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The Groton Independent

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Wrestling coach addition approved, health service discussed at Groton Area school board meeting

by Elizabeth Varin

The growing Groton Area wrestling team will now have another leader for those on the mat.

The Groton Area School District board approved hiring a junior high wrestling coach in addition to the two high school wrestling coaches.

Wrestling has been growing through the past few years, with 26 total kids this school year, said Head Wrestling Coach Darin Zoellner. And predictions for next year include more than a dozen junior high student wrestlers.

"Wrestling is kind of a unique sport where junior high is with varsity," Zoellner said. "It's like having your high school football teams all in one room."

There are some junior high students who have never wrestled, he said. It's hard to work with those at the beginner level all the way to state tournament-level athletes at one time. Groton Area is also growing in the number of female wrestlers joining the team.

In the past, the coaches and athletes have had to rely volunteers and parents to help at tournaments and trips, he said. While varsity-level tournaments usually only have a couple of wrestling matches at a time, junior high and junior varsity tournaments can have more matches at the same time. It becomes more likely multiple Groton athletes will be wrestling at the same time.

"However hard you try, you're going to miss something," he said.

Zoellner asked the board to hire a junior high wrestling coach for next year.

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Aurora Borealis

It was a most spectacular display of the Aurora Borealis, or the Northern Lights Sunday night. This photo taken by Jeslyn Kosel shows the various colors of the lights on display as they danced through the sky.

The sun had a solar flare erupt on Friday that was directed toward Earth, according to the NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center. As a result, 30 states had the chance to see the aurora borealis, stretching from Washington to Maine, and as far south as Kansas, the Space Weather Watch says.

Communications vital in keeping buses safe on the routes

by Dorene Nelson

Melting snow and brown grass turning green are promising signs of spring, but even these welcome signs don't mean that all is great and perfect for the seven school bus drivers for the Groton Area School District.

Obviously during the winter months with deep snow banks, windy conditions, and poor visibility, driving can be difficult for even the most experienced drivers. Driving a school bus full of school-age children can be even more challenging!

According to the Groton bus drivers, this job would be impossible without great communication with the parents. The parents call the bus drivers to let them know whether the road is open or not and if they will bring their children to the bus or all the way into Groton.

All of the bus drivers mentioned that good cooperation, communication, and help from the parents were the key to this vital job of delivering the children to school safely every day!

Two of Groton's bus drivers, Debbie Tietz and Randy Hjernstad, have a combined total of over 70 years of driving children to school every day!

New to the bus transportation business is Manager Damian Bahr. "I also share driving the bus route to Claremont and Houghton with Mike Nehls," Bahr said.

"Prior to becoming the transportation manager, I had been in law enforcement for twenty-one years, primarily as an investigator," he explained. "Due to the nature of the job, I'd receive phone calls at all hours of the day or night!"

"The biggest problem I had with this is the irregular hours, interrupting my kids' birthday parties, Christmas celebrations, etc.," Bahr listed. "My time with my family was never guaranteed!"

"I really appreciate the regular hours that I have here," he admitted. "I'm in charge of seven bus routes with five full time and three



Joann Donley, Don Donley, Damian Bahr, Butch Farnen, Joel Guthmiller, Randy Hjernstad, Deb Tietz, Adam Franken. (Photo compliments of Kristi Peterson, Assistant Business Manager and yearbook advisor.)

part-time drivers. I am sure there are many reasons for bus driver shortages, but the main cause is the extra difficulty in securing a CDL license which every school bus driver needs."

"The Groton Area School District buses drive a total of 451 miles a day in four counties (Brown, Marshall, Spink, and Day), providing transportation for 234 students," Bahr listed.

"Damian and I have the longest route of eighty-eight miles but pick up only eighteen students, the fewest number of any other route," explained Mike Nehls. "Damian makes the morning run while I do the afternoon trip."

Don Donley, the industrial technology teacher, has driven a school bus for the Groton school district since 1971, with a break when teachers

weren't allowed to drive. "However, when the ever-present shortage of available drivers became apparent," Donley explained, "I was soon asked to drive again and have ever since."

"My route is to stop at the gas station at Bath Corner where I pick up several passengers," he said. "Then I go north to Mallard Pass and south to Sperry Lane and pick up children from additional families."

"I drive the school bus for about 2 dozen students every day," Donley smiled. "I rather enjoy the chance to drive in the country and help out any way I can."

Adam Franken, the ag teacher/FFA advisor, has been a route driver for about ten years. "I've always driven the bus for the cross country events and for FFA but added this route to my list of daily responsibilities, sharing the job with Butch Farnen."

"I make the after-school drive while Adam does the morning one," explained Butch Farnen. "That arrangement gives both of us the opportunity to do our regular jobs with the school."

Continues on Page 5

There must be cadillacs in heaven

That's the heck of it. The longer one treads upon this firmament, the more friends you lose. That, I wrote long ago, is why we look back at childhood so fondly. We haven't suffered life's inevitable loses.

We gathered last week in the Ashley Baptist Church to say goodbye to Donny Dockter, a big room full of heartbeats beating together, rhythmic applause for a big man.

Afterward, I thought about the increasing number of eulogies I've written, but recalled what his son Jason called it—a celebration of his life. I rather like that more modern perspective. And I was reminded that we ought to deliver our bouquets to the living. But in my defense, had I done this sooner, Donny would have been impossible to live with.

There were lots of Docker boys in the front pews, the bloodline evident, and I don't know if there was a wide receiver in the bunch but I'd put that offensive line up against anyone's.

Dad thought a lot of Donny. The family connection goes back decades. Mom reminded me of the Christmas I got a racetrack. Donny and Dad stayed up until 2 a.m. assembling and playing with it while Mom and Shirley rubbed bleary eyes.

Donny was a car guy. Specifically, Cadillacs, and he was disdainful of any other "piece of sh--." He should have been buried in an Eldorado. I didn't look closely, but I wonder if the casket didn't have a hood ornament.

He was opinionated, a progressive in a conservative community, but when he sat down over coffee with a half dozen Republicans to argue politics, I'd say it was a fair fight.

So, there was more than a familial connection. Heck, I was accused just last week, at a very high volume, of being—gasp!—a Democrat. Which around here is either one step above or one step below a Commie.

I sat beside Donny at a ballgame not so long ago. The game was broadcast by a local cooperative, and we were spotted at home by the Delzers. "Look," Jimmy said to Marie, "It's a quorum."

Donny was more conservative than he might have admitted. Old school work ethic. A traditionalist. Certainly no tofu-eating flower child. The flag-draped coffin bore testament to his patriotism and service to country. A no-nonsense kind of guy. I saw the evidence.

As kids, my cousin Rodney Meidinger, the Delzer boys, and Todd Dockter, spent hours on a raft constructed of railroad ties. This was when Todd was about a yardstick high and not a left tackle. I still don't know if Todd fell into that slough at the edge of town or Donny just got wind of our Huck Finn escapades, but I remember he took an ax to that raft. I still resent that.

Fast-forward. Todd is now the Street and Water Supervisor for the City of Ashley, and I'm guessing he never fell in at the treatment plant because Donny might have chopped it down.

I'll guess that Donny was a strict father. He

once yelled at me from the window of his Caddy for walking in the middle of the street, and I sassed back that he had no jurisdiction over me.

And lived. I count that as a near-death experience.

He and Shirley—an itty-bitty little thing—must have done OK as parents, though. They raised good sons. Jason was Dylan's Industrial Arts instructor, a loquacious storyteller, and the single biggest reason Dylan could be dragged to school at all. As he prefaced his eulogy, Jason noted, "My brothers have me on a timer."

Jason described Donny's life as one lived "pedal to the metal." His occupations changed over the years. He worked for DOT, worked at an elevator like my dad, sold cars and tractors, and raised cattle. He was an excavator, plumber, and septic tank pumper when he retired. It was the only time Donny took any crap from anyone.

