99** Per Lb.  
**Progresso Soup 3/\$5** 18.5-19 Oz. Cans

**Post Pebbles** 11 Oz. **\$2.49**  
**Honeycomb** 12.5 Oz. or **\$1.99**  
**Golden Crisp** 14.75 Oz. **\$1.99** Net Price

**Charmin Bath Tissue** 6 Super Mega Roll or 9 Mega Roll Pkg. **\$11.99**

**Campbell's Tomato or Chicken Noodle Soup** 10.75 Oz. Cans **4/\$5**

**Folger's Coffee** 22.6-25.9 Oz. Can **\$7.99**

**Ken's Groceries To Go!**  
Order Your Groceries and Have Them Delivered!

**APP DEAL OF THE WEEK**  
**Big Buy Bacon 99¢** 16 Oz. W/\$10 PURCHASE & KEN'S APP.  
Requires \$10 additional purchase and use of Ken's App

**Stop by Ken's Deli in Aberdeen!**  
Family Fresh SUSHI Made Fresh Daily

**Meat**  
**Ken's 85% Lean Ground Beef** 10# Tubes **\$3.99** Per Lb. **SAVE \$1.20 Per Lb.**

**Dairy**  
**Crystal Farms American Cheese Singles** 12 Oz. Pkg. **\$2.99**

**Frozen**  
**Pizza Corner 13" Pizza** **\$6.99**

**Liquor**  
**Crown Royal Peach** 750 ML **\$29.99**

**Household**  
**Tide 2X Liquid Laundry Detergent** 92 Oz. Jug or Pods 25-32 Ct. Tub **\$12.99**

**Bakery**  
**Ken's Bakery Fresh Hot Dog Buns** 8 Ct. **\$2.99**

**Deli**  
**Cheese of the Week!** Kretschmar Havarti **\$7.99** Per Lb.

**PRICES GOOD AT ALL KEN'S LOCATIONS: JAN 29<sup>TH</sup> THRU FEB 4<sup>TH</sup>**

## "It's time for your checkup"

Recently I received a mailing from my clinic reminding me it is time to schedule my annual preventative care physical. Apparently, doctors need to go to the doctor, too, even when they feel fine.

As a primary care physician, one of my passions is preventative care. Preventative care is focused on catching problems before they even start to cause symptoms, catching issues early when they are easier to treat.

Whether you want to call it your annual physical, your yearly checkup, or an annual wellness visit, this appointment gives the time for you and your provider to decide what tests, screenings, and interventions may be done to help you become and stay more healthy. One of the broken aspects of our healthcare system is our focus on problems, playing whack-a-mole, barely getting ahead, and spending too much money way too late on problems that could have been cured a lot sooner, a lot cheaper, with a little bit of effort at prevention.

This visit may go in a variety of ways depending on your age and risk factors. If you are over age 45, you should probably consider your options for colon cancer screening. If you are a woman over age 40, perhaps you should consider breast cancer screening. If you are a man over age 55, perhaps you should consider prostate cancer screening. Any of these screenings may need to start earlier if you have a family history of cancer.

Meanwhile, the visit should probably include a discussion on your mental health, your diet, and your exercise routines. Granted, these discussions take time. If you have a list of problems and symptoms you want to discuss, then perhaps you may need a separate visit to address your concerns, apart from the appointment to cover some of these preventative care topics.

Perhaps this visit will help give you a nudge to quit smoking, and a chance to catch lung cancer early by scheduling a screening CT scan of your lungs. Perhaps this visit will determine that you have high blood pressure or high cholesterol, and interventions could decrease your risk of a heart attack or stroke. Perhaps this visit will catch skin cancer early. Perhaps your provider will identify a medication you do not need anymore, or identify an over-the-counter medication or supplement you should or should not be taking such as vitamin D or aspirin. Are you taking your medications correctly?

The list goes on and on. Pap smears for cervical cancer screening. Reviewing your immunizations and updating a tetanus shot. DEXA scans help determine the strength of your bones and catch osteoporosis, trying to decrease your risk of a fall and a hip fracture.

I suppose I better make that appointment for myself!

Andrew Ellsworth, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices family medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at [www.prairiedoc.org](http://www.prairiedoc.org) and on Facebook featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show based on science, built on trust for 21 seasons, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



Based on Science, Built on Trust



**Andrew Ellsworth, MD.**