



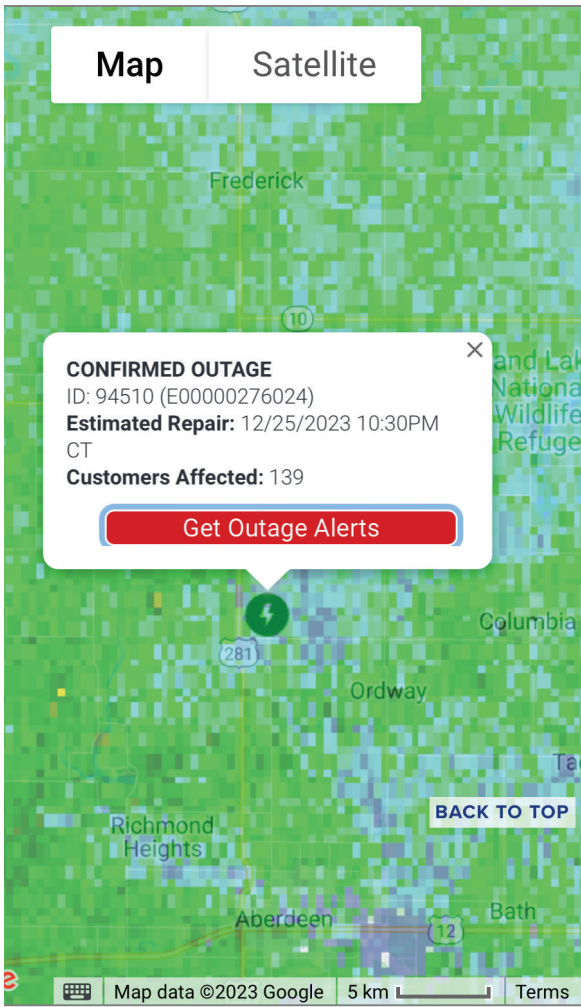
\$2

The Groton Independent

Vol. 141 No. 14 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Dec. 27, 2023 ♦ Established in 1889

Ice storm hits area on Christmas Day

There was snow. Then there was rain. Then there was freezing rain. All of the conditions came together to create the ice storm that hit the area right on Christmas Day. With the rain, freezing rain and snow, there was 1.85 inches of moisture that fell. Snowfall amount was about five inches. On Dec. 23, a record high of 55 degrees was recorded, breaking the previous record of 54 degrees in 1893.



According to the Northwestern Energy outage map, there was an outage in Columbia and an area around Columbia Christmas Day evening. The outage was for about two hours.



From the National Weather Service in Aberdeen: 1:25am 12/26/2023: Temperatures have warmed up above freezing here in Aberdeen (34 degrees) and there's a little bit of melting of the ice on the trees. Here's a look at the ice accumulation we had here at the office. Total ice accumulation is right around 0.25".



It was the first time this winter that the city grader was used to remove snow (slush) off the streets. Looks like a mess, doesn't it! (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Gavin Kroll, Camryn Kurtz and Kyrie Yeigh sang the National Anthem Thursday night at the boys basketball game with Aberdeen Roncalli. The three were winners at the Snow Queen Contest and will represent Groton Area at the Snow Queen pageant in Aberdeen in January. (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM)



The Aberdeen Roncalli dance team (above) and the Groton Area dance team (below) performed at halftime of the Groton Area and Aberdeen Roncalli boys basketball game on Thursday in Groton. (Photos lifted from GDILIVE.COM)



Weekly Vikings Recap - Vikings vs. Lions

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The Minnesota Vikings hosted the Detroit Lions on Christmas Eve in what was the Vikings' second annual white-out game. Coming into the game, there are several playoff implications for both teams. If the Lions won, they would clinch their first-ever NFC North title, since the division was formed in 2002. If the Vikings won, they would put themselves in a good spot to clinch a playoff berth and even potentially still win the NFC North.

After winning the coin toss, the Lions made the rare decision to elect to receive the ball to start the game. Since their bye week, the Lions have had arguably the worst defense in the NFL so it made sense that they would elect to begin the game with their potent offense. The decision paid off for the Lions as they drove right down the field for a touchdown to kickstart the game.

Although the Vikings responded with a touchdown of their own, it did not come without the usual turnover-worthy throw by Nick Mullens in the red zone. Although the interception was dropped by the Lions, it would be the last time they dropped a Nick Mullens pass that hit their hands. It is becoming a serious issue for the Vikings' offense that Mullens cannot keep the ball out of opposing defenders' hands. After Sunday's game, Mullens now has six interceptions in his two starts this year. The interceptions started to show their negative effect on the Vikings' defense as the Lions were able to win the time-of-possession battle by over 10 minutes and completely tire out many of the Vikings' defenders in the run game late in the game.

The unfortunate story for the Vikings on Sundays was the injuries that happened to key Vikings players. Both Jordan Addison and TJ Hockenson went out in the first half with leg injuries, and DJ Wonnum went out in the second half with what looked like a season-ending knee injury. At a certain point, there are just too many injuries for this Vikings team to overcome and the Vikings may have finally met that mark.

The main story of the game had to be the putrid performance of the referees. In the first half, they called a roughing the passer penalty on Patrick Jones II when it was not one. And then, they overturned what would have been a Vikings' scoop-and-score touchdown on a Jared Goff fumble after determining that Goff's arm was moving forward on the play. Given the call on the field was a fumble, many assumed the referees would be unable to overturn the call as it was not evident that Goff did not lose control of the ball while his arm was moving forward. Instead, the referees quickly overturned the call in what felt like a game where no call would go the Vikings' way.

The one positive out of this game was that Justin Jefferson seemed to be back to normal.

Jefferson, who has yet to eclipse 100 receiving yards since week 3, finally did Sunday with his 141-yard performance. With the injuries on offense, it will not be shocking if the Green Bay Packers feel they can get away with double or triple coverage on Jefferson next week with the lack of talent elsewhere on the Vikings' offense.

In the end, Mullens' four interceptions and blown referee calls were too much for the Vikings to overcome as the Vikings fell to the Lions on Christmas Eve to officially end their chance at repeating as NFC North champions for the first time since 2009.

Lions 30 - Vikings 24

Next week, the Vikings will host the Packers on New Year's eve. If the Vikings end up falling to the Packers, their playoff chances will likely be officially over.

Harvesting memories

A friend of mine, a sometimes combative high profile member of the media, just returned from New York City. He's been seeing the sights, attending Broadway shows, getting lost in Manhattan, all the things you do in the Big Apple. Getting a slice of the local pizza. Hanging out in Central Park. Times Square.

Let's call him Mike. Because that's his name. He's a bit of a troll and has taken to jousting on the interwebs with those who have bought into the notion that all cities are lawless hellscape. They're sleeping restlessly at nights with an AK-47, which for the record, is not a fem-bot. These are the guys who could dot the "i" on a Bud Light can at 300 yards and punch out an ornery steer. But a subway calls for Depends.

The unfamiliar makes snowflakes of us all. That's why I break into a cold sweat in church. I can't imagine being Catholic. No way I'm confessing to things for which the Statute of Limitations might not have expired.

"Forgive me father, for I have sinned. A lot."

"Who's that with you, my son?"

"I'm Slick Lee Dunne, your honor, attorney at law. We're seeking a plea deal."

"This is highly irregular, Tony, but I'm listening."

"I'm taking the fifth, your majesty."

OK, let's get back to my friend Mike who we last saw dashing for a Huey under suppressive fire. "How many times did you get murdered?" I asked him upon his return. It's kind of an inside joke. Neither of us can text the word "Minneapolis" without prefacing it with "the smoking ruins of what was once Minneapolis."

I love the elbow room, the people, the quality of life on the Northern Plains, but I've lived in cities and am drawn to visit them for the concerts and art. My kids knew how it would go. We'd stay in the heart of the city so I could sip coffee at an outdoor table, read the paper, and watch people. Chess hustlers. Musicians. Business people scurrying here and there. One



That's Life

by Tony Bender

morning, a bedraggled man asked Dylan for some help. Dylan gave him his breakfast and his last \$5. The kind of character and compassion every parent wants their kids to have.

First on the agenda are museums. History. Art. My kids and I have done marathons in museums in numerous cities, soaking in the works of famous artists and many unknowns who deserve to be on the same walls with Monet and Rembrandt.

I emerge always with hope for our suicidal species. We are capable of transcendent beauty. That, I've convinced myself, is where our future lies when we're done howling at the moon and each other.

I visited Chicago in April, truly a great city with a magnificent art museum. When you go to an concert and see a musician you've long admired, it's invigorating, and when you witness artworks you've only seen in magazines and books, it's life-changing.

In every city, it's harvest. I gather up memories, conversations, the people I meet. In Chicago, there was the young man with a valet business who drove me from the wrong restaurant to the right one. I gave him some business advice, and a nice tip, naturally.

My Uber drivers came from around the globe. Moms and dads putting kids through college, everyday celebrating the abundance of America we only deign to appreciate on holidays. Immigrants. People so many have come to fear.

There are sections of any city with a deserved reputation. In Denver, it was Colfax or North Federal, and a few others places, but I met friends there, frequented hole-in-the wall cafes, merchants, and the occasional watering hole.

One summer day, I found myself in a Hispanic neighborhood at a small grocery store with a fragrant deli in back. I have no idea if that kitchen could have passed a health inspection but my kitchen has looked worse, and the pastrami sandwiches were mouth-watering.

I found all kinds of excuses to return because the food was so good. So good that I think of those sandwiches more than I do all the delicacies I've had in New Orleans or New York. By summer's end, I was a recognizable regular who elicited giggles when I attempted even the basest Spanish.

I'll always return to the prairie until I grow restless. Then it's time to harvest more memories.

© Tony Bender, 2023

MEYERS

TRACTOR SALVAGE

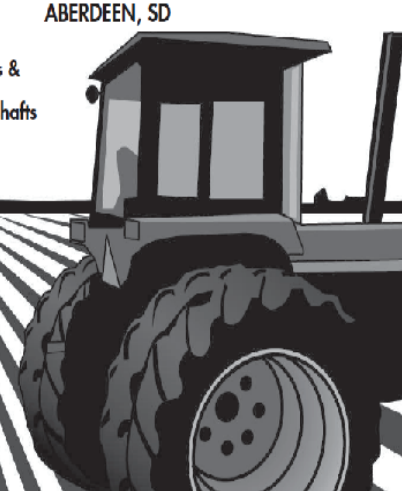
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

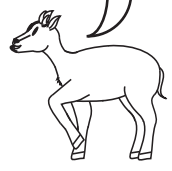
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	5			8				1
7					9	3		
		8	5					3
1					4		6	9
	2			9		5		
		7	3					6
5	4			6		2		
9					1		8	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Ring in the New Year!

