# The Groton Independent Series 12 Series 12 Series 12 Series 13 Series 14 Series 15 Ser



# **Groton Legion Post 39 earns** "Pride of the Prairie" Award

**Bruce Babcock, American Legion Commander of Groton Post** 39, accepts the "Pride of the Prairie" Post Excellence Award on behalf of Groton Post 39 during the Department of South **Dakota American Legion Convention this summer in Cham**berlain SD. This award recognizes the top Post that receives the highest two-year membership average, and submits all yearly reports and membership awards. Pictured L-R Rod Smith, Department Vice-Commander, Bruce Babcock, Post 39 Commander, and Doug Feltman, Department Commander.

(Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



**Groton American Legion Post #39 Commander Bruce Bab**cock poises with Jan Seibel, American Legion Auxiliary District 4 President, during the American Legion and Auxiliary **Department Convention.** (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



# Hamilton selected as "Legionnaire of the Year" Doug Hamilton, Groton American Legion Post #39 Adjutant, was selected as

the American Legion District 4 "Legionnaire of the Year!" The Legionnaire of the Year selection is made on the basis of service to the Legion and service to the community, Department, and nation, all based on such service being performed during the calendar year. Pictured on the far left are Doug Hamilton and the other District "Legionnaire of the Year" winners. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



GHS Royalty
Layne Hanson, son of Jeff and Shawn Hanson, Bath; and Anna Fjeldheim, daughter of Sue and Ryan Fjeldheim, Groton, were chosen as the 2023 GHS Royalty. More photos on Page **3.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# **Dale and Joyce Grenz are Homecoming Parade Marshals**

#### by Dorene Nelson

Dale and Joyce Grenz have been chosen to be the homecoming parade marshals for 2023. They have owned and operated the local Dairy Queen in Groton since 1994, employing many students and adults from the local area and supporting the local school system and economic development along the way!

"I spent my growing up years in Aberdeen," Dale said, "while Joyce grew up on a farm near Leola. After getting married

in 1977, we lived in Aberdeen for a short time, Fargo for 4 years, Jamestown for 6, and back to Aberdeen for 7 years prior to moving to Groton in 1995."

"I began my sixteen year career working for Mac's Hardware in Fargo, and then I became the manager of the Mac's Stores in both Jamestown and Aberdeen," he listed.

"Along the way, I worked as a secretary at North Dakota State

University, the State Farmer's Union Office in Jamestown, a law office in Aberdeen, and the post office here in Groton," Joyce explained.

"On April Fool's Day, 1994, we purchased the Groton DQ," Dale said. That first year, I drove from Aberdeen to Groton every day until we found a house to purchase which has turned out to be a great location," Dale admitted.

"We've been blessed to have wonderful customers from Groton and the surrounding towns, for which we are truly grateful," Dale said. "We also have great employees and are so thankful for each one of them."

The Grenzes have three children and twelve grandchildren. Their oldest daughter Jessica. a clinical psychologist, lives with her husband and two children in Kansas City, MO. Their son Daniel, a missionary based out of Kansas City, MO, and his wife have five children. Their youngest daughter Julia along with her husband, also missionaries, and five children currently live in Bangkok.

# Weekly Vikings Recap -Vikings vs. Buccaneers By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The 2023 Minnesota Vikings season did not kick off the way anyone would have liked as the team fell to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers at home on Sunday. Despite coming into the game as heavy favorites and outgaining the Buccaneers by over 120 yards, the Vikings gave up three costly turnovers in the game and made several bad penalties. These turnovers and multiple three-and-outs allowed the Buccaneers to stay in the game and ultimately find a way to upset the Vikings 20-17.

The Vikings' offense on Sunday did not look crisp, to say the least. After receiving the opening kickoff, Kirk Cousins and the Vikings' offense immediately went three-and-out and punted the ball back to the Buccaneer's offense. When the Vikings' offense got the ball back again, they finally had a nice 60-yard drive going only to fumble on the Buccaneers' 26-yard line. They then fumbled again on the next drive thanks to Antoine Winfield Jr.'s strip-sack on Kirk Cousins. It was not until the Vikings' fifth offensive drive of the game that the offense finally scored some points on a 39-yard touchdown pass to Jordan Addison, his first of many hopefully.

The Vikings' defense, on the other hand, had a very nice game for the most part. After having the softest defense in the NFL last year, it was nice to see the Vikings show some aggressiveness. However, the Vikings' defense still lacks any sort of star power as the team had only one sack on Baker Mayfield and no forced turnovers.

The story of the game for the Vikings must be the mistakes. Kirk Cousins, who is normally conservative with the ball, had two fumbles and a key interception at the end of the first half. The interception probably was the worst mistake of the game for the Vikings. At that time, the game was tied 10-10 and there was only 0:23 remaining in the half. The Vikings were at the Buccaneers' 13-yard line ready to score and go up 17-10 into halftime. Instead of doing that, Cousins threw a pass to KJ Osborn in double coverage, which got ripped from Osborn's arms for an interception. The pass was not a bad pass per se, but it was a dangerous one that Kirk Cousins would have loved to have back.

The other big mistake came at the start of the second half. After getting a key stop on third down and forcing the Buccaneers into a field goal, rookie Jay Ward decided to jump offside on the field goal attempt. This penalty gave the Buccaneers an automatic first down, which they capitalized on by scoring a touchdown. Rather than the score being 13-10, the score was 17-10. That four-point difference is the difference between a Vikings' win and a

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2 \$\phi\$ Groton Independent \$\phi\$ Wed., Sept. 13, 2023

loss right now.

Despite the loss, there were some good performers for the Vikings. Justin Jefferson had 9 catches for 150 receiving yards, which keeps him at a good pace to be the first wide receiver in NFL history with 2,000 receiving yards in a season. Danielle Hunter had one sack and two tackles-for-loss in the game and showed he is probably the best defensive player on the Vikings now.

Looking ahead, the Vikings head to Philadelphia to face the Eagles on Thursday night as they look to not start 0-2 on the season. The short week will not bode well for the Vikings' offensive line as Garrett Bradbury missed most and I rationalized that it was just as well that of the game with a back injury and Christian I hadn't picked up sooner. Steve talked and Darrisaw was in and out with an ankle injury. I mostly listened. I quess I've been on this The Eagles, who have one of the best defensive lines in the NFL, might be in store for a big game on Thursday, to say the least.

