



\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 140 No. 36 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, May 24, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889



Brian Gravatt was putting up the flags in Groton. Gravatt has been doing flag duty for about six years. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Flags hang still in the early morning hours in downtown Groton. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 39 encourages the town of Groton to honor fallen warriors on National Poppy Day®

Honor our fallen warriors and contribute to the continuing needs of our veterans on National Poppy Day®, May 26, when members of American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit 39 will distribute bright red poppies in exchange for a donation from 10-12 at Ken's in Groton and during the week of May 22-26, a donation poppy can and poppies will be left at the following: Groton Legion, City Hall, Ken's Food Fair, Groton Dairy Queen and Lori's Pharmacy. The Flanders Fields poppy has become an internationally known and recognized symbol of the lives sacrificed in war and the hope that none died in vain. The American Legion Family called upon Congress to proclaim the Friday before Memorial Day as National Poppy Day, which was officially designated as such in 2017.



Groton Legion Post #39 is one of the places to get your Poppy. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

"Wearing the poppy on National Poppy Day and throughout Memorial Day weekend is one small way to honor and remember our fallen warriors who willingly served our nation and made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom," said ALA Unit 39 President Samantha Oswald. "We must never forget."

The poppy also honors hospitalized and disabled veterans who handcraft many of the red, crepe paper flowers. Making the poppies provides a financial and therapeutic benefit to the veterans, as well as a benefit to thousands of other veterans.

When The American Legion Family adopted the poppy as its memorial flower in the early 1920s, the blood-red icon became an enduring symbol of honor for the sacrifices of our veterans from the battlefields of France in World War I to today's global war on terror. The American Legion Auxiliary raises about \$4 million each year distributing poppies throughout the nation, with 100 percent of the funds raised going directly to help veterans, military, and their families.

The American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is a community of volunteers serving veterans, military, and their families. Our members also support the mission of The American Legion in improving the quality of life for our nation's veterans. Proud sponsor of ALA Girls Nation, National Poppy Day® and recognized for advocating for veterans on Capitol Hill, the more than 600,000 ALA members across the country volunteer millions of hours annually and raise millions of dollars in service to veterans, military, and their families. Founded in 1919, the ALA is one of the oldest patriotic membership organizations in the U.S.A. To learn more and to volunteer, join, and donate, visit www.ALAforVeterans.org.



Groton Post #39 Memorial Day Schedule

- Hufton at 7:30 a.m.
- James at 8:15 a.m.
- Verdon at 8:45 a.m.
- Bates-Scotland at 9:15 a.m.
- Ferney at 10 a.m.
- Andover Union at 11 a.m.

**Groton at Noon
Guest speaker at Groton
is Donald Pasch.**

Lunch to follow at the Groton Post #39 home served by the Legion Auxiliary.

**In the event of inclement weather,
the ceremony will be held at the
Post home.**

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The twilight of the idols, the birth of new stars

You don't have to be a diehard basketball fan to appreciate that there's something special happening in the NBA finals. Not if you're a fan of excellence, of unscheduled triumph, the force of will that inspires us.

Sports, more than most facets of life, reminds us of the swiftness of time. Time defeats us all. Willie Mays in the Mets outfield in 1973. Muhammad Ali unable to turn away from the spotlight. But new stars are born just as old ones become black hole memories. It's the way of the universe.

By the time you read this, the great LeBron James' desperate Lakers may be done, bowed by the brilliance a sweet-passing, sweet-shooting Denver Nuggets team, anchored by generational greatness, Nikola Jokic, a pasty, doughy, 6-11 Serbian center who brings the ball up the court in a smooth lope and passes like Magic Johnson. Sublime, effortless passes to the right place at the right time.

He sees the court—sees everything—like a deity. Larry Bird in Charles Barkley's body with a humble demeanor that masks unrivaled competitiveness. You want to say "assassin," but you can't say that about a big lug who sweetly gestures to his daughter after the games to remind her of the song they sing together at bedtime.

He's the pivot point of a unit that exemplifies team basketball, echoing those recent vintage Steph Curry and Golden State champions, an aging, diminished team that lost a noble series to the Lakers.

Curry, who transformed the game, wrested it from plodding giants as the deadliest shooter in history, is 35. LeBron, the only player they dare mention in the same sentence with Michael Jordan, is 38. It brings to mind Nietzsche's line about The Twilight of Idols. They're lesser now but greater than most, even as they fade.

That the Lakers were able to make a run is a miracle in itself. By the trade deadline, they were lost, hopelessly buried in the standings, but they retooled with pesky unknowns, to make LeBron and Anthony Davis's team the hottest one going into the playoffs. The best defense in the league.

Meanwhile, in Denver, a team that's never even been to the finals, things have finally come together. The oft-injured Jamaal Murray—now, there's the assassin—is back and brilliantly so. It couldn't happen to a nicer guy. After an ACL injury that sidelined the 26-year-old guard, the most recent in a growing list of debilitating injuries, he was despondent and told his coach, the raspy-voiced Mike Malone, that they should consider trading him. He called himself "damaged goods." Malone responded with two beautiful words. "You're ours."

How can you not cheer for a team like that? Even when Jokic has been only great and not amazing, Murray has taken over games. With the big man on the bench in foul trouble, Mur-

ray carried the Nuggets with 30 points in the first half. In Los Angeles. Against a desperate Lakers team that fell to 3-0.

We haven't even touched on Jimmy Butler, a 6-7 force of will who has carried the unlikely Miami Heat to the precipice of the finals—almost certainly to face the vastly-more talented Nuggets. Don't count him out.

It's a hard-knock life, and Butler's been knocked around. Kicked out of the house by his mother, homeless in Houston at 13 until adopted by a family that already had seven kids, he labored in obscurity in junior college. Sat the bench in Chicago when he finally made the NBA, and bounced around—bounced out of Minnesota, a victim, perhaps, of his own intensity. And here he is. The bold, unselfish general of an unlikely team that put the favored Celtics in a 3-0 hole.

Before the NBA draft, he told an interviewer, "Please... I'm just asking you, don't write it in a way that makes people feel sorry for me. I hate that. There's nothing to feel sorry about. I love what happened to me. It made me who I am. I'm grateful for the challenges I've faced. Please, don't make them feel sorry for me."

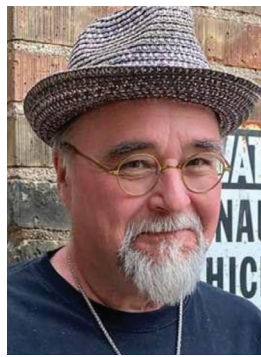
The game's never been better, more athletic, with more compelling human drama, with more players worthy of our applause.

I lived in Denver for a few years and naturally adopted the Broncos, along with my Dolphins and Vikings; I loved Doug Moe's Nuggets, too. Dan Issel, Alex English, Kiki VanDeWeghe, Fat Lever, deadeyes, all. They'd score 140. And lose.

This incarnation plays defense. They're big and gifted. If they end up facing the Heat, it will be a pity that someone has to lose. The rest of us will win, however.

There's something special going on, something inspirational. Don't miss it.

© Tony Bender, 2023



That's Life by Tony Bender

ensure a record-setting contract extension gets completed before the season starts.

Because of this lack of Vikings news, we thought it would be a nice change of pace to discuss various fun Vikings topics. This week, we will look back at past Vikings' seasons and see which ones greatly exceeded what was expected of them coming into the season.

1992 Minnesota Vikings

In his first season as the Minnesota Vikings' head coach, Dennis Green came into the season with no expectations of immediate success. In the preseason, the Vikings were predicted to finish under .500 and third in the NFC Central. However, the Vikings quickly outdid those predictions as the team had an 11-5 record and a first-place finish in the NFC Central.

1992 was a unique Vikings season as the team's leading passer, Rich Gannon, threw for a measly 1,905 yards passing. 1992 was also the first year when two of the biggest Vikings' stars of the 1990s, John Randle and Cris Carter, started to display a little bit of their future greatness. Both Randle and Carter would eventually go on to make their first of many pro bowls the next season.

Sadly, the Vikings would eventually fall to the Washington Redskins in the Wild Card Round. However, 1992 would go on to be a great building block for the Vikings as the team would make the playoffs in six of the next seven seasons.

1998 Minnesota Vikings

We all remember how fun the 1998 season was for the Vikings as it was the coming out party for rookie Randy Moss, and the team went 15-1 while setting the NFL scoring record. What we may forget, however, is that coming into that season, the Vikings were predicted to win only eight to nine games and finish tied for 3rd in the NFC Central.