How will you be ringing in the new year? Will you have a small, quiet family celebration or a large party with friends and neighbors? Some people wait for midnight to strike while munching on treats at home. Others love going out to a restaurant to eat and listen to a live band. They enjoy the crowds and noise.

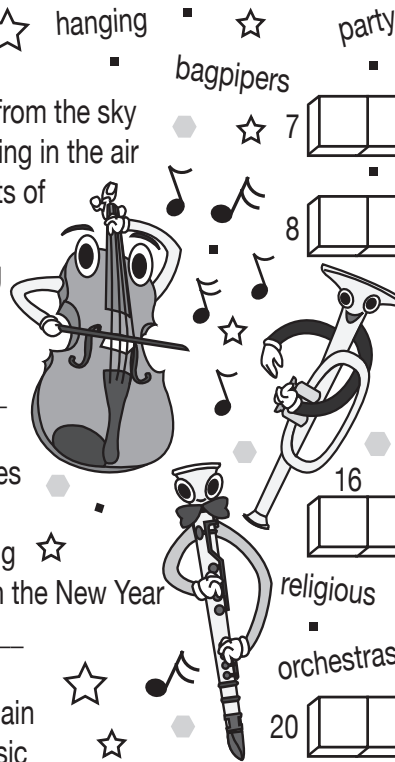
Okay, okay! So you caught me ringing the bells to wish everyone a joyful New Year. Get with the program already and get this puzzle done!

Family Fun:

4. watch a _____ game on T.V.
6. decorate house with streamers and _____
7. _____ the night away with your friends and family
10. serve favorite _____
11. visit with your _____ and friends
12. play _____ to dance the night away
13. make and keep _____ to do something better in the new year
14. _____ to health, wealth, and good luck
16. cheer with _____ and horns
17. _____ up new calendars

Community Fun:

1. _____ falling from the sky
2. _____ exploding in the air
3. _____ with lots of food and dancing
5. _____ playing Auld Lang Syne
8. line the streets to watch the _____
9. attend special _____ services
15. warm and bright _____ blazing
18. _____ ring in the New Year
19. glowing _____ drops at midnight
20. _____ entertain with beautiful music



crossword puzzle grid with clues:

- 1 toast
- 2 bonfires
- 3 family
- 4 party
- 5 ball
- 6 balloons
- 7 bagpipers
- 8 fireworks
- 9 refreshments
- 10 music
- 11 confetti
- 12 resolutions
- 13 noisemakers
- 14 bells
- 15 religious
- 16 orchestras
- 17 football
- 18 parade

What Time is it? The New Year is a time to visit and think about:

How time flies! In the U.S.A. there is a three-hour time difference between the east coast city of New York and the west coast city of San Francisco. In Canada there is also a three-hour time difference between the eastern city of Montreal and the west coast city of Vancouver. When the clocks in New York City and Montreal strike midnight and people there are welcoming in the new year, what time is it in San Francisco and Vancouver?

Use this color key to fill in the puzzle: R = Red Y = Yellow

Large grid puzzle with color key (R=Red, Y=Yellow) and the word 'and' written vertically.

Western Coast
San Francisco, U.S.A.
[]
Vancouver, CAN

Eastern Coast
New York City, U.S.A.
12:00 a.m.
Montreal, CAN

Making New Year's Resolutions!

Everyone is talking about New Year's **resolutions**. Do **you** know what a "**resolution**" is? It is a promise to break an old habit or to start something new. It is a promise to work on something to get a result. For example: "If I play with my dog every day, maybe I can teach him a new trick." **Match the first half of the phrases below to the ones that finish them:**

- | | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| If I: | Then I: | If I: | Then I: |
| 1. do my chores swiftly | A. will be in better health | 1. save my money | A. will get better grades |
| 2. do odd jobs | B. will have more time to play | 2. treat others well | B. can buy myself nice things |
| 3. keep a diary | C. will earn more money | 3. do my homework | C. will have them for a long time |
| 4. exercise more | D. will get better | 4. keep my room clean | D. will be treated well by others |
| 5. read a lot | E. won't forget things | 5. take care of my things | E. will look my best |
| 6. practice | F. learn new words and new ideas | 6. keep clean, comb my hair | F. can find my things |

The Groton Independent
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 Notices: legals@grotonsd.net
 News Items: news@grotonsd.net
 Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday
 Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below.
 The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.
Postmaster: Send address changes to Groton Independent, PO Box 34, Groton, SD 57445
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Groton City
Dec. 19, 2023
Meeting Minutes
 December 19, 2023

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their second monthly meeting with the following members present: Bahr, Wells, Babcock, Cutler, Nehls, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich, and Elizabeth Varin.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Babcock to approve the agenda with no changes or additions. All members present voted aye.

Public comments were welcomed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Cutler to table the discussion regarding a building inspector to the February 6, 2024, council meeting. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Nehls to accept the resignation of Gordon Nelson and appoint Cody Lindgren to a 5-year term as a Planning and Zoning Board representative. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wells to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 774 – Supplemental Appropriations No. 2. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Cutler to approve the November finance report. All member present voted aye.

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Nehls to table the 2024 fee schedule to the next council meeting. All members present voted aye.

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

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

Payroll, \$41,383.92, Employee salaries; Executive, \$323.20; Administrative, \$8,855.72; Public Safety, \$8,642.98; Public Works, \$23,562.02; USPS, \$289.05, Utility billing postage; City of Groton, \$857.92, Family Crisis utility payments, utility deposits applied to bills; Ronnie & Diane Fisher, \$163.16, Utility deposit refund; Ben Smith, \$44.11, Utility deposit refund; WEB Water, \$19,907.90, Water services - November 2023; Dacotah Bank, \$5,431.56, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90, HSA contributions; SD Retirement System, \$10,350.90, Employee retirement; SD State Treasurer, \$8,107.27, Sales and excise tax - November 2023; City of Groton, \$225.00, Holiday Lighting Contest utility credits; Dacotah Bank, \$2,953.05, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; Dacotah Bank, \$5,438.41, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$622.90, HSA contributions; April Abeln, \$114.37, Med flex; , , ; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; Dakota Pump and Control, \$8,903.07, Hanlon Lift

seal repair; upgrades to Trailer Park Lift Station pump system - Wastewater Dept.; A&B Business Solutions, Inc., \$363.17, Printer lease - City Hall; WAPA, \$23,703.66, Power services - November 2023; Ken's Fair Foods, \$565.86, Fuel purchases, coffee, paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags - Multiple Depts.; Heartland Waste Management, \$10,200.03, Garbage hauling; MJ's Sinclair, Inc., \$1,006.13, Fuel purchases; Altec Capital Services, LLC, \$2,189.93, Digger truck lease; Dan Richardt, \$100.00, Santa Day reimbursement; Kay's Computing, LLC, \$571.97, Setup of new server and computer at City Hall; Mac's Hardware, \$55.96, Gloves & zipties - Multiple Depts.; Geffdog Designs, LLC, \$371.98, FR clothing - Electric Dept.; Steven Lust Automotive, \$238.65, Transmission fluid & transfer case fluid - 2021 PD Tahoe; Jensen Feed & Grain, \$2,396.32, Road salt - Streets; Dahme Construction, Inc., \$11,428.48, Manhole repairs - Wastewater Dept.; OnSolve, LLC, \$270.00, One Call Now call credits; Greg's Repair, \$68.10, Oil change - 2001 Ford Excursion - PD; Cole Papers, Inc., \$91.53, Toilet paper - Community Center; Dacotah Bank Visa, \$690.84, Prizes for '1000 Books Before Christmas', FEZtival of Trees supplies, daily planners, books, dog licensing ad boost, floor cord covers, sewer sample postage, water sample postage, non-machinable stamps, Rubble Site permit application postage, fuel purchases, replacement bulbs for Christmas lights - Multiple Depts. ; James Valley Telecommunications, \$781.81, Telephone & internet services; NW Energy, \$31.21, Natural gas service - water tower; SD Municipal Electric Association, \$1,245.00, 2024 municipal membership dues; Aramark, \$58.03, Rug rent - City Hall; Groton Daily Independent, \$61.53, Publishing fees; IMEG Corp., \$435.00, Engineering services - Water Dept.;

Reminder: City Offices will be Closed on December 25th and 26th for Christmas.

Reminder: 2024 Dog Licenses are Due by December 29th, 2023.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 7:26pm. All members voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:04pm.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Babcock to promote Anna Fjeldheim to Skating Rink Manager at a wage of \$11.95 per hour plus \$250 per month. All members present voted aye.

Council travelled to Brett Anderson's shop to look at the airplanes and discuss what to expect at future hangers at the airport.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
 Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer
 Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$53.26 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22815

Groton City
Supplemental Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. 774
 2023 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2
 SECTION I: BE IT ORDAINED by the City of Groton, South Dakota that the following sums are supplementally appropriated to meet the obligations of the City of Groton and shall be effective immediately following passage.
 E 101-41470 General Financial Admin: \$25,000.00
 E 101-41920 General Gov't Buildings: \$22,000.00
 E 101-42100 Police: \$50,000.00
 E 101-43100 Streets & Highways: \$63,500.00
 E 101-45124 Swimming Pool: \$1,100.00
 TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS: \$161,600.00
 SOURCE OF FUNDING
 E 101-41110 City Council: \$3,000.00
 E 101-41150 Contingency: \$42,453.00
 E 101-41300 Elections: \$1,100.00
 E 101-41921 City Hall: \$1,200.00
 E 101-45600 Community Center: \$1,000.00
 Unassigned Fund Balance (Cash Applied): \$112,255.00
 TOTAL MEANS OF FINANCE: \$161,600.00
 Dated at Groton, South Dakota this ___ day of _____, 2023.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor
 Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer
 1st Reading: 12/5/2023
 2nd Reading: 12/19/2023
 Published: 12-26-23
 Effective: 12/19/2023
 Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$16.86 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22816

Notice is hereby given that an internal control review of the Municipality of Westport, South Dakota, has been issued by the Department of Legislative Audit at February 23, 2023, and that a report is filed with the Municipality of Westport and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The report provides information concerning internal control deficiencies that were identified during the review.