# Joe's goodbye

Editor's note: Tony Bender took the day off to celebrate his birthday. Here's one of our favorites from *2013*.

The sky was darkened by wings flying south, the sound a deafening rumbling, an announcement of winter. God's calendar. Like the fallen leaves, a warning that growing things must stop, hunker down or die. Wondrous, yet in the din, the mes-



That's Life by Tony Bender

sage they bring is somber. Fly away if you can. Prepare, you must. Times are going to get hard.

Looking up at the sky, Joe knew he was going to die. Hell, we all know we're going to die, but the way it happened surprised everyone.

I met Joe once, some twenty years ago at my friend Steve's wedding in Michigan. It was inauspicious start to a marriage. Margo and a bridesmaid crashed into a big buck deer the night before wedding, and though there was a lot of broken glass and a totaled car, no severe injuries. Except for the deer.

Steve's older brother Joe dressed out the animal and the next day when the bride and groom made good their escape from the rice shower, there dangling from the rear view mirror, taxidermist-clean, were the buck's family jewels, decorated with a curled violet ribbon. All of us guys in tuxedos laughed, but most the women were really mad. This was not the kind of wedding one reads about in Bride Magazine. That was Joe.

My cell phone rang a few weeks ago when I was under yet another oppressive deadline. It was Steve. I knew I didn't have the 30 minutes the bull session might take so I didn't pick up, knowing that he would understand. The next Suzi Easthouse 171, Michelle Johnson 161 day, still under deadline, I missed another one of his calls. The following day, I picked up.

Joe was dead. The words hung like a shroud in the air. He had collapsed suddenly doing what he loved—hunting under a crisp autumn sky. They found him unconscious in a field. A blood vessel in his brain had burst. The irony

# Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

Real Estate & Insurance Jay Johnson, Broker

www.johnsonagencygroton.com 102 N Main St. Office: 605/397-2424

Home: 605/397-8565

was he was already dying of cancer. Everyone knew death was coming, but they had expected to have more time, the one small bit of dignity cancer typically allows—time for goodbyes.

Joe was a big brother with a little brother's rascal soul, a guy to whom rules were sometimes, well, optional. An army vet, thin and wiry, he was a guy who got things done, as good with a hammer as he was with a shotgun or a skinning knife. He had a toughness and force of will that made it hard to believe he could die, but that was the prognosis.

Steve was past the initial shock of it all, end of things enough times to know that "I'm sorry" is about the best you can do. When it got too hard, Steve said goodbye.

A week or so later, he called again. "I wanted to tell you something else," he said in his understated cadence, not a monotone, but steeped in stoicism. He wanted to tell me how Joe had died.

"Okay," I said. I thought I knew the story, but as it turns out, I didn't know everything.

They rushed Joe to the hospital in a coma and it was as bad as things can get without the patient being dead. No responsiveness. No chance for anything but death. His wife and one of his daughters kept a somber vigil, hoping he would make the grim decision that needed to be made. To let go. These are the things you hope for when there is no hope. Nurses came and went. Nothing changed.

At one point, they decided to step out for a moment to get some air. They sighed, rose, and buttoned jackets, but just as they were about to leave, something impossible happened. Joe sat up. His eyes opened and he smiled beatifically at each of them. Then he laid back down, closed his eyes, and stopped breathing forever. And that is when they started breathing again.

I was silent at the other end of the line when the story ended, afraid that my words would turn into something else. Finally, I croaked out, "It was a gift..."

Joe had gotten his goodbyes after all. In the end, he had reached across from that place that is Almost Heaven to comfort those he loved.

That was Joe.

© Tony Bender, 2013

# Conde National League

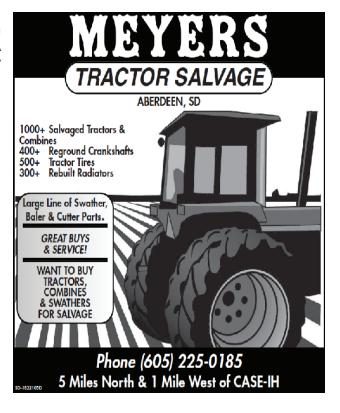
**Sept. 11 Team Standings:** Cubs 3, Pirates 3, Giants 21/2, Mets 11/2, Tigers 1, Braves 1.

Men's High Games: Butch Farmen 218, Dalton Locke 210. Ryan Bethke 187

Men's High Series: Dalton Locke 584, Chad Furney 526, Ryan Bethke 512

Women's High Games: Nancy Radke 179,

**Women's High Series:** Suzi Easthouse 489, Nancy Radke 455, Michelle Johnson 413







The GHS Royalty Court are pictured above. Candidates in back, left to right, are Dillon Abeln, Holden Sippel, Logan Ringgenberg, Sydney Leicht, Emma Schinkel, Hannah Monson and Carly Guthmiller. In front flanking the royalty are the scroll carriers Briggs Sperry and Paisley Johnson. Royalty are Layne Hanson and Anna Fjeldheim. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The GHS Pep band is under the direction of Desiree Yeigh. One of their favorite songs to play is "Yeigh, (eye) of the Ti**ger."** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Coach Shaun Wanner introduced the senior football players:** Lane Tietz, Holden Sippel, Colby Dunker and Logan Ringgen**berg.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Coach Ryan Olson introduced the senior soccer players: Braxton Imrie, Jayden Zak and Logan Ringgenberg. (Photo by



The junior class put on a "Barbie" skit at the homecoming coronation. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The GHS Cheerleaders performed at the homecoming coro**nation.** (Photo lifted from GDILIVE video)



Coach Chris Kucker from GDILIVE video)



Coach Joel Guthmiller Desiree Yeigh talked talked about the girls talked about the boys about the band program. soccer program. (Photo lifted Soccer program. (Photo by Paul Kosel)