He worked hard. If he'd been a miner he'd have been Big Bad Don. He laughed big, too. I imagine I'll think about him, if spring ever comes, when I mow around the railroad tie retaining walls he muscled in to abate our drainage issues two decades past.

And when I see a Cadillac. If they don't have Cadillacs in heaven, Donny's going to raise hell, and if, God help me, I ever buy a Prius, I won't need windshield wipers for the rain. It will be Donny spitting down. He was a liberal, but he wasn't a purist.

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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright
The NFL Draft is here, and in a few short days, we'll learn what new pieces the Minnesota Vikings have added to the roster. The Vikings currently have five draft picks (#23, #87, #119, #158, and #211), but there is always potential to add more through trading players like Dalvin Cook and Za'Darius Smith or moving down in the draft. The first round of the draft will be Thursday, April 27 at 7 p.m. (CT), rounds two and three will be on Friday at 7 p.m. (CT), and rounds four through seven will be Saturday starting at noon (CT).

Part of the appeal of the draft is how unpredictable it can be, as player grades can vary wildly from team to team and a team's player rankings are a closely guarded secret. You will undoubtedly hear about players who "fell" in the draft (which just means the media was much higher on a player than teams were) and players who were "reaches" (which happens when the media is too low on a player compared to where a team had them ranked). With that said, let's take a look at the draft with an eye on what to expect from the Vikings.

Mock drafts are all over the place when it comes to the Vikings, but the most commonly mocked player to the Vikings is quarterback Hendon Hooker from Tennessee. Hooker tore his ACL the past November, so he wasn't able to participate in the combine and show off his athletic ability. He was, however, able to inter-



That's Life

by Tony Bender

view with teams and reports indicate teams were impressed with his football IQ. If the Vikings draft Hooker in the first round, he will have the luxury of sitting behind Kirk Cousins for a year, rehabbing his injury and learning the playbook.

It makes sense for the Vikings to draft a quarterback, as Cousins is in the final year of his contract and will be 35 years old when the season starts. It's unlikely the Vikings would be able to move up and draft either Bryce Young or CJ Stroud (the top two QBs in the draft). The next tier of QBs includes Hooker, Will Levis from Kentucky, and Anthony Richardson from Florida. All three quarterbacks have high potential, but come with some risk. Hooker, as was mentioned above, has a high football IQ but is coming off a knee injury and is 25 years old so there is a risk he has already reached his ceiling. Levis is a big, strong QB in the mold of Josh Allen of the Buffalo Bills, but his accuracy was dreadful at times in college. Richardson is extremely athletic, running a blazing fast 4.43-second 40-yard dash, but also comes with concerns about his accuracy.

While QB will eventually need to be addressed, the Vikings have other positions of need that will need to be addressed immediately. Cornerback is the most glaring, as there are no proven veterans in the group now that Patrick Peterson is gone. Defensive line, linebacker, and wide receiver are also areas of concern that the Vikings could look to fix through the draft. Here are some names to keep an eye on at those positions:

Cornerback – just like QB, the top two CBs will likely be off the board by the time the Vikings' pick rolls around. Likely available at #23 are Deonte Banks from Maryland, Joey Porter Jr. from Penn State, and Emmanuel Forbes from Mississippi State. Personally, I like Joey Porter Jr. as he is the biggest of the three and thrives as a press corner (which is a staple of new defensive coordinator Brian Flores).

Defensive line – There is a possibility the top defensive tackle in the draft, Jalen Carter from Georgia, drops in the draft because of some legal issues that popped up this spring (misdemeanor charges of reckless driving and racing in connection to a Jan. 15 car crash). Carter is a top-5 talent, and if he drops the Vikings should immediately pounce. Another prospect who should be around when the Vikings pick is Calijah Kancey from Pittsburgh. Kancey is small for a DT (6'1", 281lbs.) but he is extremely athletic and would remind Vikings fans of John Randle. Mazi Smith from Michigan and Bryan Breese from Clemson are two other top DTs, but the Vikings could likely trade down and get them later in the draft.

Linebacker – With Eric Kendricks gone, the Vikings need help at the linebacker position. No elite linebackers are coming out in the draft this year, which means the Vikings will not likely grab one in the first round. The third round seems to be the sweet spot for linebackers in this draft, and some names to keep an eye on are Daiyan Henley from Washington State, Trenton Simpson from Clemson, and Noah Sewell from Oregon. My personal favorite from that group is Sewell. Like his brother Penei who also went to Oregon and is now a standout offensive tackle in Detroit, Noah is extremely strong and has great instincts. He would bring some much-needed physicality to the Vikings' revamped defense.

Wide receiver – Duane and Jack did a great job writing about the receivers in this upcoming draft, so I won't go too far in depth here. Some names to watch are Jaxon Smith-Njigba from Ohio State, Jordan Addison from USC, Quentin Johnson from TCU, and Zay Flowers from Boston College. Addison won the Biletnikoff Award in 2021 when he was in Pittsburgh but had a "down" year after transferring to USC for the 2022 season. The other receiver I like is Quentin Johnson, who is the biggest of the first-round WRs (6'3", 208lbs.), so he would be a great red zone threat while also having enough speed to keep defenses honest.

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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

Justice Chase's Impeachment and Judicial Independence

In its first and only impeachment trial of a Supreme Court justice, the U.S. Senate in 1805 acquitted Samuel Chase of charges against him, a historic decision that raises profoundly important questions about judicial independence and accountability and illuminates the challenges facing Justice Clarence Thomas.

American politics, fraught with heated partisan divisions, had reached a fever pitch in the early 19th century when Justice Chase was brought before the bar of the Senate. Thomas Jefferson, leader of the Republicans, had defeated the Federalist incumbent John Adams in the Election of 1800, the most acrimonious presidential race in the young nation's history.

Three decisions marked 1803 as one of the most important years in American history for judicial power, the Supreme Court and American Constitutionalism. Each one exacerbated the partisan tensions that characterized the political landscape.

In 1803, the Supreme Court, led by Chief Justice John Marshall, an ardent Federalist, delivered a landmark ruling — Marbury v. Madison — in which the Court, for the first time, exercised the power of judicial review. The action instilled in many Jeffersonian Republicans a deep fear that the Federalist-dominated Court would abuse its power to control the legislative and executive branches.

In 1803, the Jeffersonian controlled Congress impeached, and convicted, Federal Judge John Pickering, an action that foreshadowed grounds for the impeachment of Justice Chase.

Pickering, a strong Federalist, was removed from office by the Senate, which concluded that his habitual intoxication on the bench rendered him unfit to perform his judicial duties. The Article III requirement of "good behavior" as the standard for holding a judgeship implied that a judge might be removed for "misbehavior." Pickering's drunkenness, it was reasoned, constituted misconduct within the scope of "high crimes and misdemeanors," a constitutional offense that warranted impeachment and removal.

The choice of Pickering for the first judicial impeachment was a clever and strategic move for the Republicans. It was easily defended on grounds that a judge should be above reproach and, with the removal of a district judge, the way was paved to hunt bigger game.

On May 2, 1803, Justice Chase, riding circuit as Judge Chase, placed his fate in the hands of the Republicans when he delivered an inflammatory charge to a grand jury in Baltimore, barely two months after

the initiation of impeachment proceedings against Judge Pickering and the delivery of Chief Justice Marshall's opinion in Marbury v. Madison. Chase knew there could not have been a more inopportune time to vent his Federalist opinions, which included denunciations of the Jeffersonians and their intention to bring down constitutional principles and republican values. Henry Adams was right when he said that if there was one judge in the United States who "should have known the peril in which the judiciary stood, it was Justice Samuel Chase of Maryland, who had done more than all the other judges to exasperate the democratic majority."

Chase's misbehavior on the bench was notorious. He had driven eminent lawyers from his courtroom and outraged the public and distinguished members of the bar by his conduct of trials. He made little effort to hide his Federalist sympathies and contempt for Republicans.