RUSSELL A. OLSON, AUDITOR GENERAL
 DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
 Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$9.50 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22820

Westport Town
Fiscal Affairs
Report

NOTICE OF INTERNAL CONTROL REVIEW OF THE FISCAL AFFAIRS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF WESTPORT

Notice is hereby given that an internal control review of the Municipality of Westport, South Dakota, has been issued by the Department of Legislative Audit at February 23, 2023, and that a report is filed with the Municipality of Westport and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The report provides information concerning internal control deficiencies that were identified during the review.

RUSSELL A. OLSON, AUDITOR GENERAL
 DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
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Groton City
2020-21 Audit Report

NOTICE OF AUDIT of the Fiscal Affairs of the City of Groton

Notice is hereby given that the records and books of account of the City of Groton, South Dakota, have been audited by Eide Bailly, LLP, Certified Public Accountants of Aberdeen, South Dakota, for the two years ended December 31, 2021. A detailed report thereon, containing additional information, is filed with the City of Groton and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The following findings and recommendations referred to in the report are hereby listed in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 4-11-12.

CURRENT AUDIT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
 Finding:
 The City does not have an internal control system designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements including required footnotes and disclosures. During the course of our engagement, we were requested to draft the financial statements and accompany noted to those financial statements.

Recommendation:
 This circumstance is not unusual in an organization of this size. It is the responsibility of the management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations. Also, a thorough review of the transactions in each fund should take place prior to the beginning of the audit to ensure that the modified cash basis of accounting has been followed for each fund type, especially for transaction types infrequent in occurrence.

View of Responsible Officials:
 Management agrees with the finding.

Finding: The City did not provide timely reconciliations for cash and equity accounts resulting in material audit adjustments.

Recommendation:
 It is our recommendation that City employees are trained on how to complete the reconciliations in a timely manner and a review process is in place to ensure they are completed correctly.

View of Responsible Officials:
 Management agrees with the finding and made corrective action starting in 2022.

RUSSELL A. OLSON, AUDITOR GENERAL
 DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
 Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$25.75 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22817

Claremont Town
Fiscal Affairs
Report

NOTICE OF INTERNAL CONTROL REVIEW OF THE FISCAL AFFAIRS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF CLAREMONT

Notice is hereby given that an internal control review of the Municipality of Claremont, South Dakota, has been issued by the Department of Legislative Audit at February 21, 2023, and that a report is filed with the Municipality of Claremont and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The report provides information concerning internal control deficiencies that were identified during the review.

RUSSELL A. OLSON, AUDITOR GENERAL
 DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
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Low carbon ethanol and sustainable aviation fuel will bring billions of dollars and thousands of jobs to our state — if we permit it.
 Here's the catch — both fuels require carbon pipelines.
 South Dakota can't afford to miss out on this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to revolutionize agriculture — our state's #1 industry.
 Killing the carbon pipeline would be a huge mistake that would damage our ag economy, limit our future and hurt every South Dakotan.
Let's find a way to build the carbon pipelines right, the South Dakota Way.

PROTECT SOUTH DAKOTA'S AG FUTURE
 A message from Protect South Dakota's Ag Future.

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**Brown County
Dec. 19, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

December 19, 2023 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: District 3 Representative, Carl Perry shared with the Commission that the Exchange Club, which works with Americanism, Community, Prevention of Child Abuse and the Youth, gave out the following awards yesterday that are selected by their teachers and demonstrate good citizens both in school and at home: Roncalli Youth Citizen Award Winners: Gabi Martinez & Asher Keller; Holgate Youth Citizen Award Winners: Lasen Redinger & Maci Bruns; Simmons Youth Citizen Award Winners: Nilda Ortiz & Jeseh Oo; Christian Youth Citizen Award Winners: Natalie Flihs. The Youth of the month kids are chosen based on school involvement through different activities, community service, church, etc. Roncalli Youth of the Month Award: Cason Hellwig; Central Youth of the Month Award: Axton Johnston and Christian Youth of the Month Award: Sophie Bosma. Mr. Perry commented that Brown County is in good shape with these good kids.

ORDINANCE #262 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #262. Applicant Don & Darlene Schumacher requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: “Sutherland’s Outlot 1” in the NW1/4 of Section 25-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13424 379th Avenue, Mercier Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #263 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #263. Applicant Nicholas Huber & Brianna Hellwig requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring these parcels into compliance for their current and future uses: Proposed Lots 1 and Lot 2, “Don and Darlene Schumacher Addition” in the SW1/4 of Section 17-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (38314 133rd Street, Aberdeen Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #264 – FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #264. Applicant Thomas Monroe requesting to rezone from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current and future use: Proposed Lot 1, “Monroe Addition” in the SW1/4 of Section 2-T128N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37824 101st Street, Palmyra Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

FAIR CARNIVAL CONTRACT: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager met with the Commission to discuss the Fair Carnival Contract with Amusement Midway Providers (AMP, Inc.) it is the same people just a new name. The contract is a 2-year contract with a 3rd year option, so if no issues between them we will continue the 3rd year. The other changes they asked for was to go from five concession stands to eight concession stands but need to stay within the same space limits and they are increasing the ticket for one-day passes from \$35 to \$37, they have a card program they will be using. Rachel asked for the Commission to approve the Fair Carnival Contract: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the Fair Carnival Contract. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

SPECIAL EVENT/ENTERTAINMENT FAIR CONTRACTS: Rachel

Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager presented the contract for Randy Buker, Hypnotist for two one-hour performances on Wednesday through Saturday of the Fair for \$5000.00. Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract for Randy Buker in the amount of \$5000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager presented the contract for Rowan Grace, competed on the Voice and is from Rapid City. The Special Events Committee did a poll on their website to ask people to vote between a couple different artists who they’d like to see, Rowan Grace was the top winner. She will be performing two one-hour performances on Friday and Saturday of the Fair for the total cost of \$6500.00. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the contract for Rowan Grace in the amount of \$6500.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXPO ROOF BID DISCUSSION: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager wanted to discuss the Expo Roof Bid wanting to know if there is anything that can be done to make it happen or if it will need to be postponed. Budgeted \$300,000.00 but the bid came in at \$658,000.00. Some different ideas or options that were discussed is the Capitol Outlay Fund that they’ve been saving for a new project, unfortunately if would almost deplete this fund because was hoping to use it for grandstand or replacement of Home Arts Building at some point. Another option is to keep patching the roof, but cost is going to continue to go up. Other options discussed was to ask the other entities that use the facility to partner with them and ask them for help on the costs; naming rights: named Holm Expo in the early 80’s due to a \$50,000.00 donation from Holm Charitable Trust – still honor this donation with a plaque or something – but offer the naming writes of the Expedition Center, would need to work the State’s Attorney on this to see if we could do that; another option was to sell signage within the Expo to put signs on the wall; borrow the funds from somewhere else or set funds aside and budget for 2025. Commissioner Sutton agreed that the cost is going to continue to rise so we need to put our thinking caps on and figure out a way to pay for it. Sutton likes the idea of seeing if someone would be willing to partner with us and possibility of naming rights. After further discussion, Commissioner Wiese asked if the bidder had listed any provision as by when we needed to make the commitment. A comment was made that prices were going up in 2024, so Rachel figured we would need to know by the next meeting. Commissioner Sutton asked Rachel to contact the bidder to see if we have to decide by the end of the year take this project on, but they don’t meet until January. Commissioner Wiese stated that this project is a good opportunity to start those conversations, plant the seeds now for something that is new and, in the future, kind of falls in the category of maintenance, which things sneak up on you, good to have the conversations to pursue it but good that we have some options that we can fund it and the cost won’t get any cheaper. Commissioner Fjeldheim asked if there is anything effected to change the naming rights from Holm Expo to something else, Rachel stated she has been looking to see if the Trust still exist and she hasn’t been able to find anything and no paperwork states perpetuity, Commissioner Fjeldheim just wants to make sure there is nothing that prevents us from renaming it. Commissioner Sutton stated in the meantime contact the bidder for a drop-dead deadline and put it on the agenda for next week.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager asked to go into Exec for Contracts. per SDCL 1-25-2. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to go into Executive Session for Contracts per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The Chairman declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

FAIR CONTRACTS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve and

authorize the Chairman to sign the Entertainment Fair Contracts for the 2024 Brown County Fair (names confidential until official press release). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EDWARDS LAND MANAGEMENT BOARD: Ross Aldentaler, States Attorney shared that there is a utility company that wants permission to bore under or cross the Edwards Land Preserve. After looking at the agreement, it is debatable whether the board needs to approve it but to be on the safe side, we need to get the Board formed, agreement states it is to remain in an undeveloped state, utility crossing wouldn’t be considered development. Board’s purpose is to manage the funds that come in for improving the property. Commissioner Sutton shared that there is a Board in place, and he is the liaison to that Board, but they haven’t met for over a year; he did reach out to Nathan Edwards to set-up a meeting to discuss this. Ross said to have the board meet and get a recommendation from them to either approve or deny the request. Commissioner Sutton shared the only issue they have dealt with was someone wanted to build a picnic shelter overlooking the lake, so they walked the path and came up with the most logical location for it. Commissioner Wiese asked for informational purposes which utility and scope of work; Scott Bader, Planning & Zoning Director shared it was Northwestern Public Service (NWPS), wanting to bore a gas line from across the lake, they have permission from State GFP, not sure if they will need permission from Corp of Engineers but they are trying to loop their gas line together from around the lake. Scott stated he asked if there would be a valve above ground and NWPS stated it would be buried and nothing would be visible on the property.

AWARD BID FOR BODY AND IN CAR CAMERA SYSTEMS: Jon Lemke, Chief Deputy recommended to go with LensLock at the \$152,745.00 for 5-year contract; they offer unlimited cloud storage and it’s included in their price along with body camera refresh half-way through the contract. Commissioner Wiese asked that they discussed the options with IT, Sheriff, Dave Lunzman shared that IT went through each of the bids, and they didn’t have any issues with the top 3 choices. Commissioner Wiese asked that if at the end of the contract, the unlimited cloud storage is then property of Brown County and Sheriff Lunzman stated that is correct. Jon Lemke shared that IT checked with LensLock that all the video footage at the end of the contract is property of Brown County, and they would work with the County to migrate it over to us. Commissioner Wiese also asked if there was a purge policy or if they would retain all of the footage for the 5 years; Jon Lemke shared they have retention set for a year then they purge but if the Sheriff’s office wants something saved longer or indefinitely, they can go in and tag it and will save it until they go in and delete it. Sheriff Lunzman shared that LensLock works with CJIS and goes through the same testing they require of all their employees as well. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to accept the bid with LensLock for a 5-year contract at the cost of \$152,745.00. All members voting aye. Motion carried.