**Coach Chelsea Hanson** talked about the volleyball program. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Coach Brooke Malsom** talked about the cross country program. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Coach Aubray Miller** talked about the cheerleaders. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Last year's reigning homecoming royalty, Queen Aspen Johnson and King Cole Simon, gave their greetings. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Joyce and Dale Grenz were introduced as the Parade Marshals this **year.** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



**Jordan Carson was the** Master of Ceremonies. (Photo lifted from GDILIVE video)

# The Groton Independent

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Tina Kosel, Office Manager office@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7285

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

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

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#### **Groton City Airport Bid** Lease Notice

INVITATION TO BID NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota, will open bids for a two-year cash rent lease for 95 acres, more or less, located on the Southeast Quarter (SW 1/4) of Section 19, Township 124, Range 60 which is six miles north of Groton on Highway 37, which is known as the Groton City Airport land, on September 19, 2023 at 7:00pm (local time) at Groton City Hall,

opened and read aloud. The Lease will be for a twoyear period commencing November 1, 2023, and terminating October 31, 2025. Payment of rent will be due each year, onehalf on April 1, and one-half on September 1. The first payment would be due April 1, 2024.

120 N Main Street, Groton, SD.

Received sealed bids will be

Questions or requests for further information or mailed bids should be directed to the City Finance Office, PO Box 587, Groton, SD 57445.

The City reserves the right to refuse any or all bids, to waive any informalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the City of Groton, SD. The City further reserves the right to terminate their lease or any part thereof if the land will be needed for non-farm or municipal use. Rent per acre would then be reduced accordingly.

Exact acreage will be determined by ASC Office determi-

September 5, 2023 Douglas J. Heinrich Finance Officer City of Groton, SD Published Sept. 6 and 13,

2023, at the total approximate cost of \$31.46 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22450

#### **Brown County Truck Scale** Bid Notice

SECTION 00 11 13 - ADVER-TISEMENT FOR BIDS

BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL BROWN COUNTY, SOUTH

TRUCK SCALE REPLACEMENT,

The Brown County Board of Commissioners will receive sealed bids for their Landfill Truck Scale Replacement project until Tuesday, September 19, 2023 until 8:45 AM in the Commissioner's Chambers at the Brown County Court House located at 25 Market Street in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Sealed bids may be sent to the Brown County Auditor at 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, SD 57401 prior to the letting, or hand delivered at the address stated above immediately preceding the bid opening. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Brown County Commissioner's Chamber at the

above-mentioned time. Bids are invited upon the items and approximate quanti-

ties of work as follows:

Base Bid – Truck Scale Re-

Approximately: 1 L.S. Mobilization, 70'x 11' Portable Scale, Refurbishment of Existing Scale.

The complete set of Contract Documents, including 11" x 17" paper drawings and specifications, is on file with the Brown County Auditor and/or at the office of Helms and Associates, 416 Production Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. Copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from the office of Helms and Associates. Plans and specifications may be obtained upon payment to Helms and Associates in the amount of \$100.00 for shipping and handling. Please state quantity documents requested. Plans and specifications may also be downloaded from the Helms and Associates web site upon a one-time payment of \$20.00. The web site is located at http:// www.helmsengineering.com/ biddocs.html. All payments are nonrefundable. Additionally, upon request, in accordance with South Dakota Codified Law 5-18B-1, one copy of Plans and Specifications shall be furnished, without charge, to each Contractor resident in South Dakota who intends, in good faith, to bid upon the project.

In addition to all of the above listed Federal requirements for work on this project, compliance with the contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act, Executive Order 11375, Copeland Act, the Clean Air Act, and Water Pollution Control Act, and subsequent amendments to all of the above will be required of con**Brown County** 

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

2024 PROVISIONAL BUDGET HEARING: Time and place, as advertised for public hearing on the 2024 Provisional Budget was held. No one from the public or various departments appeared. Updated budgets for the Maintenance department and State's Attorney office were presented. Formal action will be taken on September 26, 2023.

APPROVE PLANNING & ZON-ING ALTERNATE: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve appointing Paul Johnson as the new Alternate to the Planning & Zoning Board. All members pres-

ent voting aye. Motion carried. TICKETING AGENT FOR BROWN COUNTY FAIR: Rachel Kippley, Fair Manager met with the Brown County Commission to discuss getting quotes for a new Ticketing Agent to use for the Brown County Fair. There have been some issues with Tech Support and the scanners so the Brown County Fair Board would like to get quotes and see what other vendors offer.
MINUTES: Moved by Com-

missioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to apprové the Generál Meeting minutes of August 29, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. CLAIMS: Moved by Com-

missioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the following Claims: Professional Fees: Birmingham & Cwach Law Offices, PLLC \$577.80; Civil Solutions LLC \$1,484.50; Dakota Portable Toilets, Inc \$140.00; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$140.00; Lucy Lewno \$180.00; Mark Katterhagen \$30.00; NB Golf, LLC \$294.05; Saber Shred Solutions, Inc \$11,025.20; Schneider Geospatial, LLC \$2,703.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$93.89; TAS, Inc \$27,110.00; Tonia Jungwirth \$2,500.00; US Bank \$1,241.89; Valerie J. Larson \$30.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Ace Refrigeration, LLC \$375.36; Climate Control \$10,561.00; CommTech Inc \$1,248.53; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$978.12; Dakota Supply Group \$89.89; HF Jacobs & Son Const. Inc \$6,010.34; Hollaway Bridge and Culvert, Inc \$25,000.00; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$51.00; K & S Plumbing, Inc \$853.01; Ken's Alignment \$1.912.03; Kramp Enterprise and Investment \$38,694.09; Lawson Products, Inc \$74.34; Muth Electric Inc \$7,636.84; Schwan Welding \$55.00; Sewer Duck, Inc \$85.00; Sherwin Williams \$554.48; Steven Lust Automotive \$82.15; US Bank \$3,705.73. Supplies: Amazon Capital Services, . Inc \$77.08; Auto Value Aberdeen \$997.26; Birmingham & Cwach Law Offices, PLLC \$13.30; Charm-Tex, Inc \$81.80; Cole Paper Inc \$987.78; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$2,406.26; Domino's Pizza \$101.85; Fastenal Company \$74.01; Faulkton Drug \$29.80; Fire Safety First LLC \$284.20: Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$4.26; Geffdog Designs \$350.16; James Marnette \$149.97; Jebro Inc \$20,305.86; LabSource, Inc \$882.32; Lawson Products, Inc \$880.70; Lien Transportation Company \$18,876.48; Lucy Lewno \$3.50; Marco Technologies, LLC \$1,456.00; Matheson

Tri-Gas, Inc \$1,382.04; Menards \$317.13: Pantorium Cleaners Inc. \$84.00; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$50.60; Runnings \$232.92; US Bank \$14,854.02; Van Diest Supply Company \$4,459.10; WEB Water Bottling Company \$19.50. Travel & Conference: US Bank \$1,316.77. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$281.22; Midcontinent Communications \$302.03; Northwestern Energy \$22,370.12; US Bank \$4,624.11. Jury: Jurors \$149.98. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR RÉPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to acknowledge & approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim: Acknowledge the transfer of Ellie Weinmeister from Brown County Jail Detention Officer to Brown County Home Detention Officer, FT effective September 3, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: Russell Metz, DOE to attend SDAAO Education Meeting in Pierre, SD on October 12,2023; Aaron Walberg & Jesse Milbrandt, VSO Office to attend SDDVA Benefit School in Sioux Falls, SD from September 5-7, 2023; Scott Madsen, GIS to attend SD Geospatial Conference in Oacoma, SD from October 18-19,2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASÉ AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following Lease Agreement: Aberdeen Area Humane Society for lease of Holum Expo Building September 30 – October 1, 2023, for Second Paw Fall Sale. 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 pres-

ent voting aye. Motion carried.
SET HEARING DATE FOR HIGHWAY 5-YEAR PLAN: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to set Tuesday, September 26, 2023, as the date for the Highway 5-year plan. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LANDFILL SCALE BIDS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to authorize and approve advertising for the Landfill Scale Bids public hearing to open, read and consider bids for Truck Scale Replacement, A-9079 at 8:45 a.m. on Sep-tember 19, 2023, in the Com-missioner's Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Specifications are available at Helms and Associates and/or Brown County Auditor's Office. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: Chairman Sutton shared there will be no Commission Meeting on Tuesday, September 12th since they will be attending the Fall Convention.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to go into Executive Session for Personnel. Contracts & Legal per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session

closed with no action taken.
ADJOURNMENT: Moved by nmissioner ennert) onded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 10:48 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published September 13, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$63.47 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22466



# **GHS** 50th **Class** Reunion

The GHS Class of 1973 will be celebrating 50 years. Anyone can come down to the Legion the evening of Saturday, Sept. 16 to visit the members of the class.

#### performing work on this project. Each bid must be accompa-nied by a certified check or bank Sept. 5, 2023 draft payable to the order of Meeting Minutes SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 – GEN-ERAL MEETING

Brown County, South Dakota in an amount equal to five percent

(5%) of the total bid. A bid bond in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the total bid will be accepted in lieu of a certified check or bank draft. Surety for bid bond must be authorized to do business in the State of South

Bids may be held by Brown County Commissioners, for a period of not more than thirty (30) days from the date of opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids, investigating the qualifications of the bidders and completing financial arrangements prior to awarding the Work. The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in the bidding. By: Lynn Heupel

Lynn Heupel, Auditor Date: September 1, 2023 Published Sept. 6 and 13, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$65.12 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22456

#### **Brown County Entertainment Consultants**

NOTICE TO ENTERTAINMENT CONSULTANTS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota; until the hour of 8:45 A.M on September 19, 2023, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for: Project – Entertainment Consulting and Buying Services for the grandstand entertainment in years 2024, 2025, and 2026 at the Brown County Fair located on the Brown County Fairground, 400 24th Ave

NW, Aberdeen, South Dakota. Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market

Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 and be marked on the envelope.

"Brown County Fair Entertain-ment Consultant" to be opened on September 19, 2023.

CONTRACT: Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that the proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into a contract with Brown

The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County, and to waive any informalities or irregularities therein. Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise and State Sales Tax. Copies of the specifications

are on file at the Brown County Website Brown.SD.US; Brown County Fair Office 400 24th Ave NW Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. PHONE: 605-626-7116, Brown County Auditor's Office, 25 Market Street Suite 1, Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401. Phone: 605-626-7110. and obtained at no charge.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown

County Auditor

Published Sept. 6 and 13, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$37.53 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22449

## **Groton City Surplus Property** to be sold

Notice of Surplus Property The Groton City Council has declared the following items as surplus property: (3) 1985 30hp/1760rpm booster pumps – 230/460 volts, (3) 42" zero-turn mowers with blown head gaskets, (1) 1988 GMC Sierra single axle truck with 43.600 miles, and (1) Allis Chalmers blade with gas engine. Sealed bids will be accepted at Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street or mailed to PO Box 572. Bids are due by October 3, 2023, by 5:00pm and will be opened that same evening during the regular council meeting at 7:00pm. Please call 605-397-8422 with any questions. The City Council reserves the right to refuse any

Published Sept. 13 and 20, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$16.56 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22464



# **Dive team exercise at the Groton Pool**

The Brown County Dive Team members came to the Groton Swimming Pool Wednesday evening to refresh local dive members on how to assist people on a scene or help take care of those who may go under. Groton Fire and Rescue has four people on this team with a couple more going through training. According to a post on the Groton Fire and Rescue Facebook page, "We officially have a technical rescue rig stationed here in Groton with dive equipment ready to deploy. Our community sure has dedicated volunteers. It takes lots if hours of training to be a Dive member and keep certified! Thank you all!" (Photos from the Groton Fire and Rescue Facebook page)





The City of Groton has purchased a used sander/plow truck which will see action this winter if we get snow. The price tag was \$35,000. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# **Groton Senior Citizens**

#### August 14

Groton Seniors met with fourteen members. President Sarge Likness opened the meeting with the flag pledge. Minutes and treasurers report were read and accepted. A motion was made to get a coffee maker. It was seconded. Meeting was adjourned. Cards were played, The winners of each game were Pinochle-Bruce Shilhank, Whist- Tony Goldade, Canasta- Marilyn Thorson and Eunice McColister, Cribbage- Ruby Donovan. Door prizes were Ruby Donovan, Darlene Fischer, and Elda Stange. Lunch was served by Marilyn Thorson.

#### August 21

Nine members met to play cards. Cards were played. The winners of the games were Pinochle-Sarge Likness, Whist-Dick Donovan, Canasta- Eunice McColister and Pat Larson. Door prizes-Tony Goldade, David Kliensassor, and Elda Stange. Lunch was served by Eunice McColister.

#### August 28

Groton Seniors met for their pot luck dinner. Fourteen members attended. President led the flag pledge and a short meeting was held. We received money from Thrivent to be used for some projects \$150 will be used to buy food for the food pantry and a \$100 for the Transit in Groton motion made and seconded to pay in Groton motion made and seconded to pay for two Cribbage boards. President had the table prayer. After dinner bingo was played. Pat Larson won the black out. Cards were played after bingo. Door Prizes Pat Larson, Julie Shilhank and Elda Stange. Root beer and orange pop floats were served for lunch.

# Classifieds

## **AUCTIONS**

INTERSTATE AUCTION CENTER. September 23, 10:00am. 3 Miles East of SF, exit 402, Brandon, SD. Auctioning clean construction and farm equipment. Full listing: auctionzip. com 605-331-4550

## **EMPLOYMENT**



Full time shift supervisor opening at Ken's Food Fair, Groton SD.

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# The Life of Jennifer Furman

Memorial services for Jennifer Furman, 45, of Groton was held Sunday, September 10th at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton. Pastor Bob Forbes officiated. Inurnment will follow at a later date in Union Cemetery, Groton.

Jennifer Lee was born on October 25, 1977 in Waconia, Minnesota to Dennis and Marilee (Severance) Furman. She moved with her family to Groton before beginning school and graduated from Groton High School in 1996. Jennifer continued her education at SDSU in Brookings and then attended the Art Institute in Minnesota. After earning her degree in interior design, she spent the following 14 years working in

Jen will forever be remembered for her great sense of humor, her kind gentle spirit, her love for her pets, her loving relationship with all her family members and friends, and above all, being a devoted mom who cherished each one of her beautiful children.

Celebrating her life are her parents, Dennis and Marilee Furman of Groton, her children, Shealee, Saylor and Sophia, brothers, Jamie (Heidi) Furman of Aberdeen and Nathan Furman and girlfriend Kayla Fordham of Groton. Jennifer is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Preceding her in death were her grandparents, an infant sister, Jessica and several uncles.



# The Life of Charles Lee Robinson

With heavy hearts, we announce the passing of Charles Lee Robinson, 78, who passed away at home in Groton, SD, on September 6, 2023. Charles was born to Leonard and Doris (Carstens) Robinson on May 29, 1945, in Norfolk, NE. After high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1963. During his service, he served aboard two different ships and had two job assignments: as an engine man, and as an operator for the Drone Anti-Submarine Helicopter (DASH). He was awarded several medals and citations during his service and was honorably discharged in 1967.

After his service, Charles eventually moved to Aberdeen, SD, to be near his family around 1973. He worked at Aberdeen Sanitation with his brother until the mid-1980s, after which he moved to a farm near Groton, SD. He farmed mostly corn, and raised cattle, pigs, chickens, and horses at various times through-



out the years. However, his truest love was always the horses. Charles also worked at the Hub City Livestock Auction, enjoying the work as much as the colorful conversations with his coworkers. In general, he was especially known for his entertaining storytelling and giving nature; he never met a person that wasn't a friend. A true cowboy to the end - his light will shine brightly for all those who had the privilege of knowing him.

Charles is survived by his siblings, Karron Folker of Omaha, NE, and Randall (Cheryl) Robinson of Aberdeen, SD, many nieces and nephews, as well as countless friends and neighbors, and his treasured canine fur-babies, Bruce, Morgan, and Harley. He was preceded in death by his father, Leonard Robinson, mother, Doris Clark, and sisters, Patricia Woslager and Bonnie Mundhenke.

Memorial service was held Monday, September 11, 2023 at Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel. Rev. Jeremy Yeadon officiated. Military honors were provided by Groton American Legion Post #39. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in his honor to the American Legion Auxiliary, PO Box 125, Groton, S.D. 57445, which was very close to his heart.



Is anyone interested in being a sponsor of any of these volleyball matches to be livestreamed on GDILIVE.COM? They are \$25 per match. Text Paul at 605-397-7460 or email paperpaul@grotonsd.net.

JV at Clark C at Warner C at Tiospa Zina JV at Tiospa Zina C at Florence JV at Florence C vs. Great Plains Lutheran JV vs. Great Plains Lutheran

# **Sunflower Golf** Tournament

Sunday, Sept. 10, 2023 at the Olive Grove Golf Course

#### **Championship Flight**

1st – Reid and Carlee Johnson – 70 2nd – Connor and Carleen Hanson – 71 3rd – Brad and Dar Larson – 73 4th - Clay and Mikaela Nutting - 74 Blake and Leah Ronning – 75 Ian and Rylie Rose – 76 Kyle and Tyhe Gerlach – 76 Jake and Tiffany Unzen - 76 Chad and Haley Ellingson – 77 Brad and Brenda Waage – 78 Robin and Gayle Vrooman - 80



Championship flight winners Reid and Carlee John-

**SON.** (Photo courtesy Alexa Schuring)

#### First Flight

1st – Randy and Sue Stanley – 78 2nd – John and Darci Withers – 80 3rd – Josh and Madison Claymore – 82 Jonathan and Mandilyn Fliehs – 82 Heath and Katelyn Giedt - 82 Tom Mahan and Brenda Madsen – 83 Josh and Josev Heupel - 84 Sam and Michyl Cahoy – 84 Butch Farmen and Suzie Easthouse – 92



First flight winners Sue and Randy Stanley. (Photo courtesy Alexa Schuring)

#### **Second Flight**

1st – Lance and Cindy Frohling – 85 2nd - Tony and Mandy Grohs - 85 3rd – Lorin and Julie Fliehs – 86 4th – Ryan and Kaitlyn Fair – 88 Isaac and Nikki Abeln – 89 Larry and Shirlee Frohling – 89 Torre and Denise Raap – 90 Casey Hutchison and Deb Fredrickson – 92 Craig and Abby Miller - 107



Second flight winners Cindy and Lance Frohling. (Photo courtesy Alexa Schuring)

#### **Pin Prizes**

Men's Closest to the Pin Hole #8 – Clayton Nutting

Women's Closest to the Pin Hole #4 – Cindy Frohling

Longest Putt #9 – Jonathan Fliehs



Camryn Kurtz is painting an outline of Anna Bisbee. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

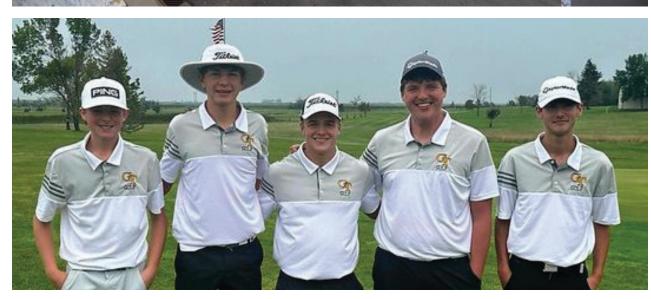


The GHS Seniors painted the Downtown Street Sunday evening for homecoming week. Those doing the painting are pictured above. In back, left to right, are Bradin Althoff, Jacob Zak, Layne Hanson, Lexi Osterman, Emma Schinkel and Austin Aberle; in the middle row, left to right, are Logan Ringgenberg, Colby Dunker, Tristan Kampa, Holden Sippel, Dillon Abeln, Shaela McGannon, Claire Heinrich, Anna Bisbee, Faith Fliehs, Cadence Feist and Emily Clark; in front, left to right, are Lane Tietz, Anna Fjeldheim, Kyleigh Englund, Ava Wienk, Ashlyn Sperry, Sydney Leicht, Lydia Meier, Carly Guthmiller, Camryn Kurtz and Kate Profeta. (Photos by Paul Kosel)



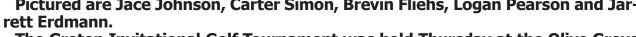
Logan Ringgenberg is painting a Tiger paw. (Photo by Paul Kosel)





Lane Tietz is starting to paint the E in his name. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# Groton Area boys take second at Groton Golf Invite Pictured are Jace Johnson, Carter Simon, Brevin Fliehs, Logan Pearson and Jar-





Aberdeen Roncalli won the team title with 315 points followed by Groton Area with 322, Sioux Valley had a score of 328, Milbank had a score of 334, Aberdeen Central had a 386 and Redfield had a score of 400,

Junior varsity golf members were Keegan Harry with a 123, Treton Smith with a 130 and Jacob Tewksbury with a 130. (Photo from Groton Area Facebook Page)



Emily Clark is starting to paint the E in her name. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# **Boys Soccer team loses to James Valley Christian**

Earlier this week, Groton Area lost to James Valley Christian, 4-0, dropping the boys soccer team to ninth place in the state. The next action is set for Sept. 21 when James Valley Christian play in Groton.

# **Groton girls soccer team tie with S.F. Christian**Groton Area and Sioux Falls Christian battled to a 1-1 tie in girls soccer action Saturday in

Groton Area and Sioux Falls Christian battled to a 1-1 tie in girls soccer action Saturday in Sioux Falls. Sioux Falls Christian scored first early in the second half. The Tigers scored later in the game on a free kick (foul) from Sioux Falls Christian. Jerrica Locke had an assist. Laila Roberts scored the goal. Jayden Penning had eight saves. The next soccer game is Sept. 23 at Tea Area. Tea Area and Groton Area are number one and two respectfully in the power points. That game will be broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM.

**Groton Area Tigers** 

Rushing: 48 carries for 133 yards, 2 TDs

Korbin Kucker: 34-94 Christian Ehresmann: 3-12 Brevin Fliehs: 1-(-2) Teylor Diegel: 3-48, 1 TD Lane Tietz: 6-(-13) Keegen Tracy: 1-0

#### Passing:

Lane Tietz completed 8 of 15 for 92 yards, 1 TD Korbin Kucker completed 1 of 1 for 2 yards

#### **Receivers:**

Colby Dunker: 2-22, 1 TD Teylor Diegel: 2-28 Keegen Tracy: 3-28 Christian Ehresmann: 2-16

Fumbles: Had 3, lost 1 **Penalties:** 2 for 10 yards

#### **Defensive Leaders**

Brevin Fliehs: 10 tackles Korbin Kucker: 10 tackles

Christian Ehresmann: 10 tackles, 1 sack

Lane Tietz: 1 interception Keegen Tracy: 1 interception Logan Ringgenberg: 1 sack Colby Dunker: 1 sack Teylor Diegel: 1 sack

**Record:** 3-1 (NEC: 3-1) **Next Game:** Friday host Deuel

#### **Scoring: First Quarter**

**Second Quarter** 

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# Football: Groton Area 14, Clark/Willow Lake 0 Clark/Willow Lake Cyclones

**Rushing:** 28 carries for 46 yards

Griffin Musser: 14-25 Jack Helkenn: 6-25 Josh Kannegieter: 1-2 Elliot Bratland: 2-4 Emmerson Larson: 5-(-18)

#### **Passing:**

Larson completed 5 of 12 for 18 yards

#### **Receivers:**

Josh Kannegieter: 2-14 Jack Helkenn: 1-9 Griffin Musser: 2-(-5)

**Fumbles:** Had 0, lost 0 **Penalties:** 4 for 16 yards

#### **Defensive Leaders**

Jack Helkenn: 8 tackles Elliot Bratland: 8 tackles

**Record:** 1-3 (NEC: 1-2) Next Game: at Parker



**Keegen Tracy** (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# **Tiger Gridiron takes** wind out of Cyclones Groton Area scored two touchdowns in the

first half and that was enough to take the wind out of the Clark/Willow Lake Cyclones, 14-0. The football game was played Friday in Groton.

Korbin Kucker had 94 yards rushing and 10 tackles while Teylor Diegel had 48 yards rushing, 28 yards receiving and one 47-yard touchdown. Keegen Tracy had 28 yards receiving and one interception. Colby Dunker had 22 yards receiving, caught one touchdown and had one sack. Christian Ehresmann had 12 yards rushing, 16 yards receiving, 10 tackles and one sack.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE. COM, sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, BK Custom Ts & More, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Krueger Brothers and Locke Electric with Mike Nehls, Jeslyn Kosel and Paul Kosel.



**Korbin Kucker** (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Tevlor Diegel (Photo by Paul Kosel)

# Webster Invitational Cross Country Results

The Webster Invitational Cross Country meet was held Monday with Groton Area participating in four divisions. The results are as follows:

**Varsity Boys 5K Race:** 32, Gavin Kroll, 21:58.20; 37, Jayden Schwan, 22:35.94; 48, Nathan Unzen, 24:23.28.

Boys JV 3K Race: 32, Kason Oswald, 19:17.75; 33, Logan Clocksene, 22:35.33. Girls Varsity 5K Race: 9, Ryelle Gilbert, 22:31.14; 42, Rylie Rose, 27:31.48. **Girls JV 3K Race:** 13, Sydney Holmes, 16:10.81; 41, Emily Clark, 21:10.37.

## **Groton City Babcock Variance Notice**

NOTICE OF VARIANCE HEARING NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton Planning & Zoning Commission will be holding a public hearing on September 25, 2023, at 6:00pm CDT at City Hall, 120 N Main St., Groton, SD for a variance of Part 9, Chapter 9.01, Section 9.0106 of the Groton Zoning Ordinance. This application was made by Bruce and Karyn Babcock for a shed placed 0 foot within the East lot line in a Residential (R-1) District at 509 E 5th Ave., Groton, SD, legally described as Lt 1-6, Bierman's 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 September 13, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$10.12 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 22465



Here are some of the cross country runners for Groton Area this year. In back, left to right are Kason Oswald, Jayden Schwan, Gavin Kroll, Logan Clocksene, Nathan Unzen; and in front are Sydney Holmes, Emily Clark. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



Kason Oswald, Logan Clocksene, Tristen McGannon. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)

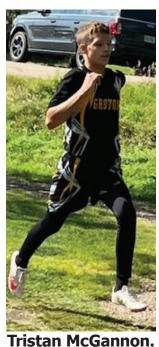


last minute advise prior to the varsity boys race. (Photos courtesy Bruce Babcock)



**JD Schwan leads** the Groton boys. (Photo courtesy

Bruce Babcock)



Redfield

**Cross** 

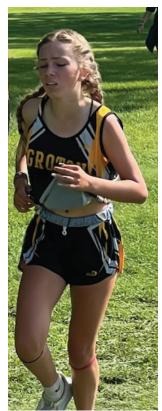
**Country** 

**Photos** 

(Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



(Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



Ryelle Gilbert. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)





Rylie Rose won the girls Junior Varsity race. (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)

# Cavaliers set back Tigers in three sets

It was a tough night for the Groton Area volleyball teams as Aberdeen Roncalli won three of the five matches played Thursday night at Aberdeen Roncalli.

The varsity team lost in three sets, 25-23, 25-22 and 25-17. Sydney Leicht led the Tigers with six kills, two ace serves - all in the second set and 11 digs. Anna Fieldheim had 12 digs, five kills and two blocks, Faith Traphagen had three kills and one block, Lydia Meier had three kills and one ace serve, Elizabeth Fliehs had three kills and 16 assists, Rylee Dunker had two blocks and one kill, Emma Kutter had two blocks, Carly Guthmiller had 18 digs, one kill and one ace serve, Jaedyn Penning had one kill and Laila Roberts had two assists.

Ava Hanson led the Cavaliers with 10 kills and five blocks while Jaidyn Feickert had nine kills and one ace and Maddie Huber had six kills and one ace serve.

Groton Area is now 3-2 and Roncalli goes to 4-1.

The match was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, BK Custom Ts & More, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Dan Richardt at Groton Ford, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Krueger Brothers, Locke Electric.

The junior varsity team won its match in two sets, 25-14 and 26-24. Jaedyn Penning had seven kills and five ace serves, Chesney Weber had five kills and two ace serves, Talli Wright three kills and two ace serves, Emma Kutter three kills and one block, Taryn Traphagen two kills and one block, Kella Tracy two kills, Jerica Locke one ace serve and one kill and Sydney Locke had two ace serves.

The junior varsity match was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Adam and Nicole Wright.

The C team also won its match in two sets, 25-19 and 25-21. Emerlee Jones had nine kills, Taryn Traphagen five kills, Liby Althoff four kills, McKenna Tietz three kills, Leah Jones and Teagan Hanten each had two kills, Hannah Sandness, Avery Crank and Ashlynn Warrington each had two ace serves and Brenna Imrie had one ace serve.

The C match was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Seth and Evan Erickson at the Erickson Insurance Agency.

Roncalli won the eighth grade match, 25-20 and 25-19, and the Cavaliers won the seventh grade match, 25-13 and 25-14.



# Tax limitations, Langford football cooperative discussed during Monday's school board meeting

#### by Elizabeth Varin

analyze whether it should opt out of the tax limitations, which could lead to higher property tax rates to support the district.

On Monday, the board went over a timeline to look into the current to the year the taxes are payable. state of the district's finances and options for the future. The district is scheduled to discuss the following at its upcoming meetings:

- Discussion about financial history and a current review of the general fund is scheduled for the Oct. 10 meeting.
- Discussion about the financial forecast for the district is scheduled for the Nov. 13 meeting.
- Discussion about the capital outlay plan and alternatives to an optout vote is scheduled to be discussed at the Dec. 11 meeting.
- A mid-year financial update and possible opt-out decision is sched-

uled for the Jan. 8, 2024 meeting.

An excess tax levy, or "opt-out," can be voted on by the school board if the district cannot operate on the revenues generated by the maximum levy for general fund and monies from state aid. At that point, the district would "opt-out" of the levy limitations.

have it, the better," said Superintendent Joe Schwan.

The long lead time on a vote will allow for thorough discussion of the options available and ample time for the public to comment on the issue as well, he said.

was coming," he said.

The district is facing budget issues after significant drop in state aid and local revenue sources. The district has already transferred an estimated \$700,000 from capital outlay funds to make up for the deficit in the general fund, but options presented at the July school board meeting included opting out of the general fund tax freeze or

The district is also looking at ways to make jobs at the school competi-

tive as there continues to be a teacher shortage throughout the state. **Chunk Style** Oil or Water W/ \$10 PURCHASE & KEN'S APP RADE CANDY 35 Lb. Bulk Boxes Available LOCAL FIREFIGHTERS in the FILL THE BOOT 446 CAMPAIGN! Available for ALL Your Ken's Fresh 93% Lean Ground **USDA Choice Demkota Boneless Petite Bottom Sirloin Steak Mandarins** Milk 2%, 1%, or Whole \$349 I Gallon Jug Frozen **Ultra Thin Boneless Pork Crust Pizza Tomato or Chicken** Noddle Soup 12.76-21.71 Oz. Pkg Per Lb. Liquor 10.75 Oz. Cans Reserve Bourbon fiora 750 ML **Bath Tissue or** Vegetables Household \$ 4.29 **Paper Towels** - \$1.00 **Power Wash** Net Price or EZ Squeeze Dish Detergent 14.5-15 Oz. Car 6-12 Roll Pkg **\$4**99 16-24.3 Oz. Bottl CAPRISUN Bakery Honey Nut Cheerios Bakery Laughing Cow Lucky Charms 1480s. Cinnamon Toast Crunch Reese's Puffs 1870s. Golden Grahams 1870s. Fresh Marble Pouch Drinks Rye Bread \$399 I Lb. Load \$499 Each EBT WELLER

"The intention is to be able to work through this methodically through For the next few months, the Groton Area School District board will the next few months," Schwan said. "That way we're not rushing through this."

An opt out needs to be done between Jan. 1 through July 15 prior

No vote to continue toward an opt out was taken as the agenda item was for information only. However, board members didn't show enthusiasm for the upcoming discussion.

"I'd like to say I'm looking forward to it (the conversation), but ..." said Board President Deb Gengerke before shaking her head no.

#### **Lions and Tigers?**

Discussion continued Monday about creating a cooperative with the Langford Area School District for athletics.

The district received a letter in early August requesting a meeting to discuss the possibility of a co-op for high school varsity football.

"For the last few years, we have tried to maintain a stand-alone football program," read the letter from Langford Area School District Superintendent Shad Storley. "The number of participants, however, has made fielding a varsity team difficult, and the projected numbers "We don't have to have that decision in January, but the earlier we of the next few years warrants us reaching out to area schools to see if there is interest in forming a football co-op.'

Groton district officials met with Langford representatives at the end of August to discuss the options, and Langford has also approached the Britton-Hecla school district, Superintendent Schwan said. Lang-"I don't want to catch anybody off guard, that they didn't know this ford has also sent a letter to the South Dakota High School Activities Association to look into the possibility of a 6-man team.

> Not much has changed for the Groton school district since the issue was discussed a couple of years ago, Schwan said. For now, the district is waiting to see if Langford officials feel it is worthwhile to continue discussions. At that point, Schwan said, more meetings will be scheduled.

In other action:

- Board Vice President Marty Weismantel asked for a breakdown of a specific fund that includes uniform and horn fees paid by students. It doesn't seem fair that there is an extracurricular group that has to pay uniform fees while others don't.
- The middle and high school are looking to rebrand a service for those that need some homework help from ICU to the Homework Academy. District staff have worked through ways to improve the service and make it more effective for students. "Hopefully there's not tons of kids on it, but for the ones that are, hopefully we can get them what they need," said 6-12 Principal Shelby Edwards.
- Updates are coming to the Groton High School Arena scoreboard. A community donor requested to install statistic panels to the current scoreboard inside the gymnasium. The district has also secured sponsors to fund the upgrade. The project is scheduled to be completed before the basketball season begins.
- A non-profit is forming to support the educational mission of the district. The Groton Area School Foundation has held a couple of meetings and will look into adopting by-laws and further defining its focus at an October meeting.
- District officials are working to improve attendance for Hispanic/ Latino and English learners at the elementary school. The K-5 school is expected to be identified for "targeted support and improvement" based on data from the 2022-2023 school year. That data isn't expected to be released to the public until October or November.
- The district updated its Learn On plan, which is the document that spells out the district's plan for a safe return to instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic. The plan is updated twice a year, and September's updates include some small updates, as well as cutting pages dealing with district- and state-sponsored COVID testing as those funds are no longer available.
- Enrollment numbers are shifting as the school year begins. The elementary school enrollment totals 298 students with 19 junior kindergarteners, 50 kindergarteners, 39 first graders, 45 second graders, 43 third graders, 49 fourth graders and 53 sixth graders. The middle school has 124 students as of Monday, including 40 sixth graders, 41 seventh graders and 43 eighth graders. The high school has 172 students, including 41 ninth graders, 45 10th graders, 46 11th graders and 40 12th graders.
- The board approved hiring Robin Bitz as a middle school/high school special education paraprofessional at \$14.74 per hour.
- Second grade teachers Anne Zoellner and Emily Dinger discussed classroom projects and reading intervention training during a program overview presentation. Both Zoellner and Dinger are taking part in the AIM Pathways professional training program offered through the South Dakota Department of Education. The program includes opportunities for classroom teachers, paraprofessionals and school administrators to train on new literacy methods and tools. "I'm excited to be ab le to implement this in our intervention time," Dinger said. "I think we'll be able to target those midding links."
- Third grade teachers Heather Rowen and Missi Smith presented changes made to help students in developing math skills. Rowen and Smith, along with other district staff, have worked to implement Response to Intervention, which is a framework used to ensure the learning needs of all students are met. Specifically, the team took testing data and broke down what skills each student needs to work on. They were then able to target those specific issue in small groups. "The growth we say in the spring was really exciting," Rowen said. "We're happy we gave it a try."