That prediction quickly failed as the Vikings had 10 wins by week 12 and clinched the NFC Central title by week 14. As we all remember, the Vikings' 1998 season ended tragically in the NFC Championship game with a loss against the Atlanta Falcons. Since the Vikings' loss to the Oakland Raiders in Super Bowl XI in 1976, the 1998 Minnesota Vikings were far and away the best chance this franchise had to win a Super Bowl.

2012 Minnesota Vikings

Of all the Minnesota Vikings' seasons, the 2012 season might be the weirdest of them all. Coming into the season, the Vikings were predicted to win only six games and finish dead last in the NFC North by a wide margin. Not only did the team finish 3-13 the year prior, their worst record since 1984, Adrian Peterson was coming off a torn ACL that occurred on Christmas Eve, just a little over eight months before the start of the 2012 season.

Through week 6 of the 2012 season, Percy Harvin was a human highlight reel and was poised to become the first wide receiver to ever win the NFL MVP. However, an injury to Percy Harvin derailed any dreams of hoisting that elusive prize and he was eventually shut down for the rest of the season in week 10. Adrian Peterson took over from there, eventually finishing with 2,097 rushing yards and winning the MVP award. Peterson, who is the last running back to win the MVP, truly put the Vikings on his back in 2012 as the team finished 10-6 and clinched a wild card spot in the playoffs.

Like all these other seasons, the Vikings would go on to lose in the playoffs, but the pure determination and will of Adrian Peterson in the 2012 season will never be forgotten by Vikings fans. Skol!

Weekly Vikings Recap - Seasons the Vikings Exceeded Expectations

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

Minnesota Vikings Seasons that Exceeded Expectations


Since the news of the Za'Darius Smith trade last week, it's been quiet in the land of 10,000 lakes. The only Vikings-related news is that the team will kick-off their first of nine Organized Team Activity practices on Monday. With the potential for a new contract extension, it will be interesting to see if Justin Jefferson is out there or tries to use any leverage he has to

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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

Presidential Power, the 14th Amendment and the Public Debt

The debt ceiling standoff between President Joe Biden and House Republicans has illuminated the Public Debt Clause of the 14th Amendment, one of the most obscure provisions in the Constitution and one seldom discussed since the Civil War. Its invocation may be the key to avoiding economic catastrophe.

Section 4 of the 14th Amendment provides that "The validity of the public debt, authorized by law. . . shall not be questioned." Legal scholars and historians agree that the clause was designed to ensure that the federal government would not repudiate its debts, as some former Confederate states had done.

This relatively unknown clause of the 14th Amendment aimed to place beyond doubt the obligations of the government to repay debts incurred by the Union in suppressing the southern rebellion, but its language, as the Library of Congress' analysis justly observes, "indicates a broader connotation. The validity of the public debt embraces whatever concerns the integrity of the public obligations and applies to government bonds issued after as well as before adoption of the Amendment."

Simply put, the Public Debt Clause declares to the world that America pays its bills. Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell has said, "America has never defaulted, and it never will."

U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellin has warned Congress and President Biden that they have only until June 1 to reach a deal to raise the nation's \$31.4 trillion borrowing limit or face a default. The consequences of a default—the failure of America to pay its bills—economists and government officials tell us, would be far-reaching: more than eight million people would lose their jobs; millions of social security beneficiaries, veterans, and military families could lose their monthly payments; and vital federal services including air traffic control could be disrupted if government employees are not paid. In addition, many businesses would be forced into bankruptcy, and financial markets would be gripped by panic. Economic pain in America and across the globe would be long-lasting. It is with good reason that the standoff is described as a crisis.

The looming deadline and the deep-seated difficulties in winning a compromise between President Biden and House Republicans suggest resort to the Public Debt Clause as a solution, although it has never been invoked in previous debt ceiling fights and is wrapped in controversy.

Under section four of the 14th Amendment, which guarantees that the U.S. will not default, but in fact pay its bills, it is unconstitutional for our nation not to pay its debts. President Biden, in the exercise of his duty under Article II of the Constitution—"He shall take care to faithfully execute the laws of the land"—would direct the Treasury Department to issue debts without congressional action that raises the debt ceiling.

Under this theory, since the money authorized by Congress has been spent, the federal government has an obligation to somehow find or mint the money to pay in full those whom it has promised to pay. For those wondering, President Biden, on the authority of a 1998 Supreme Court decision in the line-item veto case, has no discretionary authority to pick and choose which debts to pay. Again, the nation's debts must be paid. In full.

Those who object to this theory on grounds that such presidential action would constitute a usurpation of the congressional power "of the purse," including the authority under Article I, Section 8, Clause 2, to "borrow Money on the credit of the United States," certainly have a legitimate, textual point.

What is to be done, however, if Congress fails to exercise that power to fulfill its duty in the face of an obligation under the 14th Amendment, a scenario fully contemplated by the drafters of this pivotal Reconstruction Amendment who were very much alive to the possibility that a post-Civil War Congress might resist payment of its debts? Mindful of that scenario, and the economic and systemic calamity that it could produce, the Framers of the 14th Amendment employed language that imposed on the federal government a direct constitutional command: "the validity of the public debt, authorized by law, shall not be questioned."

The constitutional command would be rendered toothless by an obstinate Congress unwilling to carry out its duty to pay debts that have been incurred. But the 14th Amendment is the supreme law of the land and cannot be ignored or circumvented by a legislative body unwilling to pay America's bills. And because it is a law, the president, who has a constitutional duty to execute the laws, should fulfill it by invoking the Public Debt Clause. The fact that there is no clear legal mechanism for the president to do so, other than under the authority of the Public Debt Clause through the performance of his duty in Take Care Clause, does not relieve the federal government of performing its constitutional obligation to pay the nation's debts.

While the failure of both branches—executive and legislative—to meet their constitutional responsibilities would be reprehensible, it would not begin to compare with the global financial calamity unleashed by the United States if the public debt is not paid before June 1.



Chris Khali was the first one at the Groton Swimming Pool Wednesday morning to sign up his children for swimming lessons and to get a season pass. His early arrival earned him the first pass given out for the season. Assistant Manager Tricia Keith along with Aspen Johnson are pictured getting everything organized for Khali. The pool is scheduled to open on Saturday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

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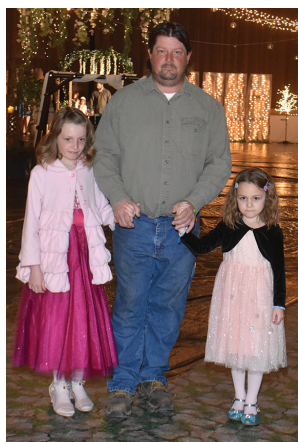
Princess Prom: Enchanted Forest Part 4



Brock Sandness escorting Kinley Sandness. (Photo #6145 by Paul Kosel)



Blake Anderson escorting Maya Anderson. (Photo #6150 by Paul Kosel)



Mike Feist escorting Ambrielle and Layla Feist. (Photo #6152 by Paul Kosel)



Gene Johnson escorting Libby Johnson. (Photo #6146 by Paul Kosel)



Trent Traphagen escorting Collins and Aubrie Traphagen. (Photo #6147 by Paul Kosel)



Jacob Lasse escorting Ellie Lasse. (Photo #6149 by Paul Kosel)



Matt Johnson escorting Faith and Paisley Johnson. (Photo #6148 by Paul Kosel)



Taylor Anderson escorting River Anderson. (Photo #6151 by Paul Kosel)



Tyler Neigel escorting Destry Neigel. (Photo #6154 by Paul Kosel)



Brian Sanderson escorting Miakoda Neigel. (Photo #6153 by Paul Kosel)



Kristopher Harry escorting Annie and Harper Harry. (Photo #6155 by Paul Kosel)



David Heilman escorting Hadley Heilman. (Photo #6156 by Paul Kosel)



Jeff Harry escorting Regan and Madison Harry. (Photo #6157 by Paul Kosel)



Cody Neu escorting Hazel and Laura Neu. (Photo #6158 by Paul Kosel)



Dan Washenburger escorting Sunny and Nova Washenburger. (Photo #6159 by Paul Kosel)

Claremont Town May 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes

The board of trustees for the town of Claremont met on 5-10-23 at 7 pm at city hall. President Johnson called the meeting to order with trustees Spencer and Rasmussen present. On a motion by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen the minutes of the April meeting were approved. On a motion by Rasmussen and seconded by Spencer the following warrants were allowed: General: Dept. of Transportation, property lease, 200.00; DMI, service charge, 8.24; GDI, publishing, 18.21; Gran Slam Computers, monitor, scanner, 653.00; BK Custom T's and More, restricted use/rubble sign, 165.00; Dakota Doors, repair shop door, 463.98; Full Circle Ag, diesel, 146.80; NWE, street lights 325.77, city hall 86.59, 412.36; James Valley Telcom, business phone +internet, 91.50; Charla Rye, wage, 350.00; post office, postage, 63.00; WSSW: Ecolab, pest elimination, 171.38; BDM, water purchased, 970.90; NWE, water power, 211.82; NWE, sewer power, 58.45; SD Dept. of Health Lab, purification, 30.00; James Valley Telecom, water loan, 576.00; The board agreed to renew the lease for Dunwoody park for 6/2028 for 200.00. With no further business before the board a motion was made to adjourn by Spencer and seconded by Rasmussen. Motion carried.
 C.Rye Finance Officer
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In back, left to right, are Assistant Coach Aaron Helvig, Keegen Tracy, Cole Simon, Ryder Johnson, Andrew Marzahn, Teylor Diegel and Lane Tietz; in the middle row, left to right, are Blake Pauli, Faith Traphagen, Emma Kutter, Taryn Traphagen, Aspen Johnson, Rylee Dunker, Korbin Kucker and Head Coach Shaun Wanner; in front, left to right, are Assistant Coach Carla Tracy, Kennedy Hansen, Ashlynn Warrington, Jerica Locke, Kella Tracy, Laila Roberts and Assistant Coach Lynette Grieve. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Groton Area to compete in state track in 10 events

Groton Area has all five boys relay teams, three girls relay teams and two individuals that qualified for the state track meet this weekend in Sioux Falls. Aspen Johnson qualified in the triple jump and Emma Kutter just made the cut in 24th place in the shot put.

Coach Shaun Wanner said, "A total of 18 kids will be participating in the State Track Meet this weekend in Sioux Falls. Pretty good considering we only ran seven outdoor meets compared to some schools running 10-11 outdoor meets. The weather did hamper us some in April. I'm proud of our kids and how they competed and got better as the season went. Our kids are competing well right now."

- Girls 4x200 Relay:** (Jerica Locke, Kennedy Hansen, Kella Tracy, Laila Roberts) 16th - 1:51.39
- Girls 4x400 Relay:** (Laila Roberts, Kennedy Hansen, Jerica Locke, Kella Tracy) 20th - 4:19.94
- Girls 4x800 Relay:** (Taryn Traphagen, Faith Traphagen, Ashlynn Warrington, Mckenna Tietz) 13th - 10:27.89
- Shot Put:** Emma Kutter 24th - 34-5.75
- Triple Jump:** Aspen Johnson 13th - 33-1.25
- Boys 4x100m Relay:** (Andrew Marzahn, Ryder Johnson, Teylor Diegel, Keegen Tracy) 17th - 45.46
- Boys 4x200m Relay:** (Keegen Tracy, Ryder Johnson, Andrew Marzahn, Lane Tietz) 14th - 1:34.30
- Boys 4x400m Relay:** (Keegen Tracy, Ryder Johnson, Andrew Marzahn, Cole Simon) 8th - 3:33.55
- Boys 4x800m Relay:** (Blake Pauli, Cole Simon, Lane Tietz, Colby Dunker) 21st - 8:50.06
- Boys Sprint Medley Relay:** (Korbin Kucker, Teylor Diegel, Keegen Tracy, Blake Pauli) 23rd - 3:50.90

- Boys:**
- Andrew Marzahn Relays
 - Cole Simon Relays
 - Lane Tietz Relays
 - Teylor Diegel Relays
 - Korbin Kucker Relays
 - Blake Pauli Relays
 - Keegen Tracy Relays
 - Ryder Johnson Relays

- Girls:**
- Aspen Johnson Triple Jump
 - Faith Traphagen Relays
 - Laila Roberts Relays
 - Kennedy Hansen Relays
 - Emma Kutter Shot Put
 - Rylee Dunker Relays
 - Jerica Locke Relays
 - Kella Tracy Relays
 - Ashlynn Warrington Relays
 - Taryn Traphagen Relays
 - Kella Tracy Relays

Guthmiller places second at Groton Invite

Carly Guthmiller placed second at the Groton Invitational Golf Meet held Monday. Guthmiller shot a 42 in the front nine and a 46 in the back nine for a total score of 88, just three strokes back from the winner, Claire Crawford of Roncalli.

Carlee Johnson placed eighth, shooting a 54 and 48 for a total score of 102. Mia Crank was 15th with scores of 59 and 54 and a total of 113. Others playing were Carly Gilbert with scores of 64 and 63 and a total of 127 and Shaylee Peterson with scores of 69 and 66 and a total score of 135.

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

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

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BIDS

OUTRIDER CAFÉ FOR SALE. Sealed bids will be accepted until 5:00 p.m., June 2, 2023. City of Eagle Butte has the right to refuse all and any bids. Bidder is responsible to get appraisal. Minimum bid \$250,000.00 for more information (605)-964-8783.

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Memorial Day Services Columbia American Legion

Monday, May 29, 2023, 1 p.m.
Guest Speaker: Troy McQuillen
Owner of McQuillen Creative Group,
Publisher of Aberdeen Magazine &
The Aberdeen Insider

Legion Memorial Services:
Bath at 9 a.m.
Westport at 10 a.m.
Houghton at 11 a.m.
Columbia Lutheran at 11:30 a.m.
Columbia at noon.

Potluck lunch at the Legion will begin after the services at the cemetery with our guest speaker at 1 p.m.

Groton City 2022 Drinking Water Report

City of Groton
DRINKING WATER REPORT
WATER QUALITY

Secretary's Award

The City of Groton has supplied twenty-two consecutive years of safe drinking water to the public it serves and has been awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence by the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Water Source

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water is surface water that we purchase from another water system. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Groton public water supply system is low.

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Additional Information

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria,

which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit

the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Groton public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in

your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Detected Contaminants

The attached table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2022. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

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2021 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants For Groton (EPA ID 0147)

Terms and abbreviations used in this table:

* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

* Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

* Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.

* Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU

* Running Annual Average (RAA): Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.

Units:

*MFL: million fibers per liter

*mrem/year: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

*NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

*pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

*ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

*ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

*ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

*ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

*pspm: positive samples per month

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	0.8	0	09/14/20	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	2	0	09/15/20	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Antimony *	.36		10/27/22	6	6	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Barium *	0.052		10/27/22	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride *	0.54		10/13/22	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA)	14.2		08/17/22	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Haloacetic Acids (RAA) *	17.35		11/28/22	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Selenium *	1.1		10/27/22	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total trihalomethanes (RAA)	7.88		08/17/22	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Total trihalomethanes (RAA) *	10.32		11/28/22	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Terry Herron with the Groton public water system at (605)397-8422.

* WEB Water Development Association (1089) test result.



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Blake Pauli and Cole Simon pose for a photo before leaving for the state track meet.

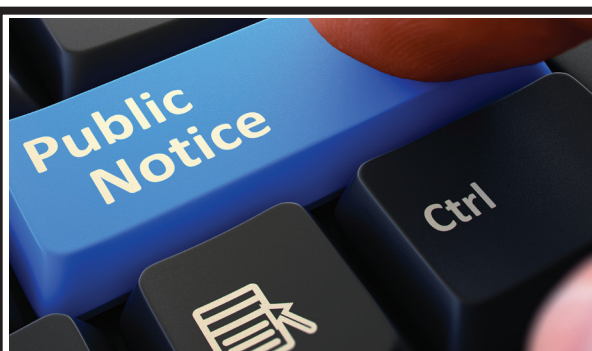
(Photo by Paul Kosel)



JAMES VALLEY TELECOMMUNICATIONS 66TH ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, June 1st
Groton Area High School Arena
11:30am Registration & Lunch
12:30pm Meeting

- Membership Gift
- Lunch catered by Ken's SuperFair Foods
- Door Prizes, including a \$500 JVT credit
- Call 605-397-2323 before May 25th to reserve a free bus ride to the meeting
- JVT's Office will be closed 11am-2pm



All of the public notices now appearing in the Groton Independent are posted on-line at

sdpublicnotices.com

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To see the notices published in the Groton Independent, select **THE GROTON INDEPENDENT** and then search

Dear EarthTalk: Is it possible to retrofit an old car with an Electric Vehicle drivetrain?
 – Jerry M., via email

It is definitely possible to retrofit an old internal combustion engine car with an electric vehicle (EV) drivetrain, but the process can be complicated and expensive. In fact, it may be cheaper when all is said and done—not to mention easier and quicker—to just buy an EV.

If you're undeterred and want to proceed with a conversion anyway, keep in mind that certain types of cars lend themselves to the process better than others. For starters, older cars that rely on mechanics more than computers are often easier to convert. Another consideration to keep in mind is that it's easier to convert a car with a manual transmission since they use less power and are a lot less complicated than automatic cars. Likewise, lighter vehicles make better candidates for conversions given that less weight translates into greater range.

The first step in retrofitting an old car with an EV drivetrain is to remove the existing engine and transmission. This requires specialized knowledge and tools, so it's important to find a reputable mechanic or EV retrofitting company to do the job. Once the old engine and transmission are removed, the new EV drivetrain can be installed. This typically includes an electric motor, battery pack, charger, and other components needed to make the car run on electricity. The placement of these components will vary depending on the make and model of the car, and the specific EV drivetrain being used.

One of the biggest challenges in retrofitting an old car with an EV drivetrain is finding the right balance between performance and range. The battery pack needs to be large enough to provide adequate range, but it also needs to be small enough to fit in the car without compromising performance or handling. This can be a delicate balance, and it often requires custom fabrication and design work.

Another challenge is integrating the new EV drivetrain with the car's existing systems. This includes things like the brakes, steering and suspension, as well as the dashboard and other controls. In some cases, it may be necessary to replace or modify these systems to ensure they work properly with the new EV drivetrain.

Despite the hassle and expense, converting an internal combustion engine car over to electric is a great way to breathe new life into your old ride and reduce its environmental impact. In addition to being more efficient and producing fewer emissions than gasoline-powered cars, EVs also require less maintenance and can save drivers money on fuel costs over the long term. It's also a lot less wasteful to electrify an old clunker and give it years and years of additional use than buying a brand-new EV, which requires the extraction and use of precious resources and lots of new carbon emissions to build and ship out.

Several companies, including Electric GT, Legacy EV and EV West, now manufacture conversion kits. Even GM and Ford are getting in on the act with the recent release of so-called crate engines that car owners (or their mechanics) can easily swap into the engine bays of corresponding models.

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Caption: It is technically possible to convert a gas-powered car to an EV, but not without complications and expense. Credit: Tony Castley, FlickrCC.

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"No Zero Days"

Is there something about your health you'd like to change?

For most Americans, this question usually triggers a wide range of responses. In my practice, most responses usually center on wanting to lose weight, being more consistent with their exercise routine, or finally stopping smoking, drinking or vaping. What do these 3 lifestyle changes have in common? They are really, really hard to do.

Behavioral modification of daily habits and routines is a very difficult process: humans tend to get stuck in our daily ruts and stay in that groove day after day. The mental and physical energy required to change our diet or exercise on a daily basis often feels overwhelming.

So, I'd like to introduce you to a new mindset for you to try if you are one of the millions of Americans looking to change something about their health and lifestyle: No Zero Days.

Now this is not my invention, but rather has made the rounds on the internet for quite some time, originating from a motivational response by a user from the website, Reddit.

The premise is simple:

- **No Zero Days.** No matter what, each day you do something towards getting closer to your goals or dreams. If your goal is to lose 30 lbs by the end of the year, then every single day you must do something to get closer to that goal, no matter how small. Over-ate at every meal? Had too many snacks throughout the day? Skip that late night snack before bed, do a couple of sit ups or pushups before bed, or spend the evening doing some healthy meal or snack prepping for the rest of the week. Even the smallest steps add up on your journey to your goal in the long run.

- **Your new best friends.** Think of your past self as your new best friend, because they've been doing all these "No Zero Day" things to help you get to your goal each day before today. Your future self is also your best friend, which is why you want to do these small "No Zero Day" steps today: to be kind to your future best friend.

- **Self-forgiveness.** Guilt, disappointment, failure and regret can put us in a cycle of negative thoughts which hinder our progress toward our goal. Forgiving ourselves each day allows us to keep working toward our goal without guilt and remorse weighing us down.

- **Exercise and reading every single day** help fuel our body and mind, regardless of our end goals. Even one pushup, even one page: No Zero Days.

Remember, every marathon starts with a few small steps forward. Let each small day cascade into large lifestyle changes that get us to the healthy life of your dreams.

No Zero Days.



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Mark D. List, MD

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