Judge Chase's conduct of sedition trials, said Adams, "had strained the law in order to convict for the government." Chase's zeal had carried him so far in the trial of John Fries that President John Adams felt constrained to pardon Fries to save him from the gallows. His misbehavior suggested to scholars that he was more a hangman than a judge.

Chase was indicted by the House on eight articles of impeachment. The most damaging of the articles were those relating to his conduct of the trial of James Callender under the Sedition Act of 1798. They alleged that Judge Chase prejudged Callender's guilt, that he maliciously and illegally excluded testimony by a defense witness, that he refused to discharge a juror who, before trial, admitted that he had a predisposition to find the defendant guilty, and that he had been intolerably rude to the defendant's attorneys. In sum, he had conducted himself in a manner "highly disgraceful to the character of a judge."

In Federalist No. 65, Alexander Hamilton asked: "Who would be willing to stake his life and his estate upon the verdict of a jury acting under the auspices of judges who had predetermined his guilt?" Despite the lengthy and credible charges of impeachment against Judge Chase, the Senate, under the control of the Jeffersonians, nevertheless acquitted Chase on every charge. Ironically, the Republicans held enough seats to cross the threshold requirement of two-thirds of the chamber to convict Chase and remove him from the Court.

What explains the refusal of the Jeffersonians to convict Chase? In a word, the admiration of judicial independence and its importance in our constitutional scheme. In addition, Jefferson was given the opportunity to appoint new judges which, in the estimation of party members, was bringing the precious element of balance to the federal judiciary. And, it should be noted, nobody discounted the fact that Chase was widely regarded as hero of the American Revolution. He fought the Stamp Act and other oppressive measures enacted by Parliament, and he had signed the Declaration of Independence. Chase's heroics saved him from conviction and removal.

Bradin of Groton Area Tigers Varsity Shuts Out Oldham-Ramona/Rutland/Arlington Varsity Rebels

Bradin Althoff had all the right stuff on Sunday for Groton Area Tigers Varsity, allowing zero runs and besting Oldham-Ramona/Rutland/Arlington Varsity Rebels by a score of 10-0

Groton Area Tigers Varsity tallied four runs in the third inning. Tate Larson, Cade Larson, Dillon Abeln, and Braxton Imrie each had RBIs in the frame.

One bright spot for Oldham-Ramona/Rutland/Arlington Varsity Rebels was a double by Brock Eppe in the fifth inning.

Althoff was credited with the victory for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. The lefty allowed one hit and zero runs over six innings, striking out four and walking one.

Boyd Pooler took the loss for Oldham-Ramona/Rutland/Arlington Varsity Rebels. The righthander went five and a third innings, allowing ten runs on 13 hits, striking out two and walking zero.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity racked up 13 hits. Abeln, Larson, Logan Ringgenberg, and Althoff all collected multiple hits for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. Larson and Abeln each managed three hits to lead Groton Area Tigers Varsity. Groton Area Tigers Varsity didn't commit a single error in the field. Imrie had four chances in the field, the most on the team.

Eppe led Oldham-Ramona/Rutland/Arlington Varsity Rebels with one hit in two at bats.

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The Groton Independent

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School Board

Continued from front

"Do you have someone in mind?" asked Board Member TJ Harder.

Zoellner replied that he has spoken with three people who seem interested and will likely apply if a position were made available.

At one time, the district had a junior high wrestling coach, said Superintendent Joe Schwan. The position was cut during budget slashing after a state-aid reduction in the 2012 fiscal year. However, that cut was worded so the school board could bring back the position if it voted to do so.

A junior high coach salary is five percent of the base teaching salary, totaling \$2,150, Schwan said.

While the Groton wrestling team has been fortunate to have past wrestlers and college athletes volunteer, they can't always make it to tournaments or practices, Zoellner said. However, the community has come together to help the young athletes.

"It's a lot of people helping out," he said. "We have a great youth program, and it trickles up."

The board voted unanimously to add the junior high coach position, with Board Member Harder adding, "let's get him another coach."

Board Member Tigh Fliehs also added, "keep up the good work."

Buechler and K-12 vocal music teacher submitted letters of resignation, effective at the end of the 2022-23 school year.

The board voted to hire Brooke Malsom as a sixth grade teacher an junior high track coach for the 2023-24 school year. Malsom is a 2019 Aberdeen Central High School graduate who is finishing her teaching degree at Valley City State University. She also holds school records for the Valley City State University outdoor track and field team in the 100 and 200 meters. For indoor track and field, she holds the school record for the 55 meters, 60 meters, 200 meters and 300 meters.

Ideas, plans and probable costs for potential work on the 1969 gymnasium are in the works, Superintendent Schwan told the board. He expects to have an update at the board's May meeting.

Some schools in South Dakota are pushing forward next school year with an e-sports league. At some point, the Groton district will need to determine if there is interest in starting a league here and whether it would be feasible to do so, said Superintendent Schwan. There are some college scholarships already available, and some industries are pushing for students with those skills.

This will be a busy summer for custodial staff at Groton Area School District, said Mike Nehls, head custodian. District staff have to prepare the arena floor to be sanded and re-finished. The old gymnasium floor also needs to be stripped and recoated. Other summer projects include replacing windows at the football field concession stand, fixing cabinetry and doors at the school and other things that come up throughout the summer.

Groton Area School District Head Cook Brandon Clocksene reported changes that have taken place this year. More salads and different vegetables are being offered, and Clocksene said he wants to try and find some new fruit for the students, though it will cost more. Third graders at the elementary school are able to dish themselves instead of being served portions in little bowls. The breakfast and lunch menu rotations have also changed, with the breakfast menus being repeated every three weeks and the lunch menu repeating every five weeks.

Transportation Manager Damian Bahr detailed the buses currently in use and the ones that will need to be replaced soon. He also told the board that if the buses purchased moving forward are diesel, there's going to be an issue with fluids turning to sludge in colder weather. He recommended the board look at possibly heating one of the Quonsets and parking those diesel vehicles inside there. Once school is out, the transportation staff will get the buses cleaned and ready for inspection.

The board authorized membership in the South Dakota High School Activities Association for the 2023-2024 school year. It's basically an agreement to follow the rules as set by the high school activities association, Superintendent Schwan said.

Teaching contracts for the 2023-2024 are being issued, with a return date of Monday, May 1.

Smarter balance science testing at the elementary began this week for fifth graders. ELA and math testing for third, fourth and fifth graders takes place next week, said elementary school Principal Brett Schwan.

District staff gets creative for health and wellness

Three years ago, Presentation College stopped bringing nursing students to Groton to help screen students for height, weight, hearing, scoliosis and more, said School Nurse Beth Gustafson. Since then, there have been quite a few changes as the district partners with outside entities and looks within for help.

The district now does hearing screenings through the South Dakota School for the Deaf, she said.

"It's a really beneficial thing they do for us," she said, adding that the school brings both screeners and an audiologist. "If they tag someone who's not hearing right, they get to go to the audiologist and proceed from there."

The district has also brought in the Lions Club to assist with vision screenings, she said. If a student is flagged as having a potential vision issue, they are advised to go see their eye doctor.

A Groton Area high school student who wants to go in to nursing has also been asked to assist in height and weight screenings for middle school students, Gustafson said. This will allow the high schooler to learn some things about nursing while also assisting in the process.

In other health and wellness news, the district has upgraded CPR dummies, she said. New versions need to be able to provide feedback if a student is not performing CPR at the right rate or rhythm. As of next year, Gustafson said, all of the district's CPR dummies will be able to do that.

The district has also added a couple new automated external defibrillators or AEDs, bringing the total to five. Two are located at the elementary school, one in the commons area and one in the office, Gustafson told the board. The high school has three: one in the nook outside the library door, one by the ticket booth near the arena, and one out at the soccer fields.

Board President Deb Gengerke announced that Groton Area Superintendent Joe Schwan is the 2023 Innovator of the Year Award recipient from the School Administrators of South Dakota. An official announcement is expected Tuesday.

The last full day of school for seniors will be May 5, according to the high school principals report by Dr. Kiersten Sombke. Graduation is scheduled for 2 p.m. on Sunday, May 14.

The board accepted the resignation of two teachers. Sixth grade teacher Rose Long-

Groton City Poppen Variance

NOTICE OF VARIANCE HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton Planning & Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing on May 8, 2023, at 6:00pm CDT at City Hall, 120 N Main St., Groton, SD for a variance of Part 11, Chapter 11.01, Section 11.0106 of the Groton Zoning Ordinance. This application was made by Jared and Maria Poppen for a deck with stairs to be built within 3 feet of the North lot line and 8 feet from the West in a Residential (R-3) District at 11 N 5th St., Groton, SD, legally described as Lt 14-15, Bk 40, of the 1st Addition. Any person wishing to present testimony for or against this variance may appear in person or by representative at the above time and place.
Doug Heinrich
Zoning Administrator
Published April 26, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$10.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22143

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Bus Drivers

Continued from front

"I pick up approximately twenty-three students in Pierpont and in the Olson addition on the north edge of Groton," Franken listed. "This winter has been particularly challenging with no end in sight!"

"Deep snow, strong winds, and poor visibility are major issues, of course, but now that the snow is melting, an even bigger issue is water over the roads," he explained.

Joel Guthmiller, the 4th grade teacher, started driving school bus in 2016. "I enjoy the chance to get outside for a while every day," he admitted. "My route to Ferney and Conde takes about one hour and twenty minutes."

"About seventy per cent of my route is on State and County roads, making it a bit easier," Guthmiller explained. "However, ice and visibility are still a problem, even when the road is plowed. The time of day makes a lot of difference too."

"If there is ever a problem between students on my bus, it is usually between siblings," he said. "I just make them sit on separate seats."

"The key to being a successful bus driver is pretty much the same as being a successful teacher in the classroom: be flexible and have open lines of communication with the parents."

Joann Donley, the bus driver on the Columbia route, picks up an average of forty students every day. "It's been a challenging year," Joann smiles, "but with the help of the farmers in the area, most of the kids get picked up at their homes. However, about ten of them had to have their parents meet me in Columbia or on nearby roads. Although most of their roads had been opened wide enough for cars, there wasn't enough room for the bus!"

"This is my first year of full time bus driving," she stated. "Before that I did either a morning or an evening route, but not both. I really enjoy the kids and consider it a privilege to be with them!"

"One thing that impresses me the most is when the older students bring things with them on the bus to entertain the younger children for the long ride home," Joann smiled. "For example, a third grader recently brought a tea set with little crackers as treats for the littlest kids."

Deb Tietz, the bus driver for the Bristol and Andover areas, has been driving school bus for the Groton School System for 48 years, the longest bus driver tenure in the system. "I don't plan on retiring any time soon," she admits. "I love these kids, just like I did their parents and maybe even some of their grand-

parents as well!"

"I drive seventy-three miles a day and pick up thirty-five students," Tietz listed. "The roads I drive on are usually in pretty good shape due to help from the farmers and County and State plows."

"The weather and roads have been bad this year, but not any different than some other years before," she admits. "Besides if the roads are blocked or not open wide enough for my bus, the parents bring the kids to me and the bus."

"In addition to the regular bus route, I drive the activity buses for the basketball and football games," Tietz explained. "I love to watch these games anyway. I also drive the bus for summer school."

Randy Hjermstad is the driver in the Verdon and Stratford areas. He is accompanied by his daughter Shelby who serves as his "bus monitor" by answering the phone during his route drive to get any last minute changes in pick-ups and/or locations.

"The parents on my route keep the roads cleaned and open for me," Hjermstad explained. "They are great people to work with and help me as much as possible, even now that many of the roads are flooded."

"One father even opens the road by going six miles each way just to make it possible for the bus to get through," he stated. "Some of the parents meet me and the bus; others will take their kids all the way to Groton."

"I drive fifty-five miles during my entire route and pick up twenty-eight children," Hjermstad listed.

In addition to the bus drivers, having a trustworthy dispatcher is another vital link in maintaining a smooth school bus operation. Lois Krueger is at the bus shop from 6 a.m. to 8 am. every school morning. If the students need a change in their transportation, the parents can call Lois at the bus shop, and she will deliver the message via two-way radio.

Having dependable substitute bus drivers is another important part of this whole complex system. Groton's substitutes are Brett Schwan, Joe Schwan, Jason Frost and Loren Bahr.

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
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AUCTIONS

INTERSTATE AUCTION CENTER. May 6, 10:00am. 3 Miles East of SF, exit 402, Brandon, SD. Lawn Mowers, Garden Equipment, Campers, Boats... Full listing: auctionzip.com 605-331-4550

EMPLOYMENT

Maintenance - City of Conde, SD. Applications are being accepted for a full time city maintenance worker. Duties include snow removal, repair and maintenance of streets, parks and property. Monitoring maintenance and record keeping of water and sewer systems. Must be able to operate heavy equipment. Must hold a valid SD Driver's license. State water and sewer certifications to be obtained within one year (will provide training). Salary depends on experience. Open until filled. EOE. Email or send in a resume to City of Conde PO Box 113, email: city-conde@nvc.net

TRUCK DRIVER EQUIPMENT OPERATOR: McPherson County has a full time position available. Hourly rate DOE. Contact McPherson County Hwy Dept. at 1-605-439-3667 or email mcphersonhwy@valleytel.net

NEW STARTING PAY! THE MOBRIDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT is hiring for full-time Police Officers. Pay is DOE. Applications may be obtained through the Mobridge Police Department website or by calling 605-845-5000.

IROQUOIS SCHOOL DISTRICT 2023-2024 Openings: Elementary Teachers, MS/HS Social Studies, MS/HS English, SPED, 5-12 Instrumental, IT Coordinator. \$47,500 Base. 4-Day School Week. Paid Benefits: Single Health/Dental/Life. Coaching Openings: Assistant Coaching, Cheer, Head XC. Contact: Mike Ruth, Superintendent, mike.ruth@k12.sd.us. More details at www.iroquois.k12.sd.us. EOE

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Groton Independent ♦ Wed., April 26, 2023 ♦ 5

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SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS EXTENSION FIELD SPECIALIST I



EXTENSION/NESS SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND ECONOMICS

The position is available in one of our regional extension centers located in either Aberdeen, Lemmon, Mitchell, Pierre, or Watertown, SD. The Extension Field Specialist I will be responsible for development and dissemination of research-based programming and resources focused on economics. Specific program areas include commodity marketing, commercial agricultural production, financial risk management and policy implications for rural areas.

For a complete listing of 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. For questions on the electronic employment process, contact Human Resources at 605-688-4128. Learn more about Brookings by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IT8OnH5elgQ&feature=youtu.be>.

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baby shower

Baby Shower celebrating Ali Anderson will be held Sunday, April 30, 2-4 p.m., at the Cassels House, 508 N. 3rd St., Groton. RSVP Donna Anderson at 605-868-3242. Gender of baby unknown until birth. Baby Register is at <https://www.babylist.com/list/babyandersoncomingjuly2023>

GHS Prom: Enchanted Forest Part 1



Junior Class President Camryn Kurtz escorted by Carter Barse. (Photo #6041 by Paul Kosel)



Gracie Traphagen escorted by Landon Ellingson. (Photo #6045 by Paul Kosel)



Elizabeth Flihs escorted by Lane Tietz. (Photo #6049 by Paul Kosel)



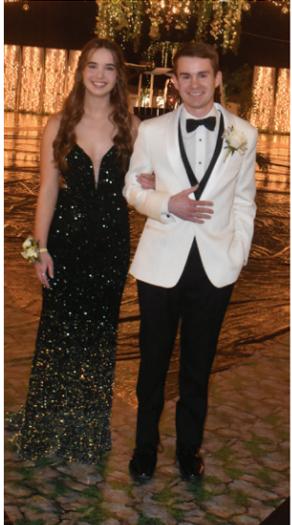
Shaylee Peterson escorted by Caleb Hanten. (Photo #6053 by Paul Kosel)



Faith Flihs escorted by Payton Mitchell. (Photo #6058 by Paul Kosel)



Brooke Gengerke escorted by Cole Simon. (Photo #6062 by Paul Kosel)



Gretchen Dinger escorted by Senior Class President Jacob Lewandowski. (Photo #6042 by Paul Kosel)



Aspen Johnson escorted by Colby Dunker. (Photo #6046 by Paul Kosel)



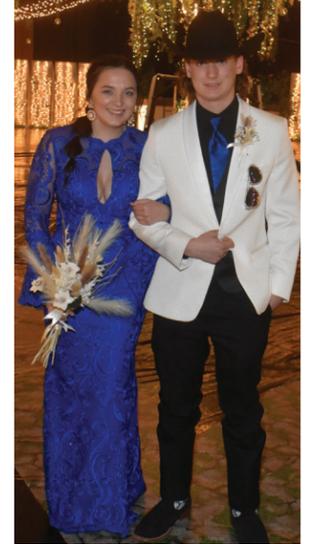
KayLynn Overacker escorted by Tyson Parrow. (Photo #6050 by Paul Kosel)



Cadance Tullis escorted by Jaeger Kampa. (Photo #6054 by Paul Kosel)



Marlee Tollifson escorted by Karsten Jeschke. (Photo #6059 by Paul Kosel)



Ashlyn Sperry escorted by Michael Powers Dinger. (Photo #6063 by Paul Kosel)



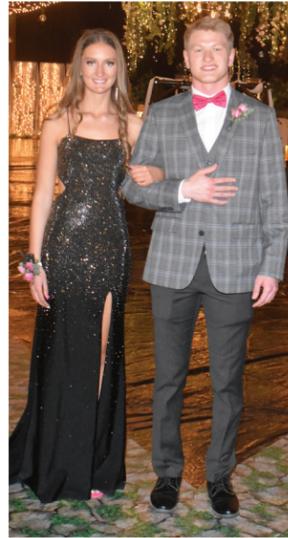
Ellie Weismantel escorted by Axel Warrington. (Photo #6043 by Paul Kosel)



Sydney Leicht escorted by Keegen Tracy. (Photo #6047 by Paul Kosel)



Hannah Monson escorted by Logan Ringgenberg. (Photo #6051 by Paul Kosel)



Faith Traphagen escorted by Andrew Marzahn. (Photo #6056 by Paul Kosel)



Abby Jensen escorted by Cooper Foshier. (Photo #6060 by Paul Kosel)



Ava Wienk escorted by Tristan Sumption. (Photo #6064 by Paul Kosel)



Emily Clark escorted by Jayden Schwan. (Photo #6044 by Paul Kosel)



Anna Fjeldheim escorted by Korbin Kucker. (Photo #6048 by Paul Kosel)



Shaela McGannon escorted by Nick Morris. (Photo #6052 by Paul Kosel)



Lydia Meier escorted by Gage Sipfel. (Photo #6057 by Paul Kosel)



Sierra Ehresmann escorted by Cole Bisbee. (Photo #6061 by Paul Kosel)



Emma Schinek escorted by Ethan Gengerke. (Photo #6065 by Paul Kosel)

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Brown County April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

APRIL 18, 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, Wiese, Gage, and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Scott Meints, Emergency Management (EM) Director gave an update on the river gauges in Brown County. Maple River crested last night. Elm Lake has gone down. The Westport area is still a concern so keeping an eye on that. Ordway, Foot Creek, and Pheasant Lake have crested with no issues at this point. James River has nothing right now but expecting it to peak. Mud Creek in the Groton – Ferney area is causing some problems. There is water on Hwy. 37 south of Groton and it has done some damage to county roads. EM has contacted the State to see if there is any financial assistance to help with this matter.

RECOGNITION OF DEPUTY KURTZ: Sheriff Dave Lunzmann and Chief Deputy Sheriff Jon Lemke wanted to publicly recognize Deputy Kurtz for rescuing a young lady that fell into the James River last summer. Deputy Kurtz received the Medal of Honor at the SD Sheriff's Association and the SD Police Chief's Association last week due to his swift and selfless response.

RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) WINE & CIDER LICENSE: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman Sutton to sign the application for Retail (On-Off Sale) Wine & Cider License for Parkview Nursery, Inc. at 304 E. Melgaard, Aberdeen, SD – Lot 1, Parkview Nursery Addition to Aberdeen in the NE 1/4 of Section 25-T123-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RETAIL (ON-OFF SALE) MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE LICENSE: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize the Chairman Sutton to sign the application for Retail (On-Off Sale) Malt Beverage & SD Farm Wine License for Parkview Nursery, Inc. at 304 E. Melgaard, Aberdeen, SD – Lot 1, Parkview Nursery Addition to Aberdeen in the NE 1/4 of Section 25-T123-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL MALT BEVERAGE LICENSE HEARING: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the application for Special Malt Beverage for Brown County Fair Foundation, Aberdeen, SD on May 6, 2023, for Dwarfifiers at Holm Expo Building. Sutton abstained from the vote since he is on the Brown County Fair Foundation. All other members voted aye. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY FAIR CONTRACT -SANITATION CREW: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to approve the Fair Boards recommendation to award ACBMSJPK, LLC the Sanitation Crew bid for \$17,000 for 2023. Other bids received were Rico Cleaning Service for \$39,485 and Pam's Cleaning for \$28,770. All members present voted aye. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY FAIR CONTRACT – TRASH PICK-UP SERVICES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the Fair Boards recommendation to award Terry Dosch the Trash Pick-up Service Bid for \$8,900 for 2023 (only bid received). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY FAIR SPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT: Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert approved and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the sponsorship agreement with Hub City Radio to provide Jumbo-Tron/Screens for Entertainment Monday – Saturday. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting minutes of April 11, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the Brown County Board of Equalization minutes of April 11, 2023. All members

present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the Consolidated Board of Equalization minutes of April 11, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims: Professional Fees: Adamsoft LLC \$2,750.00; Animal Care Clinic \$40.00; Avera Medical Group University Psychiatry Associates \$2,500.00; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$448.31; Certified Languages International LLC \$785.40; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$7,211.64; City of Winner \$304.00; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$7,211.64; Dakota Group LLC \$2,100.00; Dependable Sanitation \$26,854.20; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$7,211.64; Idemia Identity & Security USA LLC \$2,564.00; Jerald M. McNeary \$7,211.64; Jeremy Lund-Siegel Barnett & Schutz, LLP \$7,211.64; John Noyes-Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$7,211.64; Kristi Brandt \$166.75; Kuck Law Office \$7,211.64; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$253.25; Matthew Bender & Co, Inc \$86.08; MOCIC \$150.00; Northeastern Mental Health Center \$3,224.00; Park Dietz & Associates, Inc \$185.63; Saber Shred Solutions, Inc \$3,250.80; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$187.00; Sanford Health Pathology Clinic \$800.00; Sanford Health \$658.55; Schroeder Construction Inc \$137,892.06; SD Assoc of Assessing Officers \$940.00; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$7,211.64; Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center \$283.30; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$260.00. Publishing: APG Yellowstone News \$32.27; Billings Gazette \$140.69; GateHouse Media South Dakota Holdings, Inc \$801.04; Groton Daily Independent \$310.89. Rentals: Aramark \$225.20; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$48.08. Repairs & Maintenance: A-1 Locksmithing \$268.50; Century Business Products \$110.44; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$2,026.76; Dakota Doors Inc \$632.67; Diamond Mowers LLC \$121.61; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$7,789.50; Ecolab Pest Elimination Division \$264.79; Gary's Auto Body & Accessories \$440.55; Graham Tire Inc \$96.12; Hanlon Brothers, LLC \$7,960.00; Hub City Roofing Inc \$13,000.00; Lien Transportation Company \$2,140.00; Little Falls Machine, Inc \$122.31; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$235.96; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$51.10; RDO Equipment Co \$971.75; Safety Service \$16.50; Schwan Welding \$12,340.00; Sewer Duck, Inc \$500.00; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$165.00; Woodman Refrigeration, Inc \$286.55. Supplies: Advance Auto Parts \$1,501.74; Agtegra Cooperativa \$96,568.26; American Alliance of Museums \$300.00; Auto Value Aberdeen \$370.66; Axon Enterprise, Inc \$8,670.00; Bakken Building Maintenance \$250.00; Butler Machinery Company \$5,537.35; Cartney Bearing \$99.78; Century Business Products \$573.81; Cole Paper Inc \$697.31; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$9,266.54; Dakota Doors Inc \$1,001.50; Dakota Electronics \$90.00; Dakota Fluid Power, Inc \$355.15; Dakota Oil \$597.75; Diamond Mowers LLC \$348.80; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$32,537.15; Farm Power Mfg. \$174.54; Fastenal Company \$278.60; FedEx \$78.49; Geffdog Designs \$323.00; GovConnection, Inc \$364.83; Great Western Tire \$1,499.75; Hanlon Brothers, LLC \$35,271.33; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota \$425.85; Ken's Super-Fair Foods \$116.44; Kessler's \$105.16; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$35.52; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$916.94; Little Falls Machine, Inc \$512.89; Mac's Inc-Capital One Trade Credit \$633.77; Menards \$37.86; Midstates Group \$195.16; Mohawk Lifts LLC \$56,236.69; Napa Central \$259.43; NVC \$27.06; Pauer Sound, LLC \$8,330.59; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$144.23; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$100.62; Prevention Magazine \$220.00; RDO Equipment Co \$2,176.87; Runnings \$652.81; Safety Service \$79.96; Sander's Sew-N-Vac \$682.00; SD Federal Property Agency \$612.00; Share Corp \$549.60; Sioux Falls Crane & Hoist, Inc \$1,129.30; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$426.70; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$1,036.85; Tri State Water \$23.25; WEB Water Bottling Company \$19.50. Travel & Conference: Adelaide Mouna \$313.00; Dave Lunzmann \$587.00; Drew Dennert \$257.04; Patti Woods \$54.00; Rachel Kippley \$267.39; Sara Swisher \$182.15; Scott Meints \$54.00. Utilities: CenturyLink \$1,205.85; City of Aberdeen \$1,885.43; City of Hecla \$214.72; Dependable Sanitation \$348.00; Economy Propane, LLC \$1,811.55; James Valley Telecommunications \$209.10; Northern Electric

\$1,273.52; Northwestern Energy \$4,594.38; NVC \$4,066.24; Town of Frederick \$76.00; Verizon Wireless \$8,231.07; WEB Water Development Association, Inc \$103.98. Machinery & Equipment: SD Federal Property Agency \$11,500.00. Others: SD Assoc of County Officials \$1,220.00; SD Dept of Labor and Regulation \$12,014.06; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$983,868.34.

Payroll: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,137.05; Treasurer \$16,650.48; SA \$30,206.40; Maintenance \$9,032.88; DOE \$16,796.81; ROD \$9,940.37; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$6,317.04; HR \$5,001.68; Sheriff \$43,394.40; Jail \$61,490.55; Coroner \$70.00; Court Security \$7,366.42; JDC/HD \$29,741.31; Welfare \$2,336.49; DPM \$11,573.22; Parks/Fairgrounds \$5,574.73; Fair \$4,107.20; 4-H \$786.80; W & P \$1,418.37; P & Z \$8,232.60; Hwy. \$58,273.49; Dispatch \$32,636.31; EM \$4,933.61; 24/7 Sobriety \$1,256.03; Landfill \$15,828.49; Meal Benefits \$704.00; FICA \$24,091.91; Medicare \$5,634.44; Discovery_HSA \$1,482.96. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Erica Coughlin to approve hiring the following: Everett Krueger as Brown County Jail Detention Officer, FT, starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective April 17, 2023. Michael Kenitzer as Brown County Highway, Truck Driver, FT, starting wage \$20.67/hour; effective April 11, 2023. Mark Anderson as Brown County Deputy State's Attorney, FT, starting wage \$72,211.12/year; tentatively effective May 1, 2023. Return of John Weig as Brown County Fairgrounds seasonal as-needed summer help at \$15.50/hour; effective April 11, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

WEED & PEST GRANT AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Weed & Pest Grant agreements for Fiscal Year 2024. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following Travel Requests: Gene Loeschke, Polly Rush, Kathy Fischer and Sarah Swenson (DOE) to attend the 2023 Annual Assessor Conference in Sioux Falls, SD on June 13-16, 2023; Aaron Walberg (VSO) to attend Veteran's Council Meeting in Hot Springs, SD on April 19-20, 2023; Aaron Walberg and Jesse Milbrandt (VSO) to attend SDDVA Mini-Conference in Brookings, SD on April 27, 2023 and Erica Coughlin (HR) to attend SHRM State Conference in Yankton, SD on May 3-5, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman sign the following lease agreements: Prairie Partners Master Gardener's for lease of Home Arts Building on May 19-20, 2023, for Plant Sale; Shaina Nehls for lease of Richmond Lake Youth Camp on July 28-30, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ABATEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following abatements for Northwestern Energy for tax year 2023: Parcel #750075 \$35,086.16; Parcel #750085 \$518.29; Parcel #750081 \$1,874.19 and Parcel #750088 \$12,157.02. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to go into executive session to discuss Contracts, Legal and Personnel 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 Dennert, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 11:30 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published April 26, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$120.59 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22139

Brown County April 18, 2023 County Equal.

APRIL 18, 2023 – BROWN COUNTY BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

Meeting called to order by Chairman Sutton at 1:00 P.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Commissioners Dennert, Gage and Sutton along with Director of Equalization Gene Loeschke, Assessors Joe Kraft, Russell Metz, Sarah Swenson and Barry Kusler were present. Commissioners Fjeldheim and Wiese were absent.

APPEALS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following recommendations from the Director of Equalization: TERRY AND KATHY HUFFMAN LT 1, T. K. & A. HUFFMAN ADD from 340,597 to 337,569. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following recommendations from the Director of Equalization: ALVIN HAUGEN LT 1 BROCK FISCHER RICHMOND LAKE ADD NE 23-124-65 from 26,825 to 26,825; LT 2 BROCK FISCHER RICHMOND LAKE ADD NE 23-124-65 from 28,515 to 28,515. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Sutton to approve the following recommendations from the Director of Equalization: DANIEL HEINZ LT 6 BK 2 GREEN ACRES 1997 FRIENDSHIP 28x60 MY9716300ABV from 89,858 to 89,858. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to approve the following recommendations from the Director of Equalization: JAMES MACDOUGALL S 1073' SW 23-124-64 EX HWY from 703,510 to 679,430. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the following recommendations from the Director of Equalization: ALVIN HAUGEN LT 21 LUTGENS WEST ADD NE 23-124-65 from 69,304 to 63,304; LT 20 LUTGENS WEST ADD NE 23-124-65 from 74,528 to 50,528; N2 LT 19 LUTGENS WEST ADD NE 23-124-65 from 45,738 to 15,152. FRANCES GAGE NW 18-127-64 from 310,963 to 288,219. CHAD JURGENS MOHRS OL LT 2 S2 36-124-64 from 500,177 to 429,760. LEIF & ANGELA REDINGER LT 1 REDINGER SD SE SW 23-124-64 from 520,814 to 471,219. JONATHAN RISTAU BOLS NW 27-121-65 from 156,670 to 166,420. ALLAN MERKEL LT 1-2 BK 2 ORIG PL CLAREMONT 1987 SCHULT (14 x70) RF215729 from 15,108 to 7,847. LANCE & BARB KOCH LT 1 PHILLIPS SD NW 2-123-63 from 200,826 to 176,611. ELLIARD DABBERT LT 2 KRAFTS 1ST ADD NW 22-123-63 from 205,870 to 201,011. JASON & JENNIFER KLOOTWYK LT 1 KLOOTWYK ADD NE 5-123-62 from 960,824 to 833,778. JOHN AMAN LT 2 EDGEWOOD LANE 1ST SD PRAIRIEWOOD VLG NE 33-124-63 from 266,765 to 259,185. ANDREW MITCHELL LT 1 A MITCHELL ADD SE 7-121-65 from 32,906 to 161,741. ALEXANDER MITCHELL W2 NW 16-126-61 from 148,303 to 90,935. ANGELA HUFFMAN LT 2 T.K. & A HUFFMAN ADD from 362,785 to 347,826. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

RECESS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to declare the Board of Equalization recessed until 10:30 a.m. on May 2, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published April 26, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$33.11 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22140

Groton City April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2023
The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00 p.m. at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Wells, Babcock, Wambach, Nehls, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were: Attorney Drew Johnson, Douglas Heinrich, Jarod Flihs, Ted Dickey, Darrell Hillestad, and Elizabeth Varin.
Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1,

but none were received.

Discussion took place regarding the airport. Darrell Hillestad stated he would like airport discussions to take place at each city council meeting throughout the summer.

Darrell Hillestad exited the meeting.

Ted Dickey from NECOG addressed the council regarding the Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant for the baseball concession project. Moved by Bahr and seconded by Wells to authorize NECOG to request a 35% LWCF grant. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wambach to approve the Land and Water Conservation Fund Resolution as follows (all members present voted aye):

WHEREAS, the United States of America and the State of South Dakota have authorized the making of grants from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) to public bodies to aid in financing the acquisition and/or construction of specific public outdoor recreation projects; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: 1. That Mayor is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the City of Groton with the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, through the State of South Dakota, Department of Game, Fish and Parks, Division of Parks and Recreation, for an LWCF grant to aid in financing Baseball Concession Stand Project for the City of Groton South Dakota and its Environs. 2. That Scott Hanlon, Mayor, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the above-mentioned federal and/or state agencies may reasonably request in connection with the application which is hereby authorized to be filed. 3. That the City of Groton shall provide a minimum of 50% of the total cost of the project; and will assume all responsibility in the operation and maintenance of the project upon completion of construction, for the reasonable life expectancy of the facility.

Jarod Flihs exited the meeting.

Discussion took place regarding a potential new city shop building.

The new sign for the Groton Police Department's building was tabled on a motion by Wells and seconded by Babcock. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wells to apply for a housing needs study through SD Housing Development Authority. All members present voted aye. Funds for the study will be provided by the City of Groton.

Economic development was discussed.

Ted Dickey exited the meeting.

Approval to join PFAS Cost Recovery Program was tabled on a motion by Wambach and seconded by Nehls. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded

by Wambach to approve a U18 girls' softball team to join the Aberdeen league. All members present voted aye.

2023 Spring City Wide Clean Up – April 29th through May 5th was approved on a motion by Babcock and seconded by Nehls. All members present voted aye. Pickups by appointment will take place from May 1st through May 5th by calling City Hall to reserve your time.

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

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

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

Payroll, \$27,289.77, Employee salaries; Administrative, \$4,427.86, ; Public Safety, \$9,552.76, ; Public Works, \$13,309.15, ; Dacotah Bank, \$6,127.06, SS/Medicare/Withholding; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90, HSA contributions; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Utility Billing Postage; Dacotah Bank, \$3,318.17, SS/Medicare/Withholding; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; Paul Kosel, \$181.50, Heartland Conference Mileage/Meal Reimbursement; Heartland Waste, \$10,080.40, Garbage hauling; Irby, Inc, \$6,875.00, Electric supplies & crossarms; South Dakota 811, \$1.05, 811 message fees - January thru March 2023; Altec Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Digger truck lease; Glenn Bitz, \$150.00, Window cleaning services - City Hall; Riteway Business Forms, \$197.64, Check blanks; Mike's Heating & Cooling, Inc., \$183.67, Valve work at men's bathroom at city park; Groton Ford, LLC, \$1,656.73, Catalytic converter replacement - '12 Ford F250; Farmers Union Co-op Assoc., \$1,244.65, Dyed Diesel; JGE, Inc., \$2,363.04, Skidsteer repairs & rental of Bobcat T64 track machine; MJ's Sinclair, \$1,166.88, Fuel purchases; Dakota Supply Group, \$959.49, 5 sump pumps; Aramark, \$50.47, Rug rent; Border States Industries, Inc., \$3,072.52, Overhead wire

Elizabeth Varin exited the meeting.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Wells to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:27pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:50pm.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

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Groton School
April 10, 2023

Meeting Minutes

UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
OF BOARD OF EDUCATION
GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 06-6
REGULAR MEETING
April 10, 2023

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Fliehs, Gengerke, Harder, Pharis, Rix, Smith, and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principals B. Schwan and Sombke and Business Manager Weber.

Moved by Weismantel, second Pharis to approve the agenda with amendments to delete New Business Item #2 – consider ASBPT resolution and add New Business Item #4 – consider request for use of school vans. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Fliehs, second Harder to approve consent agenda items: March 2023 District Bills and minutes from March 13, 2023, and March 27, 2023. Motion carried.

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

Moved by Smith, second Rix to approve March 2023 Financial Report, Custodial Accounts, and Investments. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve March 2023 School Lunch Report. Motion carried.

Moved by Smith, second Weismantel to approve March 2023 Transportation Report. Motion carried.

MONTHLY DISTRICT FINANCIAL REPORT FOR GROTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT 06-6

For the reporting period beginning July 1, 2022, and ending March 31, 2023

Description	General Fund	Assigned Gen Funds	Capital Outlay	Special Education	Bond Redemption	Enterprise Fund	Custodial Fund	Total for District
1. Beginning Balance	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.693,955,162.69	
a. checking	1,482,652.00	143,322.65	1,689,959.61	337,034.96	0.00	148,760.78	153,432.693,955,162.69	
b. petty cash	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
2. Transfers in								
3. Revenue to date	2,968,574.06	17,586.30	945,806.51	458,918.23	250.71	266,905.56	731,491.245,389,532.61	
4. Total accounted for	4,451,226.06	160,908.95	2,635,766.12	795,953.19	250.71	415,666.34	884,923.939,344,695.30	
5. Transfers out								
6. Expenditures to date	3,658,706.07	15,115.54	1,902,523.66	565,409.86	0.00	229,293.48	752,738.747,123,787.35	
a. encumbrances	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
b. disbursements	3,658,706.07	15,115.54	1,902,523.66	565,409.86	0.00	229,293.48	752,738.747,123,787.35	
7. Ending Balance	792,519.99	145,793.41	733,242.46	230,543.33	250.71	186,372.86	132,185.192,220,907.95	
a. checking	792,519.99	145,793.41	733,242.46	230,543.33	250.71	186,372.86	132,185.192,220,907.95	
b. petty cash	(0.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	(0.00)
March Receipts	143,953.20	1,030.00	74,495.11	35,490.33	0.00	27,839.38	87,095.23 369,903.25	
March Expenses	449,127.15	3,358.56	206,648.86	98,112.42	0.00	27,603.59	38,122.10 822,972.68	
Custodial Checking		132,185.19						
District Checking		2,112,551.44						
USDA Supply Chain Defer		(23,828.68)						
Total all Funds		2,220,907.95						

GENERAL FUND: Net Salary – 194,740.88; FIT – 17,549.64; Medicare – 7,372.08; FICA – 31,522.30; American Funds Service Co. – 508.00; SD Retirement – 32,578.82; HSA Contribution – 100.00; Waddell & Reed – 440.00; Horace Mann – 1,007.61; Thrivent – 250.00; AFLAC – 2,464.29; Delta Dental – 3,748.93; SD Supplemental Retirement – 2,915.43; Division of Child Support – 372.28; US Dept of the Treasury – 252.04; Groton School Lunch Donation – 184.70; Wellmark – 61,014.86; Standard Life – 768.87; Wage Works – 1,041.64; Avesis Vision – 254.60; Aberdeen Awards – awards, 64.00; Amazon – supplies, 155.50; AmericInn – rooms, 234.98; Capitol One – supplies, 29.07; City of Groton – permit, 175.00; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 13,838.86; Dakota Electronics – repairs, 528.55; Dependable Sanitation – garbage, 1,238.00; Dollar General – supplies, 572.20; Groton Area – bank charges,

56.65; Groton Daily Independent – legal, 156.00; Groton Rescue Squad – donation, 500.00; Hilliard – supplies, 29.74; JW Pepper – music, 45.00; John Deere Financial – repair, 47.59; MARC – supplies, 1,276.93; Riddell – decals, 309.20; S&S Lumber – supplies, 68.96; Taylor Music – music, 118.00; WageWorks – admin fee, 92.00. Total General Fund – \$378,623.20.
CAPITAL OUTLAY: A&B Business – print agreement, 1,822.62; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 4,103.03; Graphic Edge – jerseys, 2,776.05; Groton Area – yearbooks, 180.00; Hauff Sports – equipment, 1,591.00. Total Capital Outlay – \$10,472.70.
SPECIAL ED: Net Salary – 30,090.05; FIT – 2,126.00; Medicare – 1,095.06; FICA – 4,682.28; SD Retirement – 4,376.38; Waddell & Reed – 100.00; AFLAC – 776.21; Delta Dental – 640.06; SD Supplemental Retirement – 100.00; Wellmark – 7,398.00; Standard

Life – 182.52; Avesis Vision – 70.69; Capitol One – supplies, 64.36; Judy/Gene Williamson – mileage, 771.12. Total Special Ed – \$52,472.73.
ENTERPRISE: Fund 51-Net Salary – 5,092.31; FIT – 426.81; Medicare – 184.34; FICA – 788.20; SD Retirement – 701.82; AFLAC – 281.02; Wellmark – 1,604.00; Standard Life – 3.84; Avesis Vision – 19.63; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 204.38; East Side Dairy – milk, 1,300.85; Performance Foodservice – food, 3,908.65; SD DOE – food, 683.39; US Foods – food, 3,509.42. Total Fund 51 – \$18,708.66. Fund 53-Net Salary – 1,640.31; FIT – 86.77; Medicare – 57.88; FICA – 247.36; SDRS – 187.92; AFLAC – 163.93; Wellmark – 705.00; Standard Life – 23.28; Custodial Fund – advanced pays, 634.89; Dollar General – food, 194.55. Total Fund 53 – \$3,941.89. Total Enterprise – \$22,650.55.
CUSTODIAL FUND: Total – \$38,524.09
RECEIPTS: Local Sources,

Taxes – 198,081.73; Other Local Sources – 117,989.62; County Sources – 2,371.03; State Sources – 5,290.00; Federal Sources – 46,170.87. Total Receipts – \$369,903.25.
The following topics were discussed in administrative reports: Superintendent/Staff meetings, 2022-23 school calendar, SD Department of Health Air Purifier Program, smarter balance testing update, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention presentation, prom information packets, Kindergarten roundup, Title I am training, track and field day lunch schedule, Summer School/Connect 4Ed, SDASBO conference, budget and local business manager training.
Moved by Smith, second Harder to approve District Membership Agreement for North Central Special Education Cooperative. Motion carried.
Moved by Weismantel, second Harder to approve ASBSD Protective Trust Worker's Compensation Renewal. Motion carried.

Moved by Harder, second Pharis to approve request from Seth Erickson for use of school vans for Spring Baseball travel with a charged rate of \$0.70 per roundtrip mile. Motion carried.
Gengerke declared a short recess at 7:36 pm and the board reconvened at 7:42 pm.
Moved by Rix, second Weismantel to go into executive session at 7:42 pm pursuant to SDCL 1-25-2(1) for personnel and SDCL 1-25-2(4) for negotiations. Motion carried.
Gengerke declared the board out of executive session at 8:54 pm.
Moved by Harder, second Rix to adjourn. Motion carried.
M. J. Weber, Business Manager
Deborah Gengerke, President
The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.
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Ringgenberg, two relays are winners at Miller Track Meet

Groton Area's track team won three events at the Miller Invitational meet held Tuesday. The boys 4x200mr relay team, the girls SMR1600m relay team both were winners, as was Logan Ringgenberg in the shot put.

Boy's Results

- 100 Meters: 12. Korbin Kucker, 12.11
- 400 Meters: 4. Andrew Marzahn, 55.39; 17. Gage Sippel, 58.55PR
- 800 Meters: 6. Blake Pauli, 2:20.58; 10. Tristin McGannon, 2:22.77; 17. Jacob Lewandowski, 2:30.64
- 1600 Meters: 10. Jayden Schwan, 5:32.83, 31. Nicolas Fernandez, 6:28.70
- 110m Hurdles: 16. Caden McInerney, 20.73
- 300m Hurdles: 11. Colby Dunker, 47.36; 14. Caden McInerney, 50.26
- 4x100 Relay: 2. (Keegen Tracy, Ryder Johnson, Korbin Kucker, Teylor Diegel), 46.28
- 4x200 Relay: 1. (Keegen Tracy, Ryder Johnson, Andrew Marzahn, Teylor Diegel), 1:36.86
- 4x800 Relay: 2. (Keegen Tracy, Cole Simon, Lane Tietz, Jacob Lewandowski), 8:59.03
- SMR 1600m: 5. (Ryder Johnson, Lane Tietz, Andrew Marzahn, Cole Simon), 3:58.21
- Shot Put: 1. Logan Ringgenberg, 42-01.50; 3. Holden Sippel, 39-11.00; 4. Caleb Hanten, 39-08.00
- Discus: 8. Logan Ringgenberg, 110-00; 19. Caleb Hanten, 94-06; 29. Holden Sippel, 86-09
- High Jump: 9. Tate Larson, 5-04.00
- Long Jump: 5. Jacob Zak, 18-08.50; 18. Tristin McGannon, 16-01.25
- Triple Jump: 5. Jacob Zak, 38-02.00; 18. Tristin McGannon, 30-10.25

Girl's Results

- 800 Meters: 6. Ashlynn Warrington, 2:49.98
- 1600 Meters: 12. Faith Traphagen, 6:08.95; 19. Ashlynn Warrington, 6:28.31; 23. Elizabeth Fliehs, 6:41.50
- 100m Hurdles: 7. Mckenna Tietz, 19.02; 9. Talli Wright, 19.15
- 300m Hurdles: 4. Mckenna Tietz, 53.43; 5. Talli Wright, 54.09; 12. Hannah Sandness, 59.55
- 4x100 Relay: 2. (Kennedy Hansen, Jerica Locke, Rylee Dunker, Laila Roberts), 54.59
- 4x200 Relay: 2. (Jerica Locke, Kennedy Hansen, Kella Tracy, Laila Roberts), 1:53.69
- 4x800 Relay: 3. (Kella Tracy, Faith Traphagen, Taryn Traphagen, Rylee Dunker), 10:40.91
- SMR 1600m: 1. (Jerica Locke, Laila Roberts, Kella Tracy, Taryn Traphagen) 4:40.62
- Shot Put: 5. Emma Kutter, 30-10.00; 9. Faith Fliehs, 27-04.00; 36. Kayleigh McGannon, 21-00.50
- Discus: 23. Faith Fliehs, 66-11; 35. Emma Kutter, 58-04
- High Jump: 6. Anna Fjeldheim, 4-04.00; 9. Emerlee Jones, 4-02.00
- Long Jump: 3. Aspen Johnson, 14-11.00; 7. Sydney Leicht, 14-00.00; 9. Anna Fjeldheim, 13-06.50
- Triple Jump: 2. Aspen Johnson, 32-09.00; 12. Emerlee Jones, 28-02.00