BROWN COUNTY JAIL AND JDC INMATE HOUSING AGREEMENTS: Sheriff, Dave Lunzman shared they decided to standardize the Agreements with other counties for housing of inmates for Jail and JDC; the cost would be \$100/day for Jail and \$350/day for JDC at this time and will reevaluate at a later date. Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Inmate Housing Agreements with Walworth, Edmunds, Spink, Marshall, and Jerauld Counties at this time. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DOT AGREEMENT FOR GUARD RAIL AT RICHMOND LAKE: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent presented the Agreement with State DOT to replace the Guard Rail at Richmond Lake. The cost is \$200,000.00 and the County will be responsible for 20% of the cost or any other overage that will be done in 2024. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman to sign the Agreement with State DOT.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Representative Carl Perry shared that he has attended several meetings with Dirk, and he is always well organized and does a good job; he feels that the County is good shape with him taken care of our highways.

BID - TUCKPOINTING: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for Tuckpoint project to Tuckpoint exterior masonry and sheet metal repair on the Brown County Courthouse to be completed on or before October 25, 2024. Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent shared that she asked for two alternate options The alternate option #1, includes patching the metal and painting and option #2 would be to patching and painting everything while they are up there so don’t need to come back and do it again. One Bid was received from Building Restoration Corporation from Roseville, MN with a Base Bid of \$692,283.00 with Alternate #1 Option of \$28,550.00 and Alternate #2 Option of \$45,950.00. Commissioner Wiese asked what was budgeted and Judy shared she had budgeted \$800,000 for this project. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to defer the decision for one-week and give Judy an opportunity to review the bid. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the General Meeting minutes of December 12, 2023. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Brick’s TV and Appliance \$1,985.00; Certified Languages International LLC \$702.90; Christy Griffin-Serr Law Office \$7,211.64; Cogley Law Office, Prof LLC \$7,211.64; ComTech Inc \$1,624.95; Dependable Sanitation, Inc \$36,118.40; Dohrer Law Office, PC \$7,211.64; Emergency Service Marketing Corp, Inc \$128.69; Faulk County Sheriff’s Office \$12,240.00; Jerald M. McNeary \$7,211.64; Jeremy Lund-Siegel Barnett & Schutz, LLP \$7,211.64; John Noyes-Bantz, Gosch & Cremer \$7,211.64; Kuck Law Office \$7,211.64; Lewis & Clark BHS \$426.00; Saber Shred Solutions, Inc \$18,335.20; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$611.00; Sanford Health \$2,590.00; Satellite Tracking of People, LLC \$1,235.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$2,898.40; Taliaferro Law Firm, PC \$7,211.64; Yankton County Sheriff’s Office \$50.00. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$992.30. Rentals: Dakota Electronics \$90.00; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$49.70. Repairs & Maintenance: Artz Equipment, Inc \$42.40; B&B Contracting, Inc \$68,084.02; Double D Body Shop \$6,127.33; EcoLab Pest Elimination Division \$150.00; Graham Tire Inc \$166.05; HF Jacobs & Son Const. Inc \$290.82; Honeywell International Inc \$7,234.53; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$6,041.32; Lawson Products, Inc \$23.44; Olympic Sales, Inc \$668.14; Pheasantland Industries, Garment Division \$14.89; Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$1,459.84; Pomp’s Tire Service, Inc \$766.20; Steven Lust Automotive \$130.16. Supplies: A-1 Locksmithing \$32.50; Aberdeen Fire Rescue \$246.00; Advance Auto Parts \$1,216.47; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$99.43; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$442.05; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc \$1,023.00; Century Business Products \$1,209.48; Cole Paper Inc \$496.50; Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equipment \$290.26; East Side Jersey Dairy Inc \$858.48; FedEx \$44.05; GovConnection, Inc \$174.85; Harr Motors \$200.00; JGE, Inc \$92.66; Karen Swank \$37.00; Kessler’s \$94.35; LabSource, Inc \$501.30; Lawson Products, Inc \$277.69; Menards \$405.72; Midstates Group \$530.00; Midwest Card and ID Solutions LLC \$1,750.00; Midwest Pump & Tank \$201.17; Pantorium Cleaners Inc \$60.00; Pheasantland Industries, Garment Division \$179.50; Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC \$1,046.10; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$26.79; Pro Ag Supply, Inc \$358.32; Runnings \$627.73; Steven Lust Automotive \$224.85; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$375.00; Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center \$1,894.62; Titan Machinery \$89.50; Tri-State Water \$35.00; WEB Water Bottling Company \$9.75. Utilities: CenturyLink \$1,156.83; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$340.78; City

of Hecla \$192.98; James Valley Telecommunications \$209.10; Northern Electric \$86.00; Northwestern Energy \$1,559.52; NVC \$3,797.29; Verizon Wireless \$4,393.12. Others: Safe Harbor \$476.50; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$836,153.59.

Payroll: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,144.00; Treasurer \$16,374.22; SA \$32,898.95; Maintenance \$11,306.65; Assessor \$14,908.37; Register of Deeds \$9,932.80; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$9,124.46; HR \$4,698.75; Sheriff \$51,144.05; Jail \$63,576.34; Coroner \$613.60; Court Security \$7,507.59; JDC \$32,820.02; Welfare \$2,336.49; Museum \$11,560.93; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,918.01; Fair Board \$4,107.21; 4-H \$786.80; Weed \$2,011.23; Planning & Zoning \$7,232.60; Highway \$53,783.35; Dispatch \$32,128.68; Emergency \$4,933.61; 24/7 Sobriety \$2,503.86; Landfill \$15,696.58; FICA \$24,780.93; Medicare \$5,795.58; Discovery_HSA \$1,739.78. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim: Request to fill Brown County Landfill Grounds Worker, PT. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Travel Requests: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent to attend SDACHS Exec Board Meeting in Pierre on December 14, 2023; Kelsi Vinger and Karla Nelson, State’s Attorney/JDAI to attend National Assessment Center Leadership Symposium in Las Vegas, NV on January 28-31, 2024. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUDITORS REPORT OF ACCOUNTS FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER 2023: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the Auditor’s Report of Accounts of October 2023 as follows: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances \$37,031,515.79; Total Savings Account Balances \$1,875,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit \$5,479,550.72; Grand Total Cash & Balances \$44,394,213.93. General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$17,806,799.52; Road & Bridge Fund \$671,456.94; Road & Bridge Fund-restricted \$423,243.27; 911 Service \$634,102.74; Emergency & Disaster \$112,496.99; Domestic Abuse \$755.00; Teen Court \$0.00; Grant \$32.11; SA Grants \$56,361.33; Truancy Court \$221.23; Richmond Youth Camp \$0.00; 24/7 Sobriety (\$6,482.34); ROD M&P \$103,268.54; American Rescue Plan Federal Grant \$0.00; Rural Access Infrastructure \$442,663.63; TIF Debt Service \$453,860.45; Landfill + cash change \$4,731,305.77 Landfill – restricted \$1,400,479.44; Trust and Agency Funds \$17,563,649.31; Grand Total General Fund Cash & Investments \$44,394,213.93.

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve the Auditor’s Report of Accounts of November 2023 as follows: Total Cash and Checks on Hand \$7,700.00; Total Checking Account Balances

\$25,407,908.79; Total Savings Account Balances \$1,125,447.42; Total Certificates of Deposit \$5,479,550.72; Grand Total Cash & Balances \$32,020,606.93. General Fund Cash and Investment Balances by Funds: General Fund \$18,574,864.76; Road & Bridge Fund (\$189,290.83); Road & Bridge Fund-restricted \$423,243.27; 911 Service \$570,603.21; Emergency & Disaster \$93,976.95; Domestic Abuse \$476.50; Teen Court \$0.00; Grant \$32.11; SA Grants \$56,894.99; Truancy Court \$221.23; Richmond Youth Camp \$0.00; 24/7 Sobriety (\$10,119.15); ROD M&P \$104,365.55 American Rescue Plan Federal Grant \$0.00; Rural Access Infrastructure \$442,663.63; TIF Debt Service \$453,860.45; Landfill + cash change \$4,819,085.35 Landfill – restricted \$1,400,479.44; Trust and Agency Funds \$5,279,249.47; Grand Total General Fund Cash & Investments \$32,020,606.93. 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 an individual to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None
EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to go into Executive Session for Personnel and 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 Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to adjourn the Brown County Commission meeting at 10:12 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$198.12 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublishing.com. 22814

— King Crossword —

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

T	R	O	T	S	O	B	S	T	E	M	
L	I	E	U	T	I	A	H	A	R	E	
C	A	R	P	O	O	L	S	E	R	G	S
E	S	P	T	A	B	O	O	S			
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— Weekly SUDOKU —

Answer

8	3	9	1	7	2	6	5	4
6	5	2	4	8	3	9	1	7
7	1	4	6	5	9	3	2	8
4	9	8	5	1	6	7	3	2
1	7	5	2	3	4	8	6	9
3	2	6	8	9	7	5	4	1
2	8	7	3	4	5	1	9	6
5	4	1	9	6	8	2	7	3
9	6	3	7	2	1	4	8	5

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**Groton School
Notice of
2022 Audit**

Notice of Audit of the Fiscal Affairs of Groton Area School District No. 06-6

Notice is hereby given that the records and books of account of Groton Area School District No. 06-6 of Brown County, South Dakota, have been audited by Eide Bailly LLP for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and that a detailed report thereon is filed with the governing board, the Business Manager, and the Department of Legislative Audit, 427 South Chapelle, Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The following findings and recommendations referred to in the report are hereby published in compliance with the provisions of SDCL 4-11-12:

Current Audit Findings and Recommendations

Finding 2022-001 – Preparation of Financial Statements and Footnotes including Significant Audit Journal Entries

Criteria: The School District's internal control structure should be designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements and footnotes, which includes having an adequate system for recording and processing entries material to the financial statements being audited in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Condition: Groton Area School District 06-6 requested the external auditors to assist in the preparation of the financial statements and related footnotes for the year ended June 30, 2022.

As part of the financial statement preparation process, at times, we propose material audit adjustments that are not identified as a result of the School District's existing internal controls and, therefore, could result in a misstatement of the School District's financial statements.

Cause: The limited size of the School District's staff and resources causes the inability to prepare the financial statements and footnotes and could cause the need for auditors to, at times, propose material journal entries.

Effect: This condition may affect the School District's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements.

Recommendation: This circumstance is not unusual in an organization of this size. It is the responsibility of management and those charged with governance to make the decision whether to accept the degree of risk associated with this condition because of cost or other considerations. Also, a thorough review of the transactions in each fund should take place prior to the beginning of the audit, to ensure generally accepted accounting principles have been followed for each fund type, especially for transaction types infrequent in occurrence.

Views of Responsible Officials: Management agrees with the finding.

Published December 20 and December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$54.09 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22804



Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #5

Team Standings: Shitzus – 13, Coyotes – 13, Jackelopes – 11, Chipmunks – 9, Cheetahs – 9, Foxes – 5

Men's High Games: Brad Waage – 246, Lance Frohling – 194, Roger Spanier – 190

Women's High Games: Michelle Johnson – 225, Darci Spanier – 187, Dar Larson – 170

Men's High Series: Brad Waage – 588, Lance Frohling – 539, Tony Waage – 514

Women's High Series: Michelle Johnson – 503, Darci Spanier – 461, Sue Stanley – 455

Crescent Roll Bars

2 tubes of Pillsbury Crescent rolls

2 8 oz pkg of cream cheese – bring to room temp

1 egg

1 C of sugar

1/3 – 1/2C of cinnamon Sugar mixture (1-2T cinnamon)

Spray 9x13 pan. Layer 1 package of crescent rolls on bottom.

Mix 2 pkg of cream cheese, 1 C sugar, 1 egg yolk. (save the egg white in separate bowl). Spread mixture over crescent rolls. Sprinkle 1/2 the cinnamon sugar mixture over the cream cheese mixture. Layer 2nd tube of crescent rolls over the top. Beat egg white until frothy and spread over crescent rolls. Top with remaining cinnamon sugar mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-30 minutes. Refrigerate when cool.

Pam Titze



Happy New Year to our dear friends.

The staff and residents of the Avantara - Groton

wish the new year brings you lots of happiness and joy.

May God shower His abundant blessings upon you all year round.

Happy New Year!



AVANTARA

1106 N. 2nd Street, Groton

Conde National League

Dec. 18 Team Standings: Mets 7, Tigers 5, Braves 4, Cubs 4, Pirates 4, Giants 0

Men's High Games: Russ Bethke 195, Ryan Bethke 192, Chad Furney 186

Men's High Series: Russ Bethke 512, Chad Furney 508, Ryan Bethke 473

Women's High Games: Suzi Easthouse 180, Nancy Radke 175, Sam Bahr 167

Women's High Series: Suzi Easthouse 501, Nancy Radke 466, Sam Bahr 444

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2024

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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

A Law Court Will Affirm Colorado's Ruling on Trump

In his landmark opinion for the U.S. Supreme Court in Marbury v. Madison (1803), Chief Justice John Marshall defined the over-arching responsibility of the High Bench: "It is emphatically the province and duty of the judiciary to say what the law is." Marshall, the greatest name in our constitutional jurisprudence, observed that the Supreme Court is a law court, not a political court, a crucial distinction for a nation founded on the rationale that ours is a government of laws, not men.

With notable exceptions, the Court, historically, has been a venerated institution precisely because the citizenry believed that the Justices served, as Alexander Hamilton anticipated in Federalist No. 78, as a "mouthpiece" for the Constitution, rather than as legislators who would impose their personal and political preferences. Hamilton and his fellow framers of the Constitution wanted a law court, not a political court.

It was in the Hamiltonian-Marshallian spirit that the Colorado Supreme Court, acting as a law court, ruled that Donald Trump engaged in insurrection on January 6, 2021, and therefore is ineligible for certification on the ballot since he is disqualified under Section 3 of the 14th Amendment from running for the presidency.

The Colorado Supreme Court agreed with the fact-finding conclusion of the state trial court, following a five-day trial, that Trump, based on overwhelming evidence, had engaged in insurrection, which triggered Section 3. That provision bars from "any office, civil or military, under the United States," anyone who takes an oath "as an officer of the United States ... to support the Constitution of the United States [who] shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion."

Denver District Judge Sarah B. Wallace had held that Trump "acted with specific intent to incite political violence and direct it at the Capitol with the purpose of disrupting the electoral certification." Judge Wallace, however, inexplicably said that Section 3 did not encompass presidents. The state supreme court overturned that ruling by holding, correctly, that the American Presidency is, indeed, an "office" and that the president is a "civil officer," bound by the Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has, since the dawn of the republic, referred to the president as an officer. In the Aaron Burr Treason Trial in 1807, for example, Chief Justice Marshall held that the president is an officer, amenable to the judicial process and required to comply with subpoenas. In 1988, in Morrison v. Olson, Chief Justice Rehnquist wrote for the Court, upholding the special counsel statute, and said the president is a "principal" or "superior" officer.

Trump called the Colorado ruling "fatally flawed," and it is expected that he will shortly appeal to the US Supreme Court. The decision, however, is not flawed, but rather a "masterful" opinion, in the words of retired appellate judge Edward Luttig, one of the nation's most respected conservative jurists. Indeed, the opinion was beautifully crafted in a manner that fits the expectations of the Supreme Court Justices who style themselves textualists and originalists. The Colorado opinion is firmly grounded in the textual language and the structure of Section 3 of the 14th Amendment, precisely the exalted approach to constitutional interpretation advocated by Justices Alito, Thomas, Gorsuch, Kavanaugh and Barrett. In a word, it is mother's milk for that quintet.

As such, if the Justices remain true to their philosophy of constitutional construction and the Court acts as a law court, then the result should be affirmation of the Colorado State Supreme Court decision. Traditionally, appellate courts do not disturb the findings of fact established by the trial court, unless there is demonstrable error. In this instance, it would be very difficult to find error since all eight of the Colorado judges—the trial court judge and the seven Supreme Court Justices, including the three dissenters—agreed that Trump had engaged in insurrection. The Court might engage in a de novo review—that is, a fresh review of the facts—if it looks for an exit ramp in the event it does not want to uphold the Colorado Supreme Court, but that is rare; critic's knives would be out if the Court were to abandon the traditional approach of deference to the trier of fact.

There would remain the question of application of the law—in this instance, Section 3 of the 14th Amendment. The language of that provision is crystal clear, reflecting the aims of the 39th Congress that wrote it to protect Americans from the possibility that an officer who had engaged in insurrection might regain power. Application of the law by the Supreme Court does not contemplate at all the lack of a conviction of Trump by a court of law, since there is nothing in the text or the legislative history pertaining to a requirement of a conviction before someone can be banned from the ballot. That's because Congress, in writing Section 3, anticipated the potential return to office of men who had not been convicted or would not be prosecuted, but had engaged in insurrection. Protection of the republic was of paramount importance.

If the Supreme Court acts as a law court, in the spirit of Alexander Hamilton and John Marshall, it should affirm the Colorado Supreme Court's ruling.

Brown County 2021 Audit Report

NOTICE OF AUDIT
of the Fiscal Affairs of
Brown County
Notice is hereby given that the records and books of account of Brown County, South Dakota, have been audited by the Department of Legislative Audit for the year ended December 31, 2021, and that a detailed report thereon, containing additional information, is filed with the county auditor of Brown County and the Department of Legislative Audit in Pierre, South Dakota, for public inspection.

The following findings and recommendations referred to in the report are hereby listed in accordance with the provisions of SDCL 4-11-12.

RUSSELL A. OLSON, AUDITOR
GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE
AUDIT

Published December 27, 2023,
at the total approximate cost of
\$10.12 and may be viewed free
of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22818



**HERE'S TO THE BRIGHT
NEW YEAR, AND A
FOND FAREWELL TO THE
OLD; HERE'S TO THE
THINGS THAT
ARE YET TO COME,
AND TO THE
MEMORIES
THAT WE
HOLD.**

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Groton Community Calendar of Events for January 2024

Monday, Jan. 1
No School

Tuesday, Jan. 2
Senior Menu: Goulash, green beans, pineapple/mandarin oranges, breadstick.
No School
Basketball Doubleheader at Warner: Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV at 5:15 p.m., Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity to follow.
JV/JH boys wrestling at Oakes, 4:30 p.m.
Thrift Store open 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Food Pantry open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 3
Senior Menu: Beef stew, buttermilk biscuit, Waldorf salad, sherbert.
School Breakfast: Egg bake.
School Lunch: Chicken enchilada pasta, corn
Groton Chamber Meeting, noon, at City Hall
Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Sarah Circle, 5 p.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 4
Senior Menu: Chicken cacciatore, rice pilaf, Italian blend vegetables, apple sauce bars, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Pop tarts.
School Lunch: Corn dogs, fries.
Girls Basketball at Clark: (C game at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15, varsity to follow)
Girls and Boys Wrestling at Webster, 6 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Nigeria Circle, 2 p.m.

Friday, Jan. 5
Senior Menu: Baked macaroni and cheese with kielbasa, vegetable normandy. Blend fruit, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Egg wraps.
School Lunch: Tacos.
Boys Basketball hosts Clark/Willow Lake: (C game at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15, varsity to follow)
JH Boys Wrestling at Milbank, 5 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 6
Robotics at Groton Area Gym, 8 a.m.
Girls Varsity Wrestling at Lyman.
Boys JV Invitational at Madison, 9 a.m.
Boys Varsity Invitational at Garretson, 9:30 a.m.
Thrift Store open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 7
Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.
United Methodist: Worship with communion: (Conde at 8:30 a.m., Groton at 10:30 a.m.), Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's at 9 a.m. and at Zion at 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 8
Senior Menu: Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, glazed carrots, fruit cocktail, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Cheese omelets.
School Lunch: Chicken patty, potato wedges.
JV/JH Wrestling at Groton Area, 5 p.m.
Groton Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.
Pantry Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
United Methodist: PEOPLE Meeting (Outside Group), 7 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 9
Senior Menu: Ham rotini bake, mixed Monterey blend peas, honey fruit salad, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Biscuits.
School Lunch: Meatballs, mashed potatoes.
Thrift Store open 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Food Pantry open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Church Council, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 10
Senior Menu: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetable winter bend, carrot bars, tropical fruit, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: French toast.
School Lunch: Pizza crunchers, green beans.
School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm
United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.
St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.
Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 11
Senior Menu: Hamburger chow mein, chow mein noodles, vegetable stir fry blend, peaches.
School Breakfast: Muffins.
School Lunch: Chicken strips, baked beans.
Basketball double header hosts Tiospa Zina: (Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV at 5:15 p.m., Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity to follow)

Friday, Jan. 12
Senior Menu: Salmon loaf, oven roasted potatoes, mixed vegetables, oranges, vanilla pudding, whole wheat bread.
School Breakfast: Bagel bites.
School Lunch: Lasagna hot dish, Corn.
Girls Varsity Wrestling at Harrisburg, 2 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 13
Girls Varsity and Boys JH/JV/Varsity Wrestling at Gettysburg, 10 a.m.
Basketball Doubleheader hosts Dakota Valley (Boys C, 2 p.m., Arena; Girls C, 2 p.m., Gym; Girls JV at 3:15 p.m., Boys JV at 4:30 p.m., Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity to follow)
Thrift Store open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 14
Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

Wishing you and your loved ones peace, health, happiness and prosperity in the coming New Year.

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United Methodist: Worship: (Conde at 8:30 a.m., Groton at 10:30 a.m.), Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's at 9 a.m. and at Zion at 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 15

Senior Menu: Chicken tetrazzine, carrots, pineapple tidbits, bread stick, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Pancake on stick.

School Lunch: Garlic cheese bread, cooked carrots.

Boys JV/JH Meet at Redfield, 6 p.m.

Groton Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center, 1 p.m.

Pantry Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Christian Literature Circle, 7:30 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 16

Senior Menu: Hamburger cabbage roll hot dish, corn, pears, muffin.

School Breakfast: Scones.

School Lunch: Hot digs, chips.

Boys Junior High Basketball at Milbank in the elementary gym (7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 p.m.)

JH Boys Wrestling at Simmons Middle School.

Girls and Boys Varsity Wrestling at Groton Area with Clark/Willow Lake and Hamlin, 6 p.m.

Thrift Store open 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Food Pantry open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Quilting, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 17

Senior Menu: Beef/broccoli stir fry rice, cauliflower, five cup salad, whole wheat bread

School Breakfast: Cereal

School Lunch: Loaded baked potato soup.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.; Groton Ad Council, 7 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Communion at Rosewood Court, 10 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.; League, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 18

Senior Menu: Baked pork chop, sweet potato, vegetable capri blend, chocolate pudding with Banana, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Breakfast pizza.

School Lunch: Sloppy joes, tri taters.

Basketball Double Header hosts Milbank: (Gym: Boys C at 4 p.m., Girls C at 5 p.m.; Arena: Girls JV at 4 p.m.; Boys JV at 5:30 p.m.; Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity to follow)

Friday, Jan. 19

Senior Menu: Scalloped potatoes with ham, peas, Mandarin orange salad, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Biscuits.

School Lunch: Pizza, green beans.

Boys Varsity Duals at Deuel, 6 p.m.

Girls Varsity Invitational at Pierre, 4 p.m.

Saturday, Jan. 20

Girls Basketball hosts Great Plains Lutheran: (C game 1 p.m., JV at 2:15 p.m. with varsity to follow)

Girls and Boys Varsity Wrestling Tournament at Arlington, 10 a.m.

Boys JV Invitational Wrestling at Pierre, 11 a.m.

Thrift Store open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 21

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship: (Conde at 8:30 a.m., Groton at 10:30 a.m.), Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship with communion at St. John's at 9 a.m. and at Zion at 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship with communion, 9 a.m.; Milestones - 6th grade and sophomores; Annual Meeting with brunch following meeting; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.

Monday, Jan. 22

Senior Menu: Beef noodle stroganoff, mixed vegetables, fruit cocktail, cookie, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Stuffed bagels.

School Lunch: Tater tot hot dish.

Basketball Double Header at Northwestern: (Boys 7th at 4 p.m., Boys 8th at 5 p.m.; Girls JV at 4 p.m., Boys JV at 5:15 p.m.; Girls Varsity and Boys Varsity to follow)

Groton Senior Citizens meet at the Groton Community Center with potluck at noon.

Pantry Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 23

Senior Menu: Creamed chicken, biscuit, peas and carrots, pineapple/strawberry ambrosia.

School Breakfast: Waffles.

School Lunch: Chicken legs, mashed potatoes.

Boys JH Basketball at Clark: 7th at 6 p.m., 8th at 7 p.m.

Thrift Store open 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Food Pantry open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, jewels series for Lent, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 24

Senior Menu: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, oriental blend vegetables, bakes apples, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Egg bake.

School Lunch: Chef salad.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m. (Service Project)

Thursday, Jan. 25

Senior Menu: Meatloaf, baked potato with sour cream, creamed peas, frosted brownies, fruit, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Pop tarts.

School Lunch: Pasta with meat balls.

Boys Basketball hosts Webster: (Gym: 7th at 4:30 p.m., 8th at 5:30 p.m.; Arena: Boys C at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15 p.m., Varsity to follow)

Friday, Jan. 26

Senior Menu: Potato soup, ham salad on croissant, tomato spoon salad, Mandarin oranges.

School Breakfast: Egg wraps.

School Lunch: Vegetable soup, cheese stick.

Girls Basketball at Webster: (C game at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15 p.m., Varsity to follow)

Saturday, Jan. 27

Boys Basketball at NEC/DAK12 Clash in Madison

Boys and Girls Varsity Wrestling Tournament at Groton, 10 a.m.

Thrift Store open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 28

Carnival of Silver Skates, 2 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

Groton Robotics Pancake Feed, 10 a.m., Groton Community Center

Groton CM&A: Sunday School at 9:15 a.m., Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Catholic: SEAS Mass, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; St. Joseph, Turton, Mass, 6 p.m.

First Presbyterian Church: Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.; Worship, 11 a.m.

United Methodist: Worship: (Conde at 8:30 a.m., Groton at 10:30 a.m.), Coffee hour, 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Worship at St. John's at 9 a.m. and at Zion at 11 a.m.; Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Worship, 9 a.m.; Sunday School, 10:15 a.m.; Pastor at Bethesda, Aberdeen.

Monday, Jan. 29

Senior Menu: Tater tot hot dish, green beans, grape juice, pineapple tidbits, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: Oatmeal.

School Lunch: French bread pizza, peas.

Girls Basketball hosts Florence/Henry: (C game at 5 p.m., JV at 6:15 p.m. followed by Varsity)

Pantry Open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Bible Study, 6:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jan. 30

Senior Menu: New England ham dinner, fruit, cookie, dinner roll.

School Breakfast: Biscuits.

School Lunch: Oriental chicken, rice.

Boys JH Games hosts Aberdeen Roncalli: 7th at 4 p.m., 8th at 5 p.m.

Thrift Store open 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Food Pantry open 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

United Methodist: Bible Study, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 31

Senior Menu: Salisbury steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, apricots, whole wheat bread.

School Breakfast: French toast.

School Lunch: Beef stew with biscuits.

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.

Groton CM&A: Kids' Club, Youth Group and Adult Bible Study begins at 7 pm

United Methodist: Community Coffee Hour, 9:30 a.m.; Confirmation, 6 p.m.

St. John's Lutheran: Confirmation, 3:45 p.m.

Emmanuel Lutheran: Confirmation, 6 p.m.

Groton City Special Event License

Notice of Hearing upon Application for a Special Event Alcoholic Beverage License

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council on the 2nd day of January, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, South Dakota will meet in regular session to consider a special event alcoholic beverage license for a Hand-Knit Blanket Class at 120 N Main Street in the City of Groton, South Dakota on January 30th, 2024.

Any person interested in the approval or rejection of any such application may appear and be heard.

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 26th day of December, 2023.

Douglas Heinrich, Groton City Finance Officer

Published December 27, 2023, at the total approximate cost of \$9.81 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 22821



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Feist enlists in SD Army National Guard

Cadence Ann Feist has enlisted to the South Dakota Army National Guard! Cadence is the newest addition to the 740th Transportation Company, enlisting as a Human Resource Specialist (42A). She qualified for 100% State Tuition Assistance, the GI Bill and GI Bill Kicker. Welcoming her is SCF Brent Wienk.



God Is Visible Every Day

In this new year, be grateful that God has given you victory over many things over the past year.

- Steven M. Hitchcock



GHS Boys Wrestling at Sisseton

Lisbon 42 Groton Area 37

- 106: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) over Lewin Salgado (Lisbon) (Fall 1:44)
- 113: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) over Hyatt Ercinck (Lisbon) (MD 13-4)
- 120: Greyson Lyons (Lisbon) over John Bisbee (Groton Area) (Fall 3:28)
- 126: Ryan Olson (Lisbon) wins by forfeit
- 132: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Gabe Gruba (Lisbon) (Dec 10-3)
- 138: Gavin Robertson (Lisbon) wins by forfeit
- 144: Amos Ramerman (Lisbon) wins by forfeit
- 150: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 157: Weston Clauson (Lisbon) wins by forfeit
- 165: Riley Lacina (Lisbon) over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) (Fall 5:57)
- 175: Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) over Jayce Zimprich (Lisbon) (Fall 5:06)
- 190: Layne Johnson (Groton Area) over Zachary Ward (Lisbon) (Fall 5:05)
- 215: Brock Lyons (Lisbon) over Charlie Frost

(Groton Area) (Fall 4:12)

285: Karter Moody (Groton Area) over Trent Metzen (Lisbon) (Fall 1:05)

Sisseton 51 Groton Area 24

- 113: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 120: John Bisbee (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 126: Ian Metz (Sisseton) wins by forfeit
- 132: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Quincy Harris (Sisseton) (Fall 2:55)
- 138: Reed Gray (Sisseton) wins by forfeit
- 144: Double Forfeit
- 150: Holden Hawkins (Sisseton) over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) (Dec 2-1)
- 157: Keondray White (Sisseton) wins by forfeit
- 165: Rory Current (Sisseton) over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) (Fall 2:58)
- 175: Hughin Current (Sisseton) over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) (Fall 0:55)
- 190: Taylor Snaza (Sisseton) over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) (Fall 0:42)
- 215: Mason Shultz (Sisseton) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) (Fall 0:34)
- 285: Gaviin Englund (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 106: Kayden Tchida (Sisseton) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) (Fall 3:42)

Groton Area 60 Ortonville 18

- 106: Aiden Strom (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 113: Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 120: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 126: Cody Klepel (Ortonville) over John Bisbee (Groton Area) (Fall 1:00)
- 132: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Justus Romanoff (Ortonville) (Fall 0:09)
- 138: Double Forfeit
- 144: Jacob Hartman (Ortonville) wins by forfeit
- 150: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 157: Nick Morris (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 165: Trent Eastman (Ortonville) over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) (Fall 1:18)
- 175: Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) over Dylan Honetschlager (Ortonville) (Fall 1:16)
- 190: Drew Thurston (Groton Area) over Owen Dorry (Ortonville) (Fall 2:32)
- 215: Charlie Frost (Groton Area) wins by forfeit
- 285: Gaviin Englund (Groton Area) wins by forfeit

Melvin Larson Farm Sale

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Brown County, SD Land for sale.

The following real estate is being offered for sale on written bids.

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Approximately 160 deeded acres, 140 crop acres with a Crop Soil Rating of 71.8, the building site is approximately 4.8 acres with a house and a detached two stall garage with WEB Rural Water. The house is rented and the house property comes subject to the lease which expires in October.

Terms of Sale: Sellers are selling this property by sealed bid. Call Dani with Siegel, Barnett & Schutz, LLC at 605-225-5420 for a bid packet. Initial bids must include a complete bid sheet and be received at Richardson, Wyly, Wise, Sauck & Hieb LLP in Aberdeen, South Dakota on or before 5 p.m. on January 15, 2024. Initial bidding will be through a written sealed bid. The top five bidders will be invited to bid again at a private live auction. A check for the earnest money reflecting 5% of the total bid will be required with submission of the final bid. Additional details of the property and bidding will be provided in the bid packet.



SCAN ME

For Pictures go to: <https://www.facebook.com/melvinlarsonfamilyfarm>

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Let there be peace on Earth in 2024 and may peace be with you and your family throughout the year!



GHS Girls Wrestling at Salem

100: Liza Krueger (9-2) placed 1st and scored 22.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 9-2 won by fall over Maicie Globke (Canistota) 0-4 (Fall 0:54)

Semifinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 9-2 won by fall over Citabria Manzanares (Sioux Valley) 8-5 (Fall 2:53)

1st Place Match - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 9-2 won by decision over Finley Evjen (Canton) 14-1 (Dec 7-6)

114: Maddie Little (1-2) scored 3.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Akane Metcalfe (Kimball/White Lake/Platte-Geddes) 3-1 won by fall over Maddie Little (Groton Area) 1-2 (Fall 0:22)

Cons. Round 1 - Maddie Little (Groton Area) 1-2 won by forfeit over Forfeit Forfeit (Canton) 0-4 (For.)

Cons. Semi - Sara Cremer (Marion/Freeman) 8-4 won by fall over Maddie Little (Groton Area) 1-2 (Fall 0:34)

PUC highlights the importance of keeping natural gas meters clear of snow and ice this winter

PIERRE, S.D. - With winter weather fully upon the state, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission urges South Dakotans to keep natural gas meters and appliance vents clear of snow and ice.

"Accumulation of snow and ice on gas meters has the potential to contribute to leaks and malfunctions," stated PUC Chairperson Kristie Fiegen. "We want every South Dakotan to be safe and warm this season. Regularly checking to ensure snow and ice is not building up around meters and vents should be part of your regular winter home maintenance," she continued.

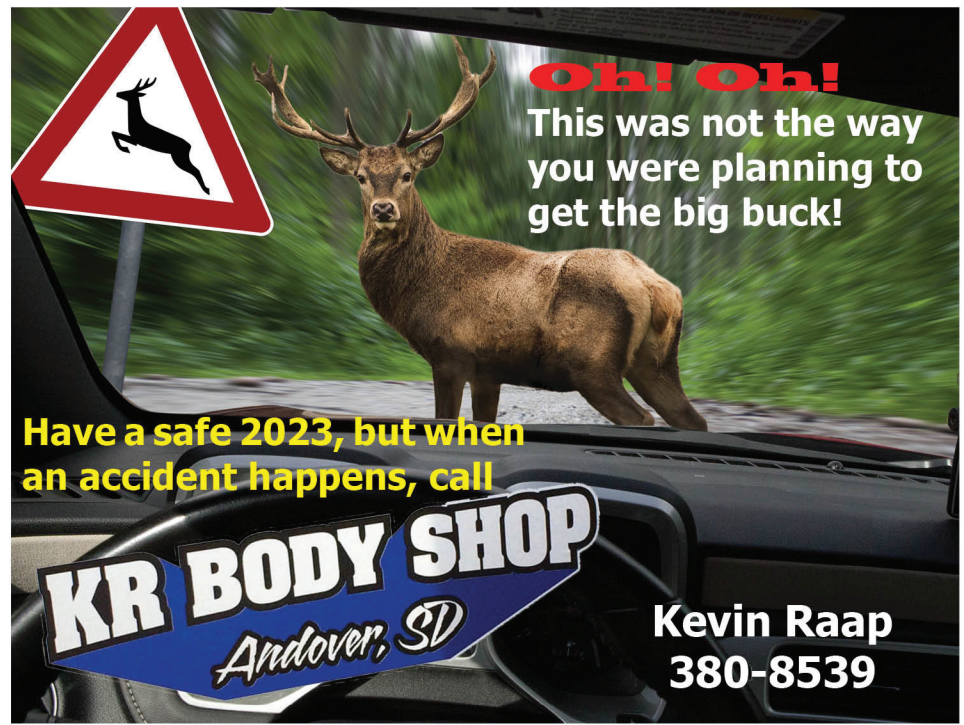
Gas meters are designed to withstand extreme temperatures and weather conditions, but snow and ice still have the potential to do serious damage. To remove frozen layers that have gathered on or near important infrastructure, try using a broom, snow brush or your hand. Never kick the meter to break up or clear ice. Do not use snow blowers, blades or shovels to complete the task either. If you find the ice buildup is extremely heavy and you are unable to remove it yourself, call your natural gas provider for assistance.

"Gas equipment requires adequate airflow for safe combustion and proper venting of appliances to prevent a dangerous carbon monoxide situation. When frozen precipitation accumulates on a meter, it can cause the regulator or meter to malfunction, can lead to a gas leak, and is a serious safety risk," explained PUC Vice Chairman Gary Hanson.

Often, the first thing that comes to mind when thinking about the warning signs that accompany a natural gas leak is the strong odor of natural gas. There are other signs to be aware of; seeing a mist, white cloud, or dense fog and hearing a hissing or whistling sound coming from the meter should also be red flags. Any of these should alert you to a potentially hazardous situation, lead you to immediately leave the building or area and then call for help. It is also a good idea to consider devices, like carbon monoxide and gas detectors, that can be installed to alert to danger you may not have noticed.

"Another crucial measure parents can take right now is to sit down with kids and talk about natural gas safety. Explain that natural gas smells like rotten eggs. Let them know if they smell gas, they should leave fast. Establish a plan, including where to go and who to call, if something were to happen while a parent is not home," recommended PUC Commissioner Chris Nelson.

Protecting your natural gas meter is essential to ensuring your family and home stay as safe as possible this snowy season. Even without the serious safety risk of natural gas leaks, accumulated snow and ice on meters and vents can lead to service interruptions and affect how well your appliances and furnaces operate.



King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Jog
- 5 Cry
- 8 Goblet feature
- 12 Stead
- 13 Spanish aunt
- 14 Tortoise's opponent
- 15 Ride-sharing arrangements
- 17 Work units
- 18 Sixth sense
- 19 Forbidden acts
- 21 Stylish wrap
- 24 Flintstones' pet
- 25 Comic strip possum
- 26 "Yellow" band
- 30 Where Lux. is
- 31 Primitive
- 32 Brit. record label
- 33 Slapstick missile
- 35 Perched on
- 36 Evergreens
- 37 Icky
- 38 Where Gauguin painted
- 41 Pen name
- 42 Out of the storm
- 43 Temporary lodging
- 48 Furnace fuel

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15				16					17			
			18				19	20				
21	22	23				24						
25					26				27	28	29	
30				31					32			
33			34						35			
			36					37				
38	39	40					41					
42					43	44			45	46	47	
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

- 49 Snaky fish
- 50 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 51 Maintained
- 52 Lay down the lawn
- 53 Deli loaves
- 7 Historic French prison
- 8 Cyndi Lauper hit
- 9 Poi base
- 10 Thus
- 11 Disarray
- 16 Sugary suffix
- 20 Tennis champ Murray
- 21 Detail, briefly
- 22 Go sightseeing
- 23 Shrek, for one
- 24 Writer Lessing
- 26 Whims
- 27 Jared of
- "Panic Room"
- 28 Book after Joel
- 29 Shriill barks
- 31 Send forth
- 34 Off course
- 35 Sagittarius
- 37 USO audience
- 38 Dash gauge
- 39 Skin soother
- 40 Make well
- 41 Hardly hirsute
- 44 Old Olds
- 45 Layer
- 46 Pub order
- 47 "— Kapital"

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Groton Area boys have clean sweep over Roncalli

Groton Area's boys basketball teams all posted wins over Aberdeen Roncalli Thursday night in Groton.

The varsity team won, 61-50, leading at the quarter stops at 13-10, 29-20 and 49-39.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 22 points, six rebounds and three steals. Jacob Zak had 16 points, four rebounds, five assists, two steals and one block. Keegen Tracy had 15 points, four rebounds, one assist and two steals. Ryder Johnson had six points, seven rebounds, two assists and two steals. Colby Dunker had two points. Logan Ringgenberg had four rebounds, one assist and two steals. Taylor Diegel had three assists and one steal. Gage Sippel had two rebounds and one block and Kassen Keough had two rebounds.

Groton Area made 22 of 40 two-pointers for 55 percent, four of 15 three-pointers for 27 percent, five of 10 free throws for 50 percent, 29 rebounds, four turnovers, 12 assists, 12 steals, 16 fouls and two block shots.

3-Pointers: Zak 1, Teeth 2, Tracy 1.

Groton Area is now 3-1 on the season and will play Pine Ridge on Dec. 29 at the Corn Palace in Mitchell at 12:30 p.m.

Maddox Miller led the Cavaliers with 25 points while Parker Green had 10, Keegan Stewart five, Aiden Fisher and Bryson Olson each had four points and Caden Shelton added two points.

Roncalli made 18 of 34 field goals for 53 percent, eight of 14 free throws for 57 percent, and 13 turnovers and 15 team fouls.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 46-36, leading at the quarter stops at 13-5, 23-10 and 36-14.

Taylor Diegel led the Tigers with 14 points while Kassen Keough had nine, Gage Sippel six, Turner Thompson five, Logan Warrington four, Jayden Schwan and Easton Weber each had three points and Karson Zak had two points.

3-Pointers: Keough 3, Schwan 1, Diegel 3, Thompson 1, Weber 1.

Bryson Olson led Roncalli with six points followed by Jesse Hernandez, Austin Fisher and Quinten Shelton each had five, Finn Anderson had three and Joe Cogley had two points.

Groton Area started off the night with a 41-12 win in the C game, leading at the quarter stops at 13-2, 17-6 and 23-7.

Easton Weber led Groton Area with 13 points followed by Logan Warrington with, Jayden Schwan five, Jace Johnson and T.C. Schuster each had three points, Karson Zak, Keegan Harry and Ryder Schelle had two points apiece and Ethan Kroll had one point as all players scored.

3-Pointers: Johnson 1, Weber 4, Schuster 1.

Finn Anderson led Roncalli with four points while Ian Kramer, Lucas Daggett and Austin Fisher each had two points and Jean Anthony Thomas and Quinten Shelton each had one.



Colby Dunker came off the bench to get a nice feed under the basket to give Groton Area a 42-31 lead. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Varsity game sponsors on GDILIVE.COM were Agtegra, Avantara Groton, 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, Locke Electric and Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Harvesting and Trucking.

The junior varsity sponsor was the Groton Chiropractic Clinic while S & S Lumber sponsored the C game.

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It was standing room only for the Elementary Christmas Concert held Thursday in the GHS Gym. The theme was "The Greatest Snowman."

Program

"Every Hundred Years"..... JK-5th Grades
 "Winter Wiggles"..... JK & Kindergarten
 "Pick Me, Me, Me!"..... 2nd Grade
 "Snowman, Why Are You Here"..... 4th Grade
 "Nothing Special"..... 3rd Grade
 "Jolly Old Words to Live By"..... 1st Grade
 "One In a Million"..... 5th Grade
 "The Greatest Season"..... 2nd - 5th Grades

Characters

Santa Claus..... Knox Mulder
 Mrs. Claus..... Brynlee Dunker
 Hugh Snowman (Hughey Snowmin)..... Rylee Hoffer
 Easter Bunny..... Amara El-Salahy
 Tooth Fairy..... Kinley Sandness
 Reindeer 1..... Victoria Schuster
 Reindeer 2..... Maycee Moody
 Polar Bear 1..... Mason Locke
 Polar Bear 2..... Addison Steffes
 Elf 1..... Libby Johnson
 Elf 2..... Gracie Borg
 Tiger 1..... Kendyll Kroll
 Tiger 2..... Blake Malsom
 Penguin 1..... Zoe Olson
 Penguin 2..... Andi Iverson



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Drop the last year into the silent limbo of the past. Let it go, for it was imperfect, and thank God that it can go.
 - Unknown

Happy New Year!

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 weisag@nvc.net

Groton City Snow Removal Notice
 Reminder of Ordinance 9-3-1:
 Duty of Owner or Occupant. It shall be the duty of the owner, occupant, or person in possession or in charge of any lot, parcel, or plot of ground of business property located within a commercial zoning district, fronting or abutting upon any public sidewalk, to keep such sidewalk free and clear from snow and ice at all times. When it is impossible to take snow and ice from such walk because it is frozen to the sidewalk, the owner, occupant, or person in possession or in charge of such lot shall sprinkle or spread such suitable material upon the same to prevent the walk from becoming slippery and dangerous to travel, and in removing snow from said sidewalk it shall be unlawful for any person to shovel or blade the snow so removed into the street after the street has been cleared of snow by the city snow removal equipment. The property owner, tenant, person in possession, or person removing snow and ice from any sidewalk, public or private driveway, parking lot or parking area, shall dispose of accumulated snow and ice upon such property as follows:

- Snow and ice shall not be deposited on any sidewalk at any time.
- Snow and ice shall not be deposited on any public street or alley at any time.
- Snow and ice shall not be deposited so as to obstruct or interfere with the passage or vision of vehicular or pedestrian traffic at any time.
- Snow and ice shall not be deposited upon or around any mailbox so as to obstruct or interfere with the delivery or collection of the United States Mail at any time.
- Snow and ice shall not be deposited upon any fire hydrant, as specified above, so as to obstruct or interfere with access to the fire hydrant at any time.
- Snow and ice upon the property shall be piled on the same property or hauled to any appropriate disposal site off premises.

Ring in the New Year!

What Time is it?
 Western Coast U.S.A. San Francisco 9:00 p.m.
 Eastern Coast, U.S.A. New York City 12:00 a.m.
 Western Coast, Canada Vancouver
 Eastern Coast, Canada Montreal

Okay! Okay! So you caught me ringing the bells to wish everyone a joyful New Year. Get with the program already and make your resolutions!

Making New Year's Resolutions!
 1) B, 2) C, 3) E, 4) A, 5) F, 6) D
 1) B, 2) D, 3) A, 4) F, 5) C, 6) E

The New Year is a time to visit and think about:

By Annilmills LLC © 2023

Dear EarthTalk: What are some New Year's Resolutions I can make to help the environment?

-- M. Lind, Sturges, MI

Given the escalating environmental challenges facing our planet, directing some of our New Year's aspirations toward eco-conscious endeavors can make a tangible difference. Luckily there are lots of ways to put your resolve to work for the planet...

For starters, one of the most impactful resolutions is to adopt a more mindful approach to consumption. Commit to reducing waste by embracing practices like reusing, repurposing and recycling. Shift to buying reusable items and those with minimal packaging. Support brands committed to sustainable practices. Minimize your use of single-use plastics, another way to make a big impact without much effort. Choose stainless-steel water bottles, cloth shopping bags and glass food containers. Say no to plastic straws, cutlery and excessive packaging whenever possible.

Making more sustainable food choices is yet another way to make 2024 greener than 2023. Adopting a more plant-based diet or reduce meat consumption to significantly reduce environmental impact. Pledge to support local, organic and sustainably sourced foods. Also, strive to reduce food waste by planning meals, composting organic waste and supporting initiatives that redistribute surplus food to those in need.

Another resolution that of us can make is to reduce personal carbon emissions. Embrace alternatives to fossil fuel-based transportation by walking, cycling, carpooling or using public transit. Also, consider investing in energy-efficient appliances, using renewable energy sources, and supporting initiatives that offset carbon emissions. While they might not be top of mind, changing up daily habits can also reduce your carbon footprint and overall environmental impact. Conserve water by fixing leaks, taking shorter showers and using water-saving appliances. Grow your own food, support local biodiversity by planting native species, and prioritize eco-friendly practices in your daily routine.

Another way to create positive change is to speak out more for environmental policies and initiatives. Support community groups and environmental organizations, and join in local clean-up efforts or conservation projects. Engage in discussions, educate others, and advocate for sustainable practices in your workplace, schools and social circles. Spread awareness about environmental issues and inspire others to take action. Share information on social media, organize educational events, or start a community garden or recycling program. Encourage friends, family and colleagues to join in your eco-friendly endeavors, fostering a collective effort toward a greener future.

Making a resolution is just the first step—commitment is key to achieving lasting change. Progress may require adjustments and perseverance, but every step contributes to a healthier planet. By incorporating these resolutions into your New Year's goals, you become an active participant in the global movement toward environmental stewardship. Together, let us embark on this journey to protect and preserve the natural world we all call home. Cheers to a more sustainable, eco-conscious year ahead!



It's that time of year again when you have to make some New Year's resolutions. How about factoring in climate and the environment this year? Credit: Pexels..

Autoimmune Disorders: Self attack!

Recently I met a new patient who had waited several months for her appointment. At this first meeting, I was quickly able to diagnose Rheumatoid arthritis. Like others with this disease, her joints were swollen, and she was stiff getting up and moving



Jennifer May, MD



to the exam table. During our discussion I learned she had felt well until about six months before. There was no good explanation for the onset of her symptoms, so she asked the question, many ask.... Why did this happen?

As a rheumatologist, I specialize in managing autoimmune diseases such as Rheumatoid arthritis, as well as several others. Autoimmune disorders are a group of diseases where the immune system mistakenly targets and attacks the body's own tissues. The system of checks and balances that keeps our immune system running is broken, and the attack goes unaddressed by the body. Managing autoimmune diseases means turning down the volume on an overactive immune system to alleviate symptoms and prevent damage to one's body. Like my patient, many ask, what makes our immune system make these mistakes?

Well, we as we currently understand it, a combination of genetic predisposition and environmental triggers plays a role in the development of autoimmune disorders. Certain genes are associated with an increased risk. Environmental factors, such as infection, exposure to certain chemicals, or hormonal imbalances could trigger or exacerbate an immune response. All this to say, there are multiple reasons autoimmune disorders flare up, but it is difficult to determine the exact cause and likely there is more than one factor.

Diagnosing autoimmune disorders can be challenging. The symptoms are wide ranging and overlap with other diseases. We have blood tests that identify specific markers of disease and inflammation. During the physical exam I look for rashes, joint swelling, circulation changes, hair loss, weight loss, and weakness, amongst other things. Interpreting the patient's story, lab tests, and exam together helps paint a picture that leads to a specific diagnosis.

However, the work isn't done once there's a diagnosis. Treatment for autoimmune disorders is unique to each person. Rheumatologists can prescribe medications that target specific immune cells that drive the process. Traditional treatments such as corticosteroids and immunosuppressants are used, but newer specific cell therapies, such as monoclonal antibodies, are also effective. We are also learning about ways to mobilize the immune system and restore its resilience. The future of medicine looks to tailor treatments based on individual genetic profiles and disease characteristics.

Today, I can offer my new patient confidence that she will feel better with current treatments. However, she will have to continue taking medications to remain comfortable. Ideally, we will soon find treatments that allow patients to stop medication and be well. The future holds promise that we will improve diagnosis, targeted treatment, and quality of life for people living with autoimmune disorders.

Jennifer May, M.D. is a contributing Prairie Doc® columnist. She practices rheumatology in Rapid City, South Dakota at Rapid City Medical Center and serves on the Healing Words Foundation Board of Directors, a 501c3 which provides funding for Prairie Doc® programs. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook and Instagram featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show providing health information based on science, built on trust, on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

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