

The Groton Independent

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Former players came back to recognize Coach Brian Dolan for his 100th win boys basketball. Pictured left to right are Cade Larson, Tate Larson, Tristan Traphagen, Tyson Parrow, Jayden Zak, Austin Jones, Brody DeHoet, Cole Simon, Wyatt Hearnen and Coach Brian Dolan. (Courtesy Photo)



Kurtz, Kroll take second in the state talent division

Camryn Kurtz and Gavin Kroll placed second in the Senior Talent Division Saturday night at the South Dakota Junior Snow Queen Competition. They are pictured with their instructor, Desiree Yeigh. They get to perform next weekend at Senior Snow Queen. (Photo from Yeigh's Facebook Page)

Groton native considers Republican primary challenge to Rep. Dusty Johnson

BY: SEARCHLIGHT STAFF - JANUARY 8, 2024 12:39 PM

An Aberdeen businessman says he has formed a committee to consider a run against U.S. Rep. Dusty Johnson in the June Republican primary election.

The Toby Doeden for Congress Exploratory Committee issued a news release and a YouTube video over the weekend characterizing Doeden as more closely aligned with former President Donald Trump than Johnson.

"Dusty is a career politician who campaigns on conservative values, but as soon as he's elected, he scampers back to Washington, where he acts like a liberal, talks like a liberal, and worst of all, votes like a liberal," Doeden said in a news release.

A campaign spokesperson for Johnson responded with a statement from the congressman.

"My record speaks for itself. I'm proud of the work I've done in the last five years to secure our border, cut spending, and fix a very broken Washington, D.C."

Johnson has won several past Republican primary races. He won a three-way race in 2018 for the party's nomination to succeed then-Rep.

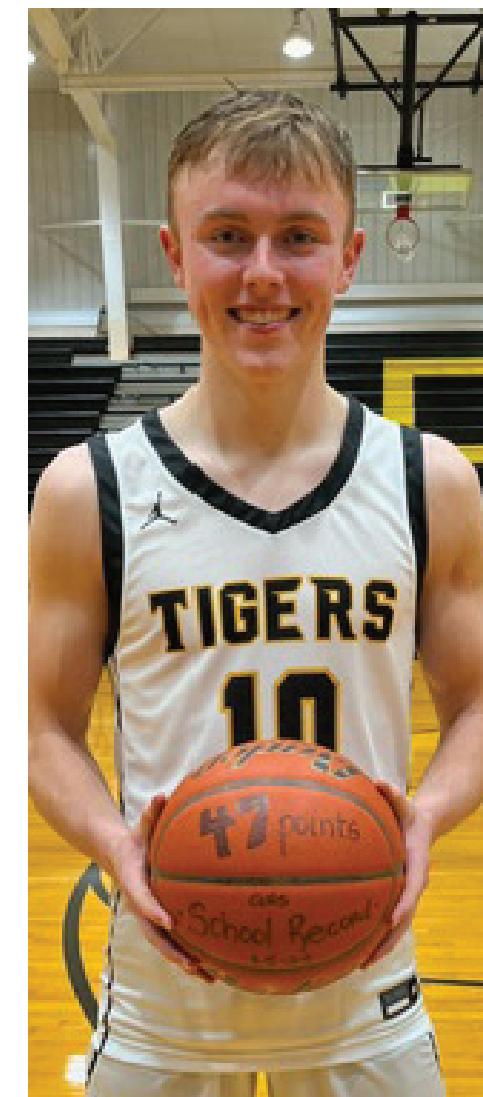
Kristi Noem, who left the U.S. House to become governor. In the 2020 primary election, Johnson beat Republican challenger Liz May, 77% to 23%. In the 2022 primary, Johnson beat Republican challenger Taffy Howard 59% to 40%.

Johnson's campaign finance committee had \$3.28 million on hand as of the end of September.

Doeden is listed on the website of the Aberdeen Chrysler Center as a "dealer principal." He is also listed as president on the website of the Doeden Investment Group, and as founder on the website of the 4J Foundation, a nonprofit billed as supporting the safety and well-being of children and domestic pets.



Groton native Lee Raines' fourth book can be purchased online, and soon at City Hall and The Groton Independent.



Lane Tietz with the game ball after breaking the school record in most points scored in a game. Tietz scored 47 points against Clark/Willow Lake on Friday, breaking a record previously held by JR Johnson back in 1998 or 1999 of 44 points. (Courtesy Photo)



Toby Doeden in a video announcing his formation of an exploratory committee to consider running for the Republican nomination for U.S. House.

(YouTube screenshot)

'1940-1945: We Will Remember' history of Brown and Day County residents' roles in WWII published

Lee Raines' fourth book, "1940-45: We Will Remember" has been published and can be purchased in paperback or on Kindle on Amazon. All of Raines' books can be found on leeraines.com.

A grandmother's diary and news of the day during the war years of 1940-1945 is the impetus for Raines' depiction of rural South Dakota during World War II. This local military history juxtaposes daily farming responsibilities such as rendering lard, selling eggs, harvesting the crops with local community response to war supply shortages and the inevitable but tragic mourning of the deaths of its sons and daughters. Exhaustive efforts have been made to compile a list of those in the Brown and Day county areas who served and who made the greatest sacrifice. Historical battle narratives, military successes and failures throughout the war, and the impact of the war on local economies, demographics and the families of the area are also explored.

"I used various source documents to develop a picture of what life might have been like during the period of 1940-45 from the perspective of farm life and small-town perspectives," Raines said. "I hope to enable the reader to travel the time period using my grandmother's diary as a base of activity, then the preparation of war from the standpoint of the US, the war itself as if overwhelms the world, our introduction to that war after Pearl Harbor and then the impact on a generation of men and women who served their country."

This labor of love includes interviews of WWII veterans and family members and a vault of service and memorial photographs.

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Weekly Vikings Recap - Vikings vs. Lions

By Jack & Duane Kolsrud

The Minnesota Vikings' 2023 season is officially over as the team fell to the Detroit Lions to finish the season 7-10, their first season with double-digit losses since 2013. It's hard to properly characterize what this season was for the Vikings as they lost both starting quarterback, Kirk Cousins, and superstar wide receiver, Justin Jefferson, for at least eight games to injury. To make matters worse, the Vikings finished with a total of 34 turnovers on the season, second most in the NFL. In hindsight, it is quite impressive the Vikings finished with the record they did for how often the odds were against them.

Sunday's game for the Vikings was a weird one for Vikings fans as many probably wanted the team to lose for draft position purposes even though the team still had a chance to make the playoffs if four scenarios went their way. Sunday's game was also one of those unique games where a team decided to play all their starters even though they had already clinched the division and could not improve their seed in the playoffs. For a game that had little to no implication on playoff seeding, it was surprising to see both teams go all out with playing their starters.

Nick Mullens got the start at quarterback for the Vikings and played a decent game for the most part, finishing with 396 passing yards and two touchdowns. Mullens, who started three games this season, averaged an impressive 370 passing yards and two passing touchdowns per game. The problem for Mullens was the turnovers as he amassed eight interceptions in his three starts. If Mullens could have even split that interception total in half, he might have finished the season with a 3-0 record rather than a 0-3 record in his three starts.

The star of Sunday's game was Justin Jefferson who went for 192 receiving yards on 12 catches and a touchdown. Jefferson, who played in only eight full games this season was still able to eclipse 1000 yards receiving today with his performance Sunday. Jefferson's performance, along with Jordan Addison who caught his tenth touchdown this season on Sunday, provided a glimpse of the offense firepower the Vikings are going to have next season. The question all offseason will now become who the quarterback will be throwing the ball for the Vikings.

By midway through the fourth quarter, it became clear that the Vikings' playoff hopes

were officially closed when it was announced that the Tampa Bay Buccaneers defeated the Carolina Panthers. After that moment, the sole focus for the Vikings was to get out of Sunday's game with no injuries. Luckily for the Vikings, no one got injured. However, that was not the story for the Lions who appeared to have lost their start rookie tight end, Sam LaPorta, to a knee injury for the playoffs. It will be interesting to see if LaPorta's injury hurts the Lions' offense next week when they take on the Los Angeles Rams in the Wild Card Round.

Lions 30 - Vikings 20

With the Vikings' loss and the Las Vegas Raiders' victory over the Denver Broncos on Sunday, the Vikings will officially be slotted for the 11th overall pick in the 2024 NFL Draft. It will be the highest draft pick the team has had since they selected Trae Waynes 11th overall in the 2015 NFL Draft. For a team that does not usually draft this high, it might finally be time for the Vikings' front office to draft

Let those Lions roar

Forgive me, Vikings fans, for I have sinned. I didn't exactly cheer against Minnesota as they belly-flopped in the last game of their season against Detroit, but I felt happy for my dad, who, for some reason unknown to me, was a lifelong Detroit fan. Both the Lions and the Tigers.

With the Lions off to the playoffs, I felt a sense of satisfaction. It's been an extended drought in the Motor City. Dad's up there somewhere gloating.

As for the purple and gold, it was just one of those bumpy years. They'll be just fine, although you wouldn't believe that with all the gnashing of teeth on fan sites. Some of you people have become shameless whiners.

I've always been able to spread my loyalties. It's more fun when one team has a down year. My first team was the Miami Dolphins, an expansion team when I was in grade school, and after living in Denver for a few years, I sort of adopted the Broncos, too, and those abhorrent orange uniforms. One of my best days ever was watching Denver legend John Elway square off against Miami's Dan Marino at the 50-yard line in Mile High Stadium.

I suppose I developed an affinity for the Vikings partially because Dad despised them—that's how fathers and sons roll—but mostly



That's Life

by Tony Bender

I think it was because of proximity. Plus, they had an old-school cache. Bud Grant, bloody knuckles and defense.

My friends, Whitey, Witte, and Woof Dog, were die-hard Cowboys fans. America's Team had a receiver named Golden Richards in the Seventies, a modest talent, but he had long blonde tresses flowing from the back of the helmet. In Dallas! Under buttoned-up, starched-shirt Tom Landry!

In those years, the guys were as fixated on our hair as the girls, and Golden Richards had that cool factor. My friends and I washed our hair every day before school. It drove my dad nuts. He had a feminist movement in the house, and it wasn't even the girls! Anyway, Golden Richards didn't have to catch a pass to impress anyone. He looked majestic dropping them. That hair was like a superhero's cape. Made him look fast.

My father, the town bookie, took advantage of my Cowboy-enamored friends. One of my childhood memories is of my friends peeling off one dollar bills for Norman the Greek in the living room. If he ever lost a bet to them, I don't remember it. He was uncanny with point spreads. It served a greater purpose, however. We drank less.

I didn't often bet with Dad because he was a poor sport. A terrible sport. The worst ever. He was a gracious, jolly winner, however, so I guess it evened out. The worst thing that could happen was to win a bet on the Vikings against him. The Vikings had a knack for dramatic wins. Blocked kicks, last minute kicks from part-time dentist Fred Cox, magic from above. Dad would leap up from the couch after witnessing the awfulest of miracles, snorting, "Cot damn luck-asses!" It should be engraved on his tombstone.

One Christmas holiday, my sister-in-law Michelle and I placed a bet with him on the Vikings. The game quickly got out of hand in our favor as Dad stewed. And stewed. Michelle and I obtusely hooted and preened with each score.

"Don't count your chickens before they're hatched," he growled. But the Vikings kept running up the score as Michelle and I walked around clucking like chickens. Bawk! Bawk! We were hilarious. Midway through the third quarter, we backed off. By then he was glowering.

No clucking. We started tip-toeing around. Spoke in hushed whispers. This wasn't even fun.

The next morning when I came downstairs, he met me in the kitchen and began slamming—and I mean slamming—10 dollar bills on the table. It was awful. Like the most ominous war drum ever. Boom! Boom! BOOM!

I suppose being a decades-long Detroit fan can make you surly. The Lions, anyway. The Tigers had some good years, and even though they were rivals of my beloved Baltimore Orioles and the Minnesota Twins, defeats at the hands of Detroit went down easier.

The Vikings and Broncos are done for the year. The Dolphins are injury-ravaged. I'll keep the faith, though. But if by some wizardry, the Lions run the gauntlet, I'll be happy. Cock-a-doodle-doo.

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Thursday, January 18, 2024
9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. CST
CC Bar, 112 S. Exene Street
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AGENDA INCLUDES:

- Rotation, Residues & Realities – Peter Johnson, RealAgriculture.com
- Acid Soil Management in No Till Soils – Dr. Chris Augustin, Dickinson Research Extension Center
- Kochia Requires Our Full Attention – Dr. Brian Jenks, Weed Specialist

For more details visit SDNoTill.com

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Paul Irvin Kose, Publisher paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460

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

Notices: legals@grotonsd.net

News Items: news@grotonsd.net

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Nothing!

Technology is always a challenge. I have experienced difficulties and I have seen other people experience difficulties. I don't take pride in seeing someone else having problems as I have my share of them as well.

We have been having issues with the camera we take on the away games with the focus not working correctly. I decided to buy a new camera and then send the other in for repair. I got the new camera and of course, rule number one, is to make sure it works properly with the equipment I have. After a short experiment, the new camera was working wonderfully with our Yolobox. The Yolobox is the encoder

that takes the input of audio and video, encodes it, and then sends it over the internet to the cloud so you can view it.

It was time to put it all in practice at the Warner double header. We got it all set up and it was working fine for the girls junior varsity game - well, until about halftime. Jeslyn tapped me on the shoulder and showed me the YoloBox video had frozen. I tried every trick in the book to get the video back. It would not work. By now, I'm getting text messages about us being off the air - but my main focus was on the camera, trying to get it to work. I tried different cables. I went out to the car to bring in more cables. Nothing. I reset the camera to factory default. Nothing. I tried every setting possible on the camera. Nothing. I restarted the Yolobox. Nothing. You see a trend here? By now, my stress level was elevated.

I did search on-line for possible solutions. I came across a site called JustAnswer. I tried them. Of course, it was not free, but I was virtually willing to pay any price to get back on the air. They said they had a four minute wait time. Not bad, I can wait for that. By now, the boys junior varsity game was starting. More than four minutes had passed. Nothing.

Tired of waiting, I tried to call Canon support directly. Do you think I could find a phone number for them? It was impossible. Nothing on the website. Nothing under support. I searched for a phone number and the link just took me back to their website. Nothing. I tried a different wording in my search and saw a phone number pop up in the search. I called it. I actually got a real human being. Maybe things will finally turn around.

I talked with the guy. Told him what I had all done. He was puzzled as well. There was nothing coming out of the HDMI video output. Nothing.

Then I remembered a USB output on the camera. This was something new on the camera. I asked how that worked. He said it would output the video but not the audio. I knew if I could get the video input into the YoloBox, I could rig something up for the audio. The guy wasn't sure if it was going to work. Of course, having the right cable to do it was important. It then dawned on me that the power supply for the YoloBox would work. I plugged it into the camera and into the YoloBox. Nothing. I asked the guy on the phone that somewhere on the camera settings I seen something about USB output. He directed me to the location, made a change. I looked at the YoloBox - YES! THERE WAS VIDEO!!!

I thanked the guy for his help. We would have to trouble shoot the HDMI output another time. It was getting halftime of the boys junior varsity game. Now that I had video, I had to rig up some cables to get the audio going. That was actually the easy part. We now had video and audio. We went back on-line and it was working.

Well, nothing everything was well. You remember when I said I used the power supply cord for the YoloBox to reroute the video. Now we had a new problem. The YoloBox was not going to have enough power to last through the rest of the games. I needed a power supply cable - USBC to USB. I asked around if anyone had one. Nothing.

Then I realized something. The new camera's power supply was a USBC cable. Great! I plugged it into the YoloBox. But the camera only had an hour and half left of power supply. The YoloBox was at 64 percent. Time was not on my side.

So I would take the single power supply cable and switch it between the camera and YoloBox to help keep them going. It worked. By the end of the night, the camera had 15 minutes of life left and the YoloBox was at 15 percent. That was cutting it way too close.

So we survived the night. Both varsity games were broadcast without issue with our modified setup.

The next day, I took the camera and hooked it up to the TV to see if it would work. That was the first thing I would need to do before calling support. Much to my surprise, there was video.

Then I hooked the camera up to the YoloBox. Much to my surprise, there was video. What? Really? Why? I shouldn't be complaining, but really!

Well, on our way to Willow Lake, I took an extra USBC power supply cable and adapter along just in case. We tried the HDMI output at Willow Lake and it worked just fine. I have no clue why it worked, but I had my emergency Plan B in place just in case it would die. It never did. It worked just fine for the whole night.

Meanwhile, at Willow Lake, the IT guy there was making several trips up to our area where they had their equipment. We had hooked into their internet switch. During a break I asked him what was wrong. He said they had no internet and that I was not on either. I looked at our YoloBox, but it said we were transmitting. We looked at the switch box and there was no light. How was that possible? Then I realized the YoloBox had switched to the cellular mode

when the ethernet connection was down. Tyler, the IT guy, was bringing in tools, cables, a new switch, crawled under the bleachers to work on the internet connections down there - and he just had rotary cuff surgery on top of it all. He finally got the connection going by about near the end of the C game. I switched to their internet for the junior varsity game and it worked.

I had sent in the old camera for repair - I had an estimate of \$500. They got the camera and sent me the estimate for repair - try \$800. Ouch. But it's still half price of a new one. Oh yeah, remember that JustAnswer that I gave up on - they charged me \$47. I will say they finally did reach out to me, but I was already on Canon's support line.

Once I get the camera back from repair, that one is going to the Arena to replace that camera. That camera has a tendency to zoom out on its own. Plus the camera does not charge the battery. It needs to go bye-bye.



Marty Weismantel
605/396-7341
weisag@nvc.net

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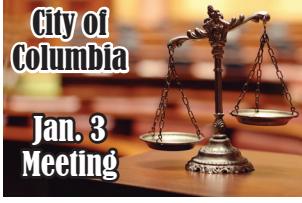
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Missing Firearms

The Brown County Sheriff's Office is in possession of firearms with unknown owners. If you are missing a firearm that has not been reported, call the Sheriff's Office to identify and claim. 605-626-7100.

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City of Columbia Council Meeting – January 3, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL – Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Cole Kampa, Trevor Meints, Emily Eichler

Community: Kevin Nelson
Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Cole Kampa made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Corey Mitchell called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. Jeremy stated that he would have a conflict when discussing salaries. He will not vote on any salary items. Minutes were passed out from the December 6th meeting. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: JVT – fire prevention – 207.01 ; Web Water – fire prevention – 50.64; Northwestern Energy – electricity – 1438.67; GDI – publication – 91.06; Code Enforcement Specialists – 385.50; Jeremy Dosch – December & 4th Quarter wages – 494.10; Cara Dennert – December wages- 1235.25; Emily Eichler – 4th Quarter wages- 296.46; Cole Kampa –4th Quarter wages- 296.46; Trevor Meints – December & 4th Quarter wages –333.52; Corey Mitchell – December & 4th Quarter wages – 386.75; Dacotah Bank – shop supplies - 693.86 ; Dakota Resources- coaching sessions - \$2982.80; SD Unemployment Insurance - unemployment insurance – 43.42; United States Treasury – 4th Quarter taxes – 2056.03; Runnings – shop supplies -54.54 On the posted agenda, Cara again had listed Dakota Resources with the balance of our 2023 contract amount. We have not yet received a final invoice. Corey suggested that we wait to pay balance until we have the final invoice. The amount listed above is the current invoices total. Emily Eichler made a motion to accept the vouchers as amended. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORESPONDENCE: Kevin Nelson was present to discuss the vacating of the alley by their home and the building of a garage. He had plans along. Corey said that Scott Bader will help the Nelsons with the process of vacating the alley and with the building permit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – There was discussion about the user agreement for the baseball park. Emily will be drafting a contract based on what was discussed with the sample contracts from the last meeting.

Nuisances - Code Enforcement Specialists sent letters to residents in violation of city ordinances. Some residents have been taking care of correcting their violations.

Streets – They look good. As discussed at the last meeting, we rented a skid steer for \$20 an hour from Titan. We are also trying out a metal plus blade (from RDO) that costs \$11,878.46 We may need another system of snow to know whether or not it is what we need.

Parks - Jeremy will be checking on the buildings weekly. The council discussed the filtration process and also the winterization of the well heads and buildings. The Buntrock representative was present during the winterization and is aware of the council's concerns. Jeremy has also been in contact with the

general contractor about the steel in the concessions stand canopy.

Lagoon/sewer - Jeremy is working on January's paperwork. Rubble Site – The site will need to be burned after another snowfall.

NEW BUSINESS - Cara ordered new checks for the sewer account. She will look into what the monthly rate will be for data backup. The following yearly declarations were addressed: Jeremy Dosch made a motion to keep Groton Independent as our publication source. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Cole Kampa made a motion to keep Dacotah Bank as our banking system. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. On salaries, Jeremy Dosch's salary will remain at \$17 per hour. Cara Dennert's salary will remain at \$1,500 per month. Emily Eichler moved that the City Council's hourly salary be raised to \$17 per hour. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All in favor – motion carried. Cole Kampa and Jeremy Dosch were given petitions as they are up for reelection this year. Anyone who would like to run for council may request a petition.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Cara Dennert stated that the 1099s are finished. W-4s were filled out for 2024. W-2s were given to council members/city employees. She also presented bank balances. The council discussed moving \$100,000 from the Sewer Fund into the Sewer Fund Money Market account. This should be done while interest rates are still high. Jeremy Dosch made a motion to move the \$100,000 into the Sewer Fund Money Market account. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Emily Eichler made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Cole Kampa seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

December 31, 2023 balances: SF - \$ 163,906.29; SF Money Market - \$50,488.46; GF - \$ 129,265.35; GF Money Market - \$50,488.46; CD Money Market - \$32,219.32; FIT - \$14,831.65; Cash on hand - \$0

Mayor Corey Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned.

Next City Council Meeting – February 7, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

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NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE #263

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #263, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by Nicholas Huber & Brianna Hellwig was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 2nd of January 2024 and will become effective on the 30th of January 2024.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Brown County Planning & Zoning is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described properties 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.).

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 2nd

day of January 2024.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: December 6, 2023

First Reading: December 19, 2023

Second Reading/Adoption: January 2, 2024

Published: January 10, 2024

Effective Date: January 30, 2024

Published Jan. 10, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$21.77 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublishnotices.com. 22851



NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE #262

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #262, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by Don & Darlene Schumacher was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 2nd of January 2024 and will become effective on the 30th of January 2024.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Don & 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.).

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 2nd day of January 2024.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: December 6, 2023

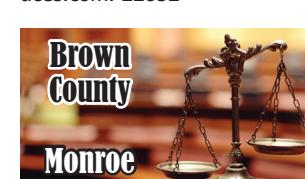
First Reading: December 19, 2023

Second Reading/Adoption: January 2, 2024

Published: January 10, 2024

Effective Date: January 30, 2024

Published Jan. 10, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$22.69 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublishnotices.com. 22852



NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE #264

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 4, SECOND REVISION BROWN COUNTY ORDINANCES AS AMENDED

TO REZONE CERTAIN DESCRIBED PROPERTY

Notice is hereby given that Ordinance #264, An Ordinance Amending Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended to rezone the following described property filed by Thomas Monroe was duly adopted by the Board of Brown County Commissioners on the 2nd of January 2024 and will become effective on the 30th of January 2024.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota, that the Petition to Amend Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, as amended, to rezone the following described property filed by Brown County Planning & Zoning is hereby granted and Title 4, Second Revision Brown County Ordinances is hereby amended to change the zoning on the following described properties from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use:

Passed and adopted this 2nd

day of January 2024.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: December 6, 2023

First Reading: December 19, 2023

Second Reading/Adoption: January 2, 2024

Published: January 10, 2024

Effective Date: January 30, 2024

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BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED by the Brown County Commission, Brown County, South Dakota that the zoning official for the County of Brown is hereby authorized to change the official zoning map for Brown County to reflect this Ordinance.

Passed and adopted this 2nd day of January 2024.

Duane Sutton, Brown County Commission Chairman

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Notice of Hearing: December 6, 2023

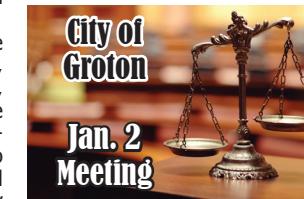
First Reading: December 19, 2023

Second Reading/Adoption: January 2, 2024

Published: January 10, 2024

Effective Date: January 30, 2024

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January 2, 2024

The Groton City Council met on the above date at 7:00pm at 120 N Main Street for their first monthly meeting with the following members present: Wells, Babcock, Cutler, Wambach, and President Bahr presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich, Terry Herron, Dwight Zerr, Todd Gay, Elizabeth Varrin, Kasey Kurtz, and Brianna Haugen.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Wells 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.

Department reports were reviewed and discussed.

Herron, Zerr, and Gay exited the meeting.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Cutler to approve the employee salaries and volunteer list. All members present voted aye. Pursuant to SDCL 6-1-10, the list of employee salaries and volunteers is as follows: Scott Hanlon - \$625/month, \$125/special meeting, \$300/full-day meeting, \$100/half-day meeting. Board of Equalization - \$200/year. Council Members: Brian Bahr, Karyn Babcock, Shirley Wells, Jon Cutler, Kevin Nehls, and Jason Wambach - \$3,000/year, \$125/special meeting, \$300/full-day meeting, \$100/half-day meeting. Planning and Zoning Commission - \$35/meeting, \$70/special meeting. Finance Officer, Douglas Heinrich - \$27.79/hour. Deputy Finance Officer, April Abel - \$28.98/hour. Assistant Finance Officer, Kellie Locke - \$23.97/hour. Public Works Coordinator, Street/Water Superintendent, Terry Herron - \$37.02/hour. Wastewater Superintendent, Dwight Zerr - \$33.09/hour. Assistant Street Superintendent, Branden Abel - \$30.75/hour. Technology Specialist, Paul Kosel - \$32.38/hour. Electric Superintendent, Todd Gay - \$57.09/hour. Electric Lineman, Landon Johnson - \$42.03/hour. Police Chief, Stacy Mayou - \$36.30/hour. Police Officer and Assistant Chief, Justin Cleveland - \$33.05/hour. Police Officer Level 1, Thomas Strickland - \$30.89/hour. Police Officer Level 2, Benjamin Smith - \$30.16/hour. A complete list of volunteers will be kept at City Hall.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Wambach to approve the 2024 fee schedule. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to approve the municipal election date as April 9, 2024. All members present voted aye. The following individuals have terms ending: Kevin Nehls – Ward 1, Jon Cutler – Ward 1, Brian Bahr – Ward 2,

and Jason Wambach – Ward 3.

Discussion took place regarding the housing study.

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

Kurtz and Haugen exited the meeting.

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

Payroll #11,340.74, Employee salaries; Executive, \$556.15, ; Public Safety, \$10,784.59, ; SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; Dacotah Bank, \$3,914.78, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; Aflac, \$336.62, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance; Employer's Mutual Insurance, \$82.70, Employee insurance; Todd & Kara Anderson, \$555.91, Refund of curb and gutter overpayment; Groton Daily Independent, \$53.25, Annual subscription fee; Aberdeen Property Management, \$550.00, Family crisis payment toward security deposit; City of Groton, \$50.00, Family crisis utility payment; J's Superior Cleaning, \$120.00, Commercial cleaning services - December 2023; RDO Equipment Co., \$14.97, Filler cap and gasket - Streets; Harry Implement, Inc., \$72.04, Hoses and fittings for loader - Streets; Irby, Inc., \$1,174.30, Line clamps, electrical tape, lock and keys, parallel connectors - Electric Dept.; Dakota Supply Group, \$209.66, Electrical tape - Electric Dept.; Community Partners Research Inc., \$3,750.00, Services rendered for Groton Housing Study (local share); Aptegy, Inc., \$10,400.00, Annual fee and initial startup costs for new website; JGE, \$812.16, Replacement of electrical harness and couplers on snowblower & edge broom - Streets; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc., \$139.98, HP and acetylene cylinder leases - City Shop; SD DANR, \$1,500.00, Annual discharge permit; Glenn Bitz, \$150.00, Window cleaning - City Hall; Dwight Zerr, \$512.42,



JANUARY 2, 2024 – REORGANIZATION MEETING

Meeting called to order by Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor at 8:45 A.M. in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Present were Commissioners Drew Dennert, Doug Fjeldheim, Mike Wiese, Mike Gage, and Duane Sutton. Commissioner Dennert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pastor Drew Becker with Freedom Church opened the meeting with a reading and a prayer for the Commission.

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

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2024: Lynn Heupel, Auditor called for nominations for Brown County Commission Chair for year 2024, pursuant to SDCL 7-8-15. Commissioner Wiese nominated Duane Sutton as 2024 Chairman, which was seconded by Dennert. Moved by Commissioner Wiese to cast a unanimous ballot for Duane Sutton as 2024 Chairman and nominations cease, seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sutton called for nominations for Brown County Commission Vice-Chair for 2024. Commissioner Wiese nