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The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 23 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889



Spring Break is Shortened

As a result of a day called off, Spring Break will be reduced to one day instead of two as March 16 will now be a day in-session. In addition, the original school calendar was amended changing Monday, February 20th and Monday, April 10th, to in-session days.

The Girls Region 1A first round tournament was scheduled for Monday at their respective sites. The buses were on the road to their sites, but then no travel was issued from Summit to the Minnesota State line. The Groton Area bus turned around at Holmquist to return. The Roncalli bus was much further along. Travel east of Webster was bad as there were reports of semis and vehicles in the ditches.

The first round of Region 1A will now be played Saturday afternoon with the second round scheduled for Monday.

It was a neat sunrise earlier last week as Sun Dogs flanked the Sun. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

GHS Second Semester Interns

Johnson interns at Beauty Brew Boutique; Bahr in band

by Dorene Nelson

Second semester senior internships at Groton Area High School started on January 16, 2023. Only five of the students who are involved with this project switched to a different job. The others continue working at the same business as first semester.

Aspen Johnson, who was an intern in fourth grade first semester, is now working at Beauty Brew Boutique. "I enjoyed working with the fourth graders," Aspen said, "but this job is fun too!"

"With the wide variety of specialty coffee drinks, I think it will probably take me at least two weeks on the job to remember all of the steps and ingredients required," she admitted. "I'm looking forward to the special party events that the coffee groups occasionally organize."



Aspen Johnson



Ashtyn Bahr, who was an intern in second grade first semester, is now working in the high school band room for Mrs. Yeigh. "I really love those little kids," Ashtyn admitted, "but this, motioning to the music area in the school, is where my heart is."

"We are preparing for small group and solo contests as well as organizing for show choir," she listed. "I'm really grateful for these internship opportunities since I've now decided to major in pre-business at USD and minor in acting, music, and communications."

More will be featured

Ashtyn Bahr

Groton Area has two foreign exchange students

by Dorene Nelson

Nicolas Fernandez, a foreign exchange student also from Madrid, Spain, is staying with the Matt and Nicole Jacobson family near Ferney while he attends school in Groton.

"I am a sophomore this year, taking U.S. History, Algebra I, art, English, biology, and horticulture," Nicolas listed. "I decided to come here as a sophomore so that I'd have two years of high school left when I returned back home."

"School is harder in Spain, and I thought it would be better for me to have two years left instead of trying to get all of the hard courses taken and passed in one school year," he explained.

"Here in Groton I was a kicker for the football team and also plan to try running track," Nicolas said. "I play soccer at home but couldn't here since there was no boys soccer team this year."

"In Madrid I ride a public bus to school, not a school bus like those used here in Groton," he stated. "I do live close enough to walk, but it is farther than I'd like so I usually ride the bus."

"I decided to be an exchange student here in Groton because my older sister was a student here in Groton four years ago," Nicolas said. "She also stayed with the Jacobsons and really liked them and the school so I thought I'd take her advice and come here too."

"Both of my older siblings are in college. My brother is studying business while my sister is studying to become a pharmacist," he listed. "Our parents own two restaurants in Madrid, but I don't help out there after school since I need to be sixteen to work there."

"I like being here in this area because the people are very nice and friendly," Nicolas smiled. "I enjoy school in Groton and have more fun here than back home. Besides it is easier here than trying to handle eleven different subjects with very, very hard tests!"

"In Spain sport activities are not connected to the school," he explained. "I play soccer, tennis, and surf all year, but my parents have to pay for each of the activities I participate in."

"Speaking English is not a problem for me since I was taught in school to read and speak in English," Nicolas stated. "I started learning how to speak and read English when I was five years old."

"After I return home, I'll have two years of high school left before I go to college," he said, "but I have no idea at this time what I might study."



Nicolas Fernandez

How can you not love it?

How can you not love it? The blood, sweat, tears, and petulance. The first two are a given. Head butts in the arena. Spatters on the mat. The locker room stench of soiled lucky socks, the sweet wafting odor of sacrifice and accomplishment.

Tears are unscheduled like the rain, sometimes falling with the relief of winning, but inevitable when it's over. Now, amidst the cheers, or at 3 a.m. when it hits you like brass knuckles. The last match has been wrestled, and graduation is neigh. From this to that. To life. They're ready, though.

And petulance? Petulance comes storming past congratulatory handshakes, a fierce 106 pounds, seething, not because he lost, but because he couldn't quite manage the pin. It's the state tournament. The team could have used the points.

The winners gather for the last portrait of the day, the motliest of crews in mismatched, torn sweatpants. Greens and reds, some kind of stain, and plaids. Hair by hurricane. And in every picture, at least one of them's got a bloody tissue dangling from a nostril. They look like back alley muggers, but they're not that. But, if you can't get them for purse-snatching, they oughta be charged with crimes against fashion.

Wrestling's gravelly siren song brings them in—some kids from broken homes and hardship. Miscreants, searchers from the wrong side of the tracks, some of them seemingly from between the rails. Others attend from less blemished circumstances but they all have something to prove.

They gather at the state tournament, this congress of warriors, this ritual, a thousand years of memories. Young ones swagger. Old ones limp. "Going in for a shoulder replacement on Tuesday," one of them says.

Senior Marshall Lindgren embraces South Border Coach Josh Hoffman after his final match, their faces burrowed in the other's chest. If there are tears, they're mopped up by fabric. Hoffman's wearing a faded, ratty old wrestling shirt. Leading by example.

It's Marshall's third title; and he did it this

time with one hand. He started and ended the season with a broken wrist and a big heart. He's a cowboy. Rough stock.

Elite wrestlers are rare. The rest get it done with the gravel in their gut and the spit in their eye. Everyone wrestles hurt. Sometimes the victory's in not getting pinned. A life lesson.

Hettinger Coach Randy Burwick's there with longtime assistant, Theo Schalesky, one of the all-time great heavyweights. I size Burwick up like I did when I met him. His grin's bigger than he is but I still couldn't take him unless he was duct-taped to a chair. Even then, it would still be close and I wouldn't get the pin.

And Theo. "Whatcha up to these days, Theo? Purse snatching?"

"No, raising kids," he says. Not enough to fill every weight class but they're getting there. They're fostering a handsome toddler and Theo's in love.

I gaze at the photo so long, he starts to think I'm gonna to steal his phone. "Beautiful family," I say, and I mean it.

Ashley's Corey Ulmer is there for his induction into the Wrestling Hall of Fame with his own beautiful family. Precocious kids. Corey's a former Mr. Wrestler, a college All-American, and retired MMA fighter. Him? There ain't enough duct-tape.

And I finally get to meet Dale Beckman whose name's been spoken with reverence for as long as I remember. He's the architect of the storied New Salem wrestling program. Coach emeritus now, but he still works with the kids.

When the season began, the experts, the wrestling soothsayers and sages who'd done all the calculations, proclaimed Lisbon, where they serve broken glass for school lunches, unbeatable. Understandable.

Those New Salem kids must be bad at math, though, because they stormed to the individual state championship, a first ever for the Holsteins. Wrestled their butts off.

"If it couldn't be our kids, I'm glad it was yours," I told Dale.

If you build it, Coach, they will win.

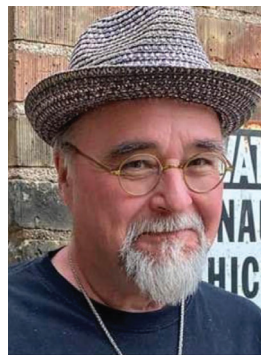
Still, our petulant South Border kids knocked off New Salem in the dual semifinals. But Lisbon proved to be too much in the championship.

Coach Hoffman went into the year thinking the Mustangs might be a year away. But you still step onto on the mat. Because you never know.

Yet another life lesson.

And one more. You can't trust math.

© Tony Bender, 2023



That's Life

by Tony Bender

Weekly Vikings Recap

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

After spending over two weeks interviewing several coaches for their defensive coordinator position, the Minnesota Vikings finally found their guy in Brian Flores. Flores, who spent 11 seasons in New England coaching under Bill Belichick, already has three super bowls as a coach to his resume. Flores' greatest coaching moment probably came in his last season in New England in 2018. After being given the defensive play-calling duties for the Patriots in 2018, Flores' defense put on one of the most impressive defensive performances in Super Bowl history, giving up only three points to a Los Angeles Rams team that had been statistically a top-two offense over the prior two seasons.

After the 2018 season, Flores was hired as the head coach of the Miami Dolphins. To say Flores' tenure in Miami was rocky would be an understatement. At the beginning of his first season, the Dolphins' front office had completely gutted the roster with the clear intention for the team to bottom out and end up with the number one overall pick in the draft so they could pick a franchise quarterback. However, Flores appeared to not get that message as he coached the Dolphins to a 5-11 record, which ultimately resulted in the Dolphins earning the fifth overall pick in the next year's draft. That inability to follow the desires of the front office is likely what got Flores fired in Miami two years later, despite leading the Dolphins to back-to-back winning seasons in his second and third years in Miami.

Although Flores' tenure in Miami was not a success, the one takeaway from Flores' coaching style was his willingness to be aggressive. In Flores' final two seasons in Miami, the Dolphins were ranked second in the NFL with a 40% blitz rate. Compare that to the Vikings' defense this past season under their former defensive coordinator, Ed Donatell, which finished with a measly 18.9 blitz rate, and ranked 24th in the NFL.

If you watched the Vikings all last season, the biggest frustration about the team had to be the passive nature of the defense. Rarely did the defense dial up a blitz when it was evident that their four-pass rushers were unable to get to the quarterback. And, despite the lack of blitzing, the middle of the field was still consistently wide open because of the soft coverage by the Vikings' cornerbacks. Could these issues have been caused by the fact that the Vikings had an older-aged defense that seemed to have lost a step? Perhaps. But the issue was that it felt like Donatell was flat-out unwilling to make any adjustments to make his defense perform more aggressively.

Hopefully, all that will change now that the Vikings' defense is led by Brian Flores. Speaking of changes, the Vikings have already started to make changes to their defense. It was announced on Saturday that the Vikings decided to part ways with linebackers coach, Greg Manusky after he spent just one season in Minnesota. This will likely not be the only Vikings' defensive position coach that leaves the Vikings as Flores will likely want coaches who more align with his coaching philosophy. Moreover, the Vikings will likely make changes from a player perspective on their defense as well. Of their 11 defensive starters, the Vikings currently have five of them that are over the age of 30. It will be interesting to see if Florio elects to keep these veteran players to lessen the learning curve, or if he elects to go with a younger, faster defense to fit his aggressive mindset.

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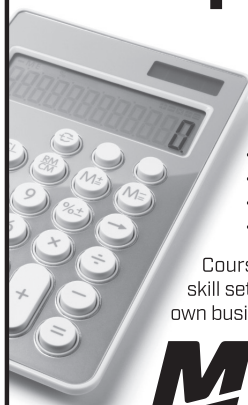
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We the People

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

Mike Pence Seeks Refuge in the Speech or Debate Clause

Former Vice President Mike Pence plans to invoke the Speech or Debate Clause as justification for challenging a subpoena issued by Special Counsel Jack Smith in his investigation of former President Donald Trump's efforts to overturn the 2020 election. Pence's claim to immunity from the subpoena shines a spotlight on an important but largely inconspicuous constitutional provision. Article I, section 6 protects

"Senators and Representatives" from arrest "for any Speech or Debate in either House," and stipulates that "they shall not be questioned in any other Place."

Pence argues that when he performed his constitutional duty to preside over the certification of Electoral College votes on January 6, 2021, he was acting in his capacity as President of the Senate and thus enjoyed protection under the Speech or Debate Clause. Pence believes he cannot be compelled to testify before a grand jury on matters relevant to Trump's scheme to derail the peaceful transition of power to President Joe Biden.

Pence's claim is ironic and dubious. Recall that he enthusiastically embraced, as a member of the executive branch, Trump's assertion of "executive privilege" to prevent his testimony before the January 6 congressional committee. Now, he asserts that his January 6 role of opening envelopes and counting votes, which he has described as purely ministerial and devoid of discretion, was "legislative" in nature. Questions abound. What is the purpose of the Speech or Debate Clause? Does it clothe the vice president with protection afforded elected members of the House and Senate?

The Speech or Debate Clause was enshrined in the Constitution as a means of enabling congressional representatives to fulfill their public duties. Justice Joseph Story, writing in his magisterial three volume work, Commentaries on the Constitution (1833), provided the rationale: "When a representative is withdrawn from his seat by a summons, the people, whom he represents, lose their voice in debate and vote, as they do in his voluntary absence. When a senator is withdrawn by summons, his state loses half its voice in debate and vote, as it does in his voluntary absence. The enormous disparity of the evil admits of no comparison."

The importance of the Speech or Debate Clause, which Justice Story and other writers contemporaneous with the framing of the Constitution characterized as "vital" to the exercise of every other power and duty vested in Congress, may be glimpsed in its enduring usage across

the centuries, plumbing the depths of English legal history. The privilege from arrest while traveling to and from Parliament, and protection against being "questioned" in any "other place" for a speech made during a legislative session, was viewed by the founders as an "immemorial right." These ancient privileges were secured in The English Bill of Rights in 1689, applied to members of the Continental Congress, and appeared almost verbatim in the Articles of Confederation and early state constitutions. They were universally admired principles.

The historic and universal admiration of these principles, however, doesn't mean that former Vice President Pence will be successful in his assertion of the Speech or Debate Clause to

defy a subpoena to require his testimony before a grand jury assembled by the Department of Justice. There is, first of all, his own confusion about which branch of government the vice president serves when presiding, by virtue of Article I, section 3, clause 4, as president of the Senate, a post which imposes as its sole duty, breaking tie votes and making parliamentary rulings.

Pence, it is familiar, has claimed residence in both branches, as a means of protecting him from what most Americans would require as a "duty" to testify about crimes committed on January 6, that he witnessed. To assert executive privilege to refuse to appear before the January 6 Committee, as Pence did, is to present himself as a member of the executive branch.

That argument undercuts Pence's claim to protection under the Speech or Debate Clause. The provision was designed to encourage and protect full participation in the debates of the legislature. The vice president as president of the Senate, as Pence has stated, plays only a "ministerial" role. The vice president is not an integral part of the Senate's legislative functions. The vice president is not elected by the Senate, as are all other leaders in the upper chamber, and does not participate in debates.

Another way of looking at the vice president's status as president of the Senate is through the lens of impeachment. A Senator is not a "civil officer" within the meaning of the Impeachment Clause, but the vice president is and, consequently, may be impeached and removed from office. In addition, members of the Senate may be removed from the body, under the Expulsion Clause—Article I, section 5, clause 2—but the vice president is immune from expulsion. At all events, the Senate, not surprisingly, has not assigned much power to an officer not

responsible to it.

In the end, as Alexander Hamilton explained it, the vice president's role as president of the Senate, was required in order to avoid deadlock. Moreover, a state would be underrepresented if one of its two Senators relinquished his seat to chair the sessions. The origins and practice of the Speech or Debate Clause lend no support to Pence's effort to find refuge in it.

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August 2023		August	January 2024		January											
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	21 - Faculty Inservice	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	3 - School Resumes	
			1	2	3	4	5	22 - Faculty Inservice	1	2	3	4	5	6	3	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	23 - 1st Day of School	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Student Contact: 7; Inservice: 2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	5	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	5	
27	28	29	30	31				28	29	30	31				3	Student Contact: 21; Inservice: 0
September 2023		September	February 2024		February											
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	1 - NO SCHOOL	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	15 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (1:30-8:00)	
					1	2	4 - Labor Day - NO SCHOOL	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	16 - Faculty Inservice - NO SCHOOL
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	15 - Homecoming	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	4	19 - President's Day - NO SCHOOL
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	28 - Parent/Teacher Conferences (1:30-8:00)	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	4	Student Contact: 19; Inservice: 2
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	29 - Faculty Inservice - NO SCHOOL	25	26	27	28	29			4	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Student Contact: 18; Inservice: 2									
October 2023		October	March 2024		March											
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	9 - Native American Day - NO SCHOOL	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	8 - End of 3rd Quarter (46)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	13 - Lake Region Marching Festival	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	1	14-15 Spring Break - NO SCHOOL
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	20 - End of 1st Quarter (39)	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	3	29 - Good Friday - NO SCHOOL
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Student Contact: 21; Inservice: 0	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	5	Student Contact: 18; Inservice: 0
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		24	25	26	27	28	29	30	4	
29	30	31						31								
November 2023		November	April 2024		April											
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	10 - Veterans Day Program	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	1 - Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL	
					1	2	22-24 - Thanksgiving - NO SCHOOL	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	7 - Pops Concert (2:00 & 5:00)
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Student Contact: 19; Inservice: 0	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	5	20 - PROM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		21	22	23	24	25	26	27	5	25 - Middle School Spring Concert (7:00)
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		28	29	30					5	30 - Elementary Spring Concert (7:00)
26	27	28	29	30											2	Student Contact: 21; Inservice: 0
December 2023		December	May 2024		May											
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	7 - MS/HS Christmas Concert (7:00)	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	2 - High School Concert/Awards/Art Show (7:00)	
					1	2	21 - Elementary Christmas Concert (1:00)	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	12 - Graduation
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	21 - Early Dismissal (2:00)	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	5	15 - End of 2nd Semester (44/90)
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	21 - End of 1st Semester (41/80)	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	3	16 - Faculty Inservice
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22-31 - Christmas Break - NO SCHOOL	26	27	28	29	30	31		5	Student Contact: 11; Inservice: 1
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Student Contact: 15; Inservice: 0								90	
31																

The Groton Independent

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- 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
- 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
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New homeowners must file by March 15 to get owner occupied property tax reduction

PIERRE, S.D. -- NEW homeowners have until March 15 to apply for owner-occupied classification on their property, which provides property tax relief through a reduced school general fund levy.

Any South Dakotan who owned and occupied a home before November 1, 2022, is eligible at this time. An individual may only have one owner-occupied classification in the state.

Homeowners who have previously received this classification and still own and occupy the same home will continue to receive the property tax reduction without re-applying.

Taxpayers can check their county notices to verify whether they are already classified as owner-occupied. By looking at their most recent tax bill or assessment notice, a homeowner should see a denotation of an 'OO' or some variation of an abbreviation of the words 'owner-occupied'. The local county director of equalization's office can also look up the property and let the individual know if they have the classification.

Homeowners must apply for this classification through the local county director of equalization that the property is located in. The form can be found online at <https://sddor.seamlessdocs.com/f/3001> and can be submitted electronically to the county through the Department of Revenue website.

If applicants have questions about the owner-occupied program, they are encouraged to contact their local county director of equalization.

Henry Township Notice of Caucus

Henry Township Annual Meeting Notice
Notice is hereby given that the annual Henry Township caucus and election of officers along with the other business that may come before the board will be held Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Doug Abeln's Seed Company Office. Will also take bids for gravel and road maintenance.
Darlene Sass
Henry Township Clerk
Published February 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$12.15 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21943

Groton Township Notice of Caucus

Groton Township
Groton Township Notice of ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION IN GROTON TOWNSHIP Notice is hereby given that the annual Groton Township Annual and Election of Officers will be held Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at the Groton Community Center. Meeting at 1 p.m. followed by election of officers.

Sealed bids will be accepted for gravel, loaded and delivered, to designated places in Groton Township. The township board reserves the right to inspect the gravel before awarding the bid.

Bids must be addressed to Jeff Howard, Township Clerk, 40829 131st Street, Groton, SD 57445, sealed and plainly marked "Bid for Gravel."

Separate bids will be accepted for mowing weeds along road ditches, removal of snow and blading. Bidders are to furnish township with name and address of insurance agent.

Bids will be opened by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 1 p.m. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Jeff Howard, Township Clerk
Published February 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$23.73 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21939

West Hanson Notice of Caucus

NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN WEST HANSON TOWNSHIP

West Hanson Township will hold its annual caucus, business meeting and election on Tuesday, March 7th at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Dirks home, 40305 138th St. There will be an election of one supervisor, clerk and treasurer.

The township will also be accepting bids for 1,000 yds., more or less, of screened and/or crushed gravel within the township. We will also take bids on the same date for road blading and mowing on township roads and snow removal work. We will also be taking bids on mowing and maintenance of the West Hanson Cemetery. All bids must be accompanied by certificate of contractor's liability insurance. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Jennifer Dirks, Township Clerk
Published February 15, 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$30.56 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21931

Shelby Township Notice of Caucus

Citizens of Shelby Township are hereby Notified that the Annual Township meeting will be held at the township hall on Tuesday, March 7, 2023, beginning at 1 p.m. for the following purposes: To elect one supervisor for a three (3) year term, one clerk and one treasurer, and to do any other business proper to be done at said meeting. Shelby Township will accept bids for gravel, road maintaining, snow removal, and other road work as necessary for the year 2023-2024. The gravel is to be delivered before Aug. 1, 2023 and must meet the township board's specifications. The road maintaining, snow removal, and road work bids must state per hour and per mile charges. Date and time records will be required for all work performed. Bids will also be accepted for mowing the Houghton cemetery. Bids must be received at the clerk's residence on or before March 24, 2019. Bids will be opened at the township hall in Houghton on March 28, 2023 at 7 p.m. All bids for gravel and road work must be accompanied by a Certificate of Contractors Liability Insurance. The board of supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Colby Crawford, Township Clerk 11760 403rd Avenue Houghton, SD 57449

Published February 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$25.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21942

Claremont Town Meeting Minutes Feb. 14, 2023

2-14-2023
The Board of Trustees for the Town of Claremont met on 2-14, 2023 at 7 p.m. in City Hall.

President Johnson called the meeting to order with Trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. Also present was Bob Babcock (Helms & Assoc.), Ted Dickey (NECOG) and Missi Smith (Community Club).

On a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer the minutes of the January meeting were approved.

On a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen the following warrants were allowed:

General:
Dacotah Bank, payoff city hall loan, 7,797.31; Post Office, roll of stamps, 60.00; SD Assoc. of Towns & Townships, 2023 membership dues, 192.00; GDI, publishing and subscription, 103.15; James Valley, telcom, 139.96; Full Circle Ag, dyed diesel 34.900 gallons, 159.03; New, electric - street lights and city hall, 93.54; Jason Spencer, 11.5 snow removal, 184.00; JH Business, W2 & W3, 74.55; Charla Rye, statement books x2, envelopes x2, 16.24; Charla Rye, wage, 350.00; Shane Johnson, 8 hours snow removal, 128.00.

WSSV:
B&B Contracting, sewer grant, 107,745.17; Helms & Assoc., sewer grant / final, 1,617.30; BDM, water purchased, 1,002.50; New, water, 211.92; New, sewer lift, 3.57; Rural Development, water loan, 576.00.

Ted Dickey, NECOG - a motion was made by Jason and seconded by Rasmussen to allow NECOG to prepare an application for the storm sewer project.

Bob Babcock from Helms & Assoc. was present to touch base on finalizing the sewer project.

On a motion by Frank and seconded by Jason the meeting was adjourned.

CRye, FO.
Published February 22, 2023 at the total approximate cost of \$17.66 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21941

Putney Township Notice of Caucus

NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN PUTNEY TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the annual Putney Township Caucus and Election of Officers will be held Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at Mark Thompson's Shop.

Caucus at 5 p.m. followed by election of officers.

Sealed bids will be accepted for gravel, loaded and delivered, to designated places in Putney Township. The township board reserves the right to inspect the gravel before awarding the bid. Bids must be addressed to Mark Thompson, Township Clerk, sealed and plainly marked "Bid for Gravel." Separate bids will be accepted for mowing weeds along road ditches, removal of snow and blading. Bidders are to furnish township with name and address of insurance agent. Bids will be opened by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at Mark Thompson's Farm House shop at 5 p.m. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Mark Thompson
Township Clerk
Published February 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$22.63 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21940

Bates Township Notice of Caucus

Bates Township
BATES TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Bates Township will hold its annual meeting and election on Tuesday, March 7th, 2023 at the home of the Clerk, 14523 409th Ave, Conde.

Election of officers and business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m.

We will be receiving bids for road maintenance and gravel. Please mail bids to

Betty Geist, Bates Township Clerk, 14523 409th Ave., Conde, SD 57434 prior to meeting date.

Betty Geist, Township Clerk
Published February 22, March 1, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$21.85 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21938

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Westport Town Feb. 6, 2023

Meeting Minutes

Town of Westport General Meeting

February 6th, 2023

The Town of Westport met on February 6th, 2023 with Larry Schmit, Shane Storm, Mitchell Wilson and Doreen Hertel present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General
NWPS (\$589.68), Groton Independent (\$13.80), B&B -snow removal (\$191.25).

Sewer
NWPS (\$53.41) NRW -loan repayment (\$210.13)

Water
WEB (\$1,501.33), Dept. of Health (\$30.00) & Water Maintenance District (\$459.18)

Mitchell Wilson made motion to pay all bills; second by Larry Schmit.

The following deposits were presented:

City General
Brown County Collections (\$117.59), State of SD (\$5,218.75), Interest (\$104.44).

Sewer
Resident Payments - (\$2,600.00).

Water
Resident Payments - (\$3,939.57).

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 Annual report was presented and approved.

Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer
Published February 22, 2023 at the total approximate cost of \$13.25 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 21934

Frederick City Feb. 8, 2023

Meeting Minutes

City of Frederick

February 8, 2023 Minutes

Frederick's town board meeting was held Wednesday, February 8, 2023 in the Frederick Community Center beginning at 7:00 PM. Attending the meeting were Chairman Scott Campbell, Board members Jeff Kusters and Troy Millard, Finance Officer and Assistant Finance Officer Jennifer Morlock and Mariah Heine, Utility Manager Rich Bakeberg, and Volunteer Frederick Fire Department Chief Kevin Barton.

Chairman Campbell opened the meeting and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The minutes of the January meeting was read and approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried. The financial statements were reviewed and accepted with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried. The February accounts payable were approved with a motion by Millard/Kusters; motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

MDU electric BP/Wtr/Mun Bldg/SP/St/Swr/EBL \$1,659.54; Amsterdam Printing supplies Gen'l \$412.63; Brown County Sheriff's Office deputy svcs Gen'l \$1,041.67; Century Bus Products printer Gen'l \$75.88; DANR dues Wtr \$250; Dependable Sanitation Grbg \$1,690; EFPTS taxes Gen'l/FO/CC/EBL/St/Wtr/Swr/Cmty \$801.50; FDC Gen'l \$1200; Farmers Union Oil Muni Bldg/EBL \$1,122.51; Farmers Union Oil propane EBL \$781.87; USDA-RD loan Swr \$3,763; Econ, Dev \$1,200; GDI minutes Gen'l \$35.60; GDI minutes Gen'l \$18.76; JC Campbell bond FO \$545; J. Morlock wage FO \$1,423.77; JVT Gen'l/Wtr/EBL/FO \$297.98; M. Cox wage EBL \$559.89; M. Heine wage FO \$1,126.38; S. Campbell wage Gen'l \$69.26; R. Bakeberg wage Cmty \$253.96 R. Bakeberg wage Sts/Wtr/Swr \$225.33; R. Bakeberg veh. allow. St/Wtr/Swr \$75; SD Dept of Rev sales tax Grbg \$78.18; SD Dept of Health samples Wtr \$15; SD Assn of Towns dues Gen'l \$218.75; T. Millard wage Gen'l \$46.17; USDA-RD loan Wtr \$475; WEB Water Wtr \$6,411.82; USPS postage Grbg \$1.44

OLD BUSINESS

Rich Bakeberg provided a utility report. The board discussed water leaks and subsequent repairs.

NEW BUSINESS

There is a board vacancy for a 3-year term. Petitions are to be returned by 5PM on February 24. There will be a 3rd Ave water project this summer, and the board discussed how to approach the project. There was discussion about the open assistant utility manager position.

Motion to adjourn made by Millard/Kusters at 7:45 PM; motion carried.

M. Heine

Assistant Finance Officer

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Brown County Feb. 14, 2023

Meeting Minutes

FEBRUARY 14, 2023 - 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 Dennert, Fjeldheim, Gage, Sutton and Wiese. Commissioner Fjeldheim led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Ben Fuller along with Trey Lester and Dana Lewis from Summit Carbon Solutions met with the Commission to give them an update on the project. He handed out a packet, which included a map of the route they have proposed that will be going over 5 states, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Minnesota, and Iowa to help keep Ethanol viable as regulations come into play. In Brown County there are 2 sizes of pipe - 24" which is main pipeline that will be going up to Bismarck, ND where the carbon will be sequestered underground 1-2 miles as well as the 6" line that will be attaching to the Ethanol plant outside of Aberdeen. Ben mentioned that they are going above and beyond what is recommended for Safety by the Federal Government. Summit Carbon Solutions is still progressing on voluntary easements, currently 59.9% have agreed to voluntary easement and they have paid out 54 million to SD residents. Summit Carbon Solutions donated a welder to the Aberdeen School.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the General Meeting minutes of February 7, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Discussion was held regarding the Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce dues for 2023. Commissioner Gage moved to approve dues for the following departments: Commission, Dacotah Prairie Museum, Fair/Fairgrounds and Landfill, seconded by Fjeldheim. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following claims /payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Area Human Resource Assoc \$25.00; Avera St. Luke's \$1,089.24; Avera St. Mary's Central SD Child Assessment Ctr \$162.18; Birmingham & Cwach Law Offices, PLLC \$488.15; Calleen Thorn Misterek \$166.60; Certified Languages International LLC \$1,240.80; Dakota Group LLC \$2,100.00; Darcy Lockwood \$15.00; Dependable Sanitation Inc \$26,199.40; Koletzky Law Office, Prof LLC \$173.20; Language Line Services Inc \$582.59; Lewis & Clark BHS \$184.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgmt. Inc \$200.00; Lucy Lewno \$166.60; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine Aberdeen \$359.00; Satellite Tracking of People LLC \$1,166.75; SD Department of Health \$1,565.00; Valerie J. Larson \$15.00; West Publishing Corp \$283.30; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$150.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$882.40. Publishing: Groton Independent \$233.45; Huether Brothers Publishing, Inc \$25.19; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$460.00. Rentals: Aramark Uniform & Career Apparel Group, Inc \$282.75; Dakota Electronics \$227.70. Repairs & Maintenance: Butler Machinery Company \$1,059.48; Century Business Products \$63.86; Dakota Pump & Control \$450.00; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$7,147.99; Jalene M. Palmer \$645.72; Lawson Products, Inc \$34.57; Meister Mowing LLC \$1,540.00; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$208.94; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$2,700.00; Renodry USA LLC \$17,634.73; Schwan Welding \$2,004.00; Steven Lust Automotive \$87.95; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$484.00; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$6,372.91; Walth Safety Service Inc \$11.95; Woodman Refrigeration, Inc. \$732.56. Supplies: A&B Business Inc \$58.80; Aberdeen Awards \$35.00; Body Cams by Retired Cops \$1,197.00; Cartney Bearing \$166.40; Century Business Products \$837.38; Charm-Tex, Inc \$288.12; Cole Papers \$628.70; Dakota Electronics \$110.60; Dakota Oil \$8,610.15; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$16,760.58; Farm Power Mfg. \$34.65; House of Glass \$83.88; Karen Swank \$69.00; Kessler's \$157.01; Lawson Products, Inc

\$409.59; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$129.79; Menards \$899.71; Performance Oil & Lubricants \$35.16; PharmChem \$223.65; Runnings \$576.51; Schwan Welding \$1,190.22; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$8.20; SHI International Corp \$803.00; State of South Dakota \$196.00; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$699.19; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$1,559.33; Tri State Water \$45.25. Travel & Conference: Rachel Kippley \$180.26; SD Assoc of County Officials \$220.00. Utilities: CenturyLink \$1,318.28; City of Aberdeen \$2,084.69; Economy Propane LLC \$3,012.75; James Valley Telecommunications \$219.10; Northern Electric Coop, Inc \$2,387.52; Northern Valley Communication \$250.00; Northwestern Energy & Communications \$5,389.04; Verizon Wireless Services LLC \$200.05. Machinery & Equipment: SHI International Corp \$7,899.47. Others: SD Assoc of County Officials \$706.00; SD Dept of Agriculture & Natural Resources \$3,605.09; WEX Health Inc \$4,000.00. Payroll: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,181.77; Treasurer \$16,601.86; SA \$30,116.46; Maintenance \$11,376.02; Assessor \$16,796.81; ROD \$9,932.80; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$6,145.17; HR \$5,001.68; Sheriff \$42,039.90; Jail \$62,024.94; Court Security \$7,003.80; JDC/HD \$31,719.93; Welfare \$2,336.49; DPM \$11,868.78; Parks/FG \$4,049.21; Fair \$4,107.20; 4-H \$786.80; W&P \$1,058.37; P&Z \$7,232.60; Hwy \$45,511.55; Dispatch \$31,208.47; EM \$4,933.61; 24/7 \$1,464.00; Landfill \$13,075.97; Mileage Benefits \$558.02; SDRS Pay-out \$1,240.46; FICA \$23,148.23; Medicare \$5,413.78; Discovery_HSA \$1,297.59. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Erica Coughlin: Acknowledge modified end date: Employment ending for Danielle Watson as Brown County JDC Detention Officer, full-time; effective February 1, 2023. Request to fill. Acknowledge the transfer of Doreen Howell from Brown County Jail's 24/7 to Brown County Sheriff's Office Records Technician, full-time; starting wage \$18.73/hour; effective February 21, 2023. Request to fill. Acknowledge transfer of Austin Ball from Brown County Jail to Brown County Sheriff's Office Deputy, full-time, starting wage \$25.18/hour effective February 21, 2023. Request to fill. Approve hiring of Darrin Olson as Brown County Highway, Truck Driver, full-time; starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective February 13, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chair sign the following lease agreement: Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce for lease of Hog and Sheep Barn and Panels on April 25, 2023; All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize the Auditor sign the Claim Assignment against an individual to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CONTRACTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following contract for the 2023 Brown County Fair: Todd Oliver @ \$8,000.00; The Everly Set @ \$8,000.00; Winterfest Concert Events, LLC @ \$6,000.00; and NB Golf Cars @ \$25,716.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SD DOT BRIDGE INSPECTION CONTRACT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Bridge Inspection Program Resolution for use with SDDOT Retainer Contracts. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENTS/REFUNDS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following abatements for tax year 2023: Delbert Lowe, Parcel #5028 \$327.50; Richard Hunstad, Parcel #25943 \$586.18; Dietrich Holdings, LLC \$1,052.07; Dan & Barbara Kimball, Parcel #22257 \$86.74. For tax year 2022: Delbert Lowe, Parcel #5028 \$335.40. For Tax Year 2021: Delbert Lowe, Parcel #5028 refund for \$347.95. For

Tax Year 2020: Delbert Lowe, Parcel #5028 refund for \$324.15. For Tax Year 2019: Delbert Lowe, Parcel #5028 refund for \$161.81. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RURAL ACCESS INFRASTRUCTURE - BUDGET SUPPLEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the Budget Supplement from Fund 295 - Rural Access Infrastructure Fund to Fund 201 - Highway Department for the following Culvert Projects: Groton Township #1 - \$12,007.32; Groton Township #2 - \$11,990.54; Liberty Township #1 - \$13,369.77; Liberty Township #2 - \$13,467.79; Greenfield Township - \$12,396.69 for a total of \$63,232.11. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL MONITORING & CONSULTING SERVICES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with Houston Engineering for monitoring and consulting services for 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the Travel Request for Lynn Heupel, Auditor and Mariann Malsom, Register of Deeds to attend New Officials Workshop in Pierre on April 18 - 20, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Commissioner Sutton was asked by Highway Superintendent, Dirk Rogers to announce load limits will be going on in the next couple of weeks. Edmunds County is implementing load limits on February 23rd and McPherson County is implementing load limits on February 24th.

Commissioner Sutton also shared that Commission received some information regarding the contract with Centennial Village. Sutton met with Centennial Village committee, and they were okay with all of the recommendations so they will be drafting a new contract (last one was in 2019).

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage 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 Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 10:04 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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Frederick School Feb. 13, 2023

Meeting Minutes

FREDERICK AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT #6-2

Regular Board of Education Meeting

February 13, 2023

A regular meeting of the Frederick Area Board of Education was called to order on February 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. by President Rich Schlosser. Other members present were Rich Achen, Jon Ellwein, Alex Hart and Eric Sumption. Also present were Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director Jeff Kusters, K-8 Principal Jessica Ringgenberg and Business Manager Shauna Severson. Nathan Hoffman, Dan Nickelson, Jenny Anliker, Ellen Schlosser and Brock Pashen were also in attendance.

The meeting began with all present reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion 2023-072 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to approve the agenda as presented. All aye, carried.

The following individuals spoke during public comment: Nathan Hoffman and Dan Nickelson. Each speaker was allotted 3 minutes.

No conflict of interest disclosures.

Motion 2023-073 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to approve the following consent agenda items. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

January 4, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes with the revision of the verbiage "parents of grades 6-12 athletes" instead of "patrons"; include Jessica Ringgenberg in the list of attendees.

January 9, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

January 2023 Financial Re-

port, Custodial Accounts and Investments

January 2023 Payroll

February 2023 Bills

Financial Report:

General Fund- Checking: Bal 1-1-23: \$409,387.83; Receipts: \$123,521.52; Disbursements: \$150,044.97; Bal 1-31-23 \$382,864.38. Investments: Bal 1-1-23: \$288,885.69; Interest: \$5.27; Bal 1-31-23: \$288,890.96. Ending Fund Balance: \$671,755.34.

Imprest Fund: Bal 1-1-23: \$4,224.92; Receipts: \$775.08; Disbursements: \$1,187.10; Bal 1-31-23 \$3,812.90.

Capital Outlay Fund- Checking: Bal 1-1-23: \$647,979.31; Receipts: \$3,372.00; Disbursements: \$6,300.76; Bal 1-31-23 \$645,050.55. Investments: Bal 1-1-23: \$1,933,634.20. Ending Fund Balance: \$2,578,684.75.

Special Education Fund- Checking: Bal 1-1-23: \$117,460.26; Receipts: \$1,443.86; Disbursements: \$24,941.20; Bal 1-31-23 \$93,962.92. Investments: Bal 1-1-23: \$1,446,175.05. Ending Fund Balance: \$1,540,137.97.

Food Service Fund: Bal 1-1-23: \$8,166.03; Receipts: \$7,256.40; Disbursements: \$5,633.54; Bal 1-31-23 \$9,788.89.

Drivers Ed Fund: Bal 1-1-23: 66.35; Receipts: \$0; Disbursements: \$0; Bal 1-31-23 \$66.35.

Custodial Fund: Bal 1-1-23: \$21,432.37; Receipts: \$1,117.38; Disbursements: \$99.98; Bal 1-31-23 \$22,449.77.

Ovid J Stevens Scholarship: Bal 1-1-23: \$.85; Receipts: \$0; Disbursements: \$0; Bal 1-31-23 \$.85. Investments: Bal 1-1-23: \$26,471.58; Ending Fund Balance: \$26,472.43.

Claims approved: January 2023 Payroll - General Fund salaries 73,063.37, Special Education salaries 12,184.77, Food Service salaries 1,795.69, EFTPS, federal income tax/Social Security/Medicare 23,446.78; AFLAC, supplemental insurance 1,530.49; American Funds, retirement 1,536.18; Delta Dental, insurance 1,923.06; The Standard, life insurance 254.84; Security Benefits, retirement 1,333.22; Optilegra, vision insurance 422.72; Wellmark, health insurance 18,059.00; SD Retirement 13,950.32; SD Retirement Supplemental, 4,478.22. Total: \$153,978.66.

Bills approved: General Fund: Aberdeen School District 6-1-Atech, 5,486.40; Agtegrafuel, 4,749.32; Amazon-supplies/ changing table, 503.63; ABSDB-board training, 658.65; Avera St. Lukes-athletic trainer, 1,511.25; Brown County Treasurer-sewer tax, 34.49; Cardio Partners-AED, 1,500.00; Cash-Wa Direct-concessions, 767.13; CWD-concessions/FFVP, 2,668.15; Century Business Products-copier overage, 341.70; Coca-Cola Bottling Co High Country-concessions, 1,341.00; Cole Papers-supplies, 2,484.63; Community Store-concessions, 87.55; Edgeley Public School-JH BBB jamboree, 50.00; Farmers Union Oil-bus maintenance, 390.75; FASD FCCLA-concession workers, 200.00; FASD Imprest Fund-misc, 1,187.10; Foreman Sales & Service-bus maintenance, 159.15; GDI News-publishing, 161.84; JVT-telephone, 238.33; Kens-concessions, 22.50; Kesslers-build your base, 86.73; Ketterling Photography-bb pictures, 52.00; MathCounts-annual fee, 175.00; Merchant Services-lunch processing fees, 6.00; Mid-American Research Chemical-maintenance supplies, 421.21; MDU-utilities, 6,020.97; Molsyle Corp-ipad manager license fees, 583.00; NAPA-bus parts, 80.02; Pantorium Cleaners-supplies, 76.72; Pashen, Jennifer-education reimbursement, 115.29; Push-Pedal-Pull, Inc-elliptical assembly, 108.44; School Specialty-art supplies, 1,257.10; Super 8 Huron-FCCLA rooms, 658.00; Town of Frederick-utilities, 633.58; Capital Outlay Fund: Century Business Products-copier lease, 306.66; CommTech-cameras and access installation, 8,307.10; Johnson Controls Fire Protection-fire maintenance, 1,084.60; Savvas-curriculum, 825.00; Special Education Fund: Avera-OT/PJT, 3,687.84; Geffre, Wendy-mile-

age, 71.40; Food Service Fund: CWD-food/supplies, 4,531.49; Child and Adult Nutrition-commodities processing, 215.85; Community Store-food, 60.09; Pantorium Cleaners-supplies, 186.50; Custodial Fund: Pizza Ranch-LRC, 109.99; Imprest Fund: Holt, Adam-bb ref, 120.00; Kusler, Brandon-bb ref, 120.00; Lorenz, Daren-bb ref, 120.00; Pearson, Lucas-bb ref, 120.00; Wagge, Tom-bb ref, 120.00; Wanner, Andrew-bb ref/mileage, 147.54; Weismantel, Martin-bb ref/mileage, 144.48; Witlock, Scott-bb ref/mileage, 147.54; Zimmerman, Kim-bb ref/mileage, 147.54

The following reports were presented:

Jeff Kusters: Superintendent/9-12 Principal/Athletic Director

Jessica Ringgenberg: K-8 Principal

Shauna Severson: Business Manager

Achen/Hart: Athletic Co-op

The athletic co-op is in place for the 2023-2024 school year. The board had a brief discussion on the future of the sports co-op and no decisions were made and will be discussed at the regular March meeting.

Motion 2023-074 Motion by Ellwein, second by Sumption to appoint Hart and Achen to serve on the Building Committee. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-075 Motion by Achen, second by Ellwein to approve a \$400.00 bonus to all non-certified staff to be paid February 2023 payroll. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Extra-Curricular activities were discussed. The board suggested that administration survey students on what their extra-curricular activity interests are.

Motion 2023-076 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen to adopt the 2023-2024 School Calendar. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The educational structure for 2023-2024 was discussed.

Motion 2023-077 Motion by Sumption, second by Ellwein to approve the following Open Enrollments: SY2223-13, SY2223-14, SY2223-15 and SY2324-1. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-078 Motion by Sumption, second by Hart to accept the resignations from Michelle Sumption and Thersia Cox. The board acknowledged appreciation for the time they spent working with the staff and students at Frederick Area School District. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

The board would like to recognize and congratulate the students who participated in the Region Music Contest and achieved seven Superiors and three Excellent awards. Congratulations to the Junior High Math Counts team who placed 3rd and will be attending the state competition - Titus Kippley, Jayden Ellwein, Katelyn Bretsch and Jax Holmes. Administration thanked the School Board for School Board Recognition Month.

Motion 2023-079 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to go into executive session at 7:27 p.m. for SDCL 1-25-2 (1) Personnel. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Schlosser declared the board out of executive session at 8:53 p.m.

Action 2023-080 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to renew Administrative contracts for 2023-2024. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Motion 2023-081 Motion by Ellwein, second by Hart to go into executive session at 9:00 p.m. for SDCL 1-25-2 (2) Student Matter. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Schlosser declared the board out of executive session at 9:16 p.m.

Motion 2023-082 Motion by Ellwein, second by Achen to adjourn at 9:16 p.m. All voted Aye. Motion carried.

Rich Schlosser, President
Shauna Severson, Business Manager

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Four Groton Area wrestlers head to state

Four Groton Area wrestlers will advance to the state tournament after placing in the Region 1B Tournament held at Sioux Valley on Saturday. Christian Ehresmann is the Region 1B champion at 138 pounds after pinning all three of his opponents. Korbin Kucker placed second at 160 pounds, Cole Bisbee took third place at 170 pounds and Walker Zoellner placed fourth at 120 pounds.

The state tournament will be held February 23-25 at The Monument in Rapid City.

106: Lincoln Krause (1-11)

* Quarterfinal - Cooper Pommer (Clark/Willow Lake) 34-4 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 1-11 (Fall 0:34)

* Cons. Round 1 - Lane Stuwe (Potter County) 28-23 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 1-11 (Fall 0:25)

120: Walker Zoellner (21-15) placed 4th and scored 14.0 team points.

* Champ. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 received a bye () (Bye)

* Quarterfinal - Austin Vig (Clark/Willow Lake) 19-17 won by fall over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 (Fall 3:57)

* Cons. Round 2 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 won by decision over David Lopez (Redfield) 2-8 (Dec 7-2)

* Cons. Round 3 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 won by fall over Tyson Hagberg (Deuel/Deubrook Area) 7-24 (Fall 2:27)

* Cons. Semi - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 won by disqualification over Brady Unser (Ipswich/Bowdle) 22-10 (DQ)

* 3rd Place Match - Austin Vig (Clark/Willow Lake) 19-17 won by injury default over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 21-15 (Inj. 0:00)

126: Kellen Antonson (4-16)

* Champ. Round 1 - Gannon Gilligan (Kingsbury County) 34-5 won by fall over Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-16 (Fall 1:27)

* Cons. Round 1 - Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-16 received a bye () (Bye)

* Cons. Round 2 - Payton Moore (Redfield) 17-20 won by fall over Kellen Antonson (Groton Area) 4-16 (Fall 0:48)

132: Tristan McGannon (2-19)

* Quarterfinal - Jaxon Quail (Deuel/Deubrook Area) 30-12 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-19 (Fall 1:11)

* Cons. Round 1 - John Boothe (Redfield) 6-12 won by fall over Tristan McGannon (Groton Area) 2-19 (Fall 2:48)

138: Christian Ehresmann (33-3) placed 1st and scored 28.0 team points.

* Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-3 received a bye () (Bye)

* Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-3 won by fall over Tate Everson (Hamlin/Castlewood) 19-22 (Fall 1:20)

* Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-3 won by fall over Clayton Dulany (Warner/Northwestern) 38-13 (Fall 3:22)

* 1st Place Match - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 33-3 won by fall over Josh Kannegieter (Clark/Willow Lake) 23-8 (Fall 2:39)

145: Nick Morris (5-18)

* Champ. Round 1 - Brock Gisselbeck (Hamlin/Castlewood) 33-12 won by fall over Nick Morris (Groton Area) 5-18 (Fall 1:39)

* Cons. Round 1 - Nick Morris (Groton Area) 5-18 received a bye () (Bye)

* Cons. Round 2 - Charlie Dulany (Warner/Northwestern) 17-10 won by fall over Nick Morris (Groton Area) 5-18 (Fall 0:35)

152: Easten Ekern (4-18)

* Champ. Round 1 - Elliot Bratland (Clark/Willow Lake) 19-9 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 4-18 (Fall 1:15)

* Cons. Round 1 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 4-18 received a bye () (Bye)

* Cons. Round 2 - Collin Beaner (Britton-Hecla) 26-14 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 4-18 (Fall 0:58)

160: Korbin Kucker (11-4) placed 2nd and scored 19.0 team points.

* Champ. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-4 received a bye () (Bye)

* Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-4 won by major decision over Braeden Johnson (Clark/Willow Lake) 7-20 (MD 9-0)

* Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-4 won by decision over Tucker Anderson (Kingsbury County) 20-18 (Dec 3-2)

* 1st Place Match - Carter Luikens (Potter County) 24-12 won by fall over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 11-4 (Fall 1:01)

170: Cole Bisbee (22-14) placed 3rd and scored 16.0 team points.

* Quarterfinal - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 22-14 won by fall over Andrew Gunderson (Sioux Valley) 11-22 (Fall 1:24)

* Semifinal - Drake Mueller (Faulkton Area) 24-19 won by decision over Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 22-14 (Dec 7-6)

* Cons. Semi - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 22-14 won by fall over Conner Glines (Britton-Hecla) 13-17 (Fall 2:54)

* 3rd Place Match - Cole Bisbee (Groton Area) 22-14 won by decision

over Dylan Murray (Redfield) 18-22 (Dec 5-2)

220: Gavin Englund (6-18)

* Quarterfinal - Chase McGillivray (Redfield) 22-5 won by fall over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 6-18 (Fall 1:58)

* Cons. Round 1 - Sage Hermann (Potter County) 14-24 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 6-18 (Dec 4-2)

Tigers have clean sweep over Florence-Henry



Paul Kosel (right) presented Boys Coach Brian Dolan with a brush for Tiger's clean sweep win over Florence-Henry on Saturday.

(Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM)

Groton Area had a 10-point run and a 15-point run to defeat Florence-Henry in boys basketball action played Saturday in Groton. It was part of a five-game day as the Tigers came away with a clean sweep for the day.

The Tigers led after the first quarter, 13-11, at halftime, 31-14, and after three quarters of play, 48-20.

Eleven was the magic number as four players scored 11 points on the night with three from Groton Area and one from Florence-Henry.

Jacob Zak had 11 points, seven rebounds, two assists, two steals and three blocks. Lane Tietz had 11 points, one rebound and one assist. Taylor Diegel had 11 points, one rebound, and four steals. Ryder Johnson had nine points, three rebounds, one assist and one steal. Cole Simon had six points, three assists and one steal. Tate Larson had six points, seven rebounds, one assist and one steal. Keegan Tracy had four points, one rebound and two steals. Braxton Imrie had two points and two rebounds. Cade Larson had two assists. Logan Ringgenberg, Gage Sippel and Holden Sippel each had one rebound.

Groton Area made 23 of 36 two-pointers for 64 percent, three of 13 three-pointers for 23 percent, five of 19 free throws for 56 percent, had 25 rebounds, six turnovers, 10 assists, 11 steals, 12 fouls and three blocks.

Mehki Keller led the Falcons with 11 points followed by Tegan Sumner with seven, Ty Bergh had four, Adam Moe three, Peyton Roe two and James Schroeder one.

Florence-Henry made 11 of 39 field goals for 28 percent, three of seven free throws for 47 percent, and seven team fouls and 15 turnovers.

Broadcast sponsors for the varsity game were Bahr Spray Foam, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

The boys won the junior varsity game, 60-35. The game was tied once and there were four lead changes early in the contest. Groton Area held an 8-7 lead after the first quarter. Trailing 10-8, the Tigers went on an 14-point run to take a 22-10 lead and led at halftime, 22-12. Groton Area took a 39-24 lead into the fourth quarter.

Ryder Johnson led the Tigers with 15 points followed by Keegan Tracy with eight, Colby Dunker and Teylor Diegel each had six points, Holden Sippel five, and adding four points apiece were Braxton Imrie, Dillon Abeln, Gage Sippel, Logan Ringgenberg and Logan Pearson.

Caron Vavruska led the Falcons with 19 points while Logan Vavruska had eight, Tate Hartley five and James Schroeder added four points.

The junior varsity game broadcast was sponsored by Steve and Betty Dunker.

Groton Area won the C game, 41-20. Groton held a 14-3 first quarter lead and a 20-8 lead at half time. Late in the third quarter, the Falcons came within nine points, 29-20, but then the Tigers would score the last 12 points of the game to get the win.

Gage Sippel and Turner Thompson each had 12 points for Groton Area while Carter Simon and Caden McInerney each had four points, Jayden Schwan had three, and adding two points apiece were Blake Pauli, Keegan Harry and Ben Hoeft.

The seventh grade team won its game, 54-12. Groton Area led at the quarter stops at 17-4, 30-4 and 43-9.

Scoring for Groton Area: Easten Weber 16, Ryder Schelle 8, Ethan Kroll 8, Karson Zak 7, Alex Abeln 7, Jace Johnson 4 and Braeden Flihs 4.

The eighth graders won their game, 48-15, leading at the quarter stops at 11-8, 20-10 and 35-15.

Scoring for Groton Area: Karson Zak 25, Easten Weber 11, Ryder Schelle 8, Blake Lord 2, Easten Weber. 2

Both junior high games and the C game were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by GDI.

Clean Sweep Hall of Fame

by Paul Kosel

Dale Flihs came up to me yesterday and said I should be carrying around a broom. It caught me off guard and asked why? He said with all of the clean sweep games we've been having. We both laughed and had our little joke.

But when I sat down, I started thinking about. The more I thought, the more I became obsessed with this clean sweep idea. While I was on the air I started letting my thoughts get aired out. I said wouldn't it be cool to present Coach Dolan with a little brush or broom if we happen to win all five games on Saturday. Well, someone was listening! Emma Schinkel brought up this little brush and told Jeslyn that someone had given it to her and to give to me. I couldn't believe it. I couldn't wait to make the presentation. I was so excited!

We won the final game so we had a clean sweep. This was going to be the big moment. My big presentation to Coach Dolan. Of course, he had to talk about my wild shirt. Then I said I had a special presentation for him. Dolan is always so quick with come-backs, but when I presented him with the clean-sweep brush, he was actually speechless for a moment. I said that the Clean Sweep Hall of Fame has started in Groton. Oh my!

On Friday we host Aberdeen Christian with a three-game slate. I will be bringing another brush along so if we win all three games, I can present my second clean-sweep brush to Dolan.

Tiger basketball teams have clean sweep over Britton-Hecla

Groton Area basketball teams had a clean sweep of Britton-Hecla Friday night in Britton.

Cole Simon was on fire in the boys varsity game, having 21 points, five steals and three assists in what Coach Brian Dolan said was his best game of the season. Simon had a near perfect night, making four of four two-pointers, four of five three-pointers and one of one from the line. The Tigers defeated Britton-Hecla, 70-35, leading at the quarters tops at 22-9, 43-20 and 57-26.

Jacob Zak had 13 points, two rebounds and one assist. Lane Tietz had eight points, four assists, three steals and one block. Tate Larson had seven points, three rebounds, three assists and two steals. Taylor Diegel had six points, one rebound, one assist and one steal. Logan Ringgenberg had six points, three rebounds, one steal and one block shot. Keegan Tracy had three points and two assists. Ryder Johnson had two points, two rebounds, one assist and two steals. Gage Sippel and Holden Sippel each had two points. Cade Larson had two rebounds, one assist, one steal and one block shot. Braxton Imrie had one assist.

Groton Area made 20 of 25 two-pointers for 80 percent, eight of 17 three-pointers for 47 percent, six of eight free throws for 75 percent, had 13 rebounds, 10 turnovers, 17 assists, 14 team fouls and three block shots. Britton-Hecla had 20 turnovers, 15 of which were steals.

BoDell Davidson led the Braves with seven points followed by Daniel Person with five, Landon Carlson and Ashton Mills each had four points, Gage Storley and Jaxon Zuehlke each had three points, Ty Fagerland, Wyatt Tosse, Dawson Treeby and William Richter each had two points and William Schuller added a free throw.

The Braves made 10 of 22 field goals for 45 percent, 11 of 14 free throws for 78 percent and had eight team fouls.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 63-29. No one hit double figures but 15 of 16 players scored for Groton Area. Scoring was as follows: Gage Sippel 7, Braxton Imrie 6, Keegan Tracy 6, Dillon Abeln 5, Caden McInerney 5, Taylor Diegel 4, Ryder Johnson 4, Holden Sippel 4, Colby Dunker 4, Turner Thompson 4, Logan Warrington 3, Logan Ringgenberg 2, Carter Simon 2, Logan Pearson 2 and Blake Pauli 1. Grandpa sponsored the junior varsity on GDILIVE.COM.

In the girls varsity game, the Lady Tigers had a 26-point run to take a 35-6 lead en route to a 53-29 win. Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 17-6, 33-6 and 44-17.

Sydney Leicht led the Tigers with 14 points, three rebounds and two steals. Jaedyn Penning had seven points, five rebounds, one assist and two steals. Kennedy Hansen had six points, two rebounds and three assists. Rylee Dunker had five points, three rebounds and one steal. Brooklyn Hansen

had five points and one steal. Brooke Gengerke had four points, two rebounds and two steals. Laila Roberts had three points, two rebounds and two steals. Mia Crank had three points and three rebounds. Aspen Johnson had two points and three rebounds. Jerica Locke had two points, three rebounds, six assists and six steals. Emily Clark had two points. Faith Traphagen had five rebounds and four steals. Elizabeth Flihs and Talli Wright each had two rebounds and one assist.

Groton Area made 16 of 48 two-pointers for 33 percent, three of 15 three-pointers for 20 percent, 12 of 19 free throws for 63 percent, had 35 rebounds, 16 turnovers, 12 assists and 12 team fouls. Britton-Hecla had 24 turnovers, 20 of which were steals by the Tigers.

Tiyanna Schott led the Braves with nine points followed by Sterling Brassfield with eight, Alyssa James had five, Jayden Bender three and Heather Storbakken and Annika Tank each had two points.

Britton-Hecla made 13 of 40 field goals for 33 percent, five of 12 free throws for 42 percent and had 15 team fouls.

The Lady Tigers won the junior varsity game, 42-13. Elizabeth Flihs led Groton Area with 10 points followed by Taryn Traphagen with seven, Kennedy Hansen had five, Laila Roberts and Brooklyn Hansen each had four points and McKenna Tietz, Mia Crank and Emily Clark each had two points.

Anne Jensen led the Braves with seven points. Rich & Tami Zimney sponsored the game on GDILIVE.COM.

Varsity games sponsors were Bahr Spray Foam, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber of Commerce, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Locke Electric, Milbrandt Enterprises Inc., Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Thunder Seed with John Wheeting.

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League

Team Standings: Shihtzus – 6, Foxes – 6, Chipmunks – 5, Coyotes – 4, Jackelopes – 2, Cheetahs – 1

Men's High Games: Lance Frohling – 222, 221, Aaron Severson – 211, Brad Waage – 181, 181, Ryan Sperry – 181

Women's High Games: Alexa Schuring – 180, Sue Stanley – 179, Vicki Walter – 172

Men's High Series: Lance Frohling – 605, Brad Waage – 531, Aaron Severson – 496

Women's High Series: Sue Stanley – 477, Vicki Walter – 169, Alexa Schuring – 423

Fun Game – Most 8 Spares – Chipmunks with 14!



The storm was winding up on Tuesday. The blizzard warning is set to start on Wednesday, Feb. 22. School was dismissed at noon on Tuesday and called off on Wednesday.



Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Feb. 22, 2023 ♦ 7

Dear EarthTalk: What is the "30x30 Initiative" for conservation all about?

— Mary S., Albany, NY

Put simply, the goal of the 30x30 Initiative is the conservation of 30 percent of terrestrial and marine habitat across the globe by 2030. The High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, an intergovernmental organization for the protection of nature, first proposed the initiative in 2020 and got 50 nations including the U.S. to sign on. Since then, the 30x30 Initiative has grown rapidly, with 100 signatories in 2021 (when it was signed at the COP 15 Convention on Biological Diversity). By the end of 2022, over 190 countries were enlisted in the battle for conservation.

But why the sudden focus on conservation? "Biodiversity is essential for the processes that support all life on earth, including humans," reports the Royal Society, the UK's independent scientific academy. If one species dies off, others that feed on it will go hungry, and this withering works its way along the food

chain until it reaches us, humans. And it won't only affect our health. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), biodiversity loss can "affect livelihoods, income, local migration and ... may even cause or exacerbate political conflict."

Wildlife conservation can be as simple as introducing legal protection of the land, halting excessive human activity, and a large helping of what the Rewilding Institute calls "benign neglect." In other areas, the process is more intensive, requiring the reconstruction of land, and the (re)planting of flora. The larger the mass of land for conservation, the more complex it becomes, encompassing land politics and ownership rights as well as purely logistical hurdles.

In America, adhering to the 30x30 framework would mean saving an area twice the size of Texas. As a step towards this goal, Biden's administration has deployed the 'America the Beautiful' program. The importance of getting landowners engaged is clear, with the initiative's pledge of "listening and learning from the families and communities that know and care for American lands."

Scaling this kind of planning and implementation across more than 190 countries will be quite a daunting task. In the U.S., 80 percent of voters were behind Biden's 'America the Beautiful' initiative, whereas public support for such initiatives in less developed, less wealthy nations is another matter entirely. To wit, in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a country that contains natural diversity of vast importance to global conservation efforts, biodiverse forests provide sustenance and



The High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People first proposed the 30x30 Initiative in 2020 and these days some 190 countries have signed on to participate.

security for over 40 million of its inhabitants. Conserving these forests in DRC, one of the five poorest nations on the planet, is quite a challenge when so many locals derive their livings from it.

While, for some, the complexity of the issues the 30x30 initiative has confirms its ambitiousness, it also has its skeptics. For Brian O'Donnell, the director of the Campaign for Nature, 30x30 should be considered a "floor not a ceiling." Likewise, the large group of scientists following biologist E.O. Wilson's theory believes that half of the earth should be protected to stifle the downward spiral following biodiversity loss. The jury remains out on whether or not 30x30 will be enough to protect our climate, but what they all agree on is the importance of conservation for the survival of life on Earth.

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"Is All High Blood Pressure Hypertension?"

Many people find themselves being told, "your blood pressure is pretty high today!" You might be at the dentist's office for a filling, in the emergency room getting stitches after an avocado mishap, or maybe you're at your annual physical appointment. If you've never had high blood pressure you might be surprised at this news! Sometimes my own patients will call my office after such an event, "Doc, should I be on blood pressure medication?"

When we get these calls our typical answer is: maybe, but maybe not. Blood pressure is a dynamic measurement, affected by many things including adrenaline and other stress hormones. If you measure the blood pressure of healthy people who are in stressful circumstances, you will often find it to be high. This can certainly be true in healthcare settings – have you ever felt stressed or anxious when you are hurt in the ER or sitting in a dental chair? I will advise these patients to come into our office and check their blood pressure under less duress; oftentimes it will be normal and reassuring.

Sometimes, though, the stressful circumstance is our primary care office, the very place we try to screen for high blood pressure. Some patients have elevated blood pressure in their primary care provider's office but not at home or elsewhere; this is often referred to as "white coat hypertension." The only way to know for sure, though, is to check blood pressure at home or outside the clinic visit.

If a hypothetical adult patient, who is feeling well and has never before had hypertension, comes to their annual physical and has a blood pressure of 155/90, the first step is to repeat it after a period of 5-10 minutes of quiet rest. If it is still elevated we will arrange to check resting blood pressures at home or in a series of lower stakes visits to the clinic with a nurse.

The diagnosis of hypertension and decisions about treatment should be made if the average of those resting blood pressures are above the threshold for recommended treatment. Of course, if a patient truly does have hypertension we want to initiate lifestyle interventions and possibly medication to reduce the long-term risk of poor health outcomes. But when it comes to high blood pressure, it is rarely an emergency, and often collecting more data is better.

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




Based on Science, Built on Trust

Kelly Evans-Hullinger, M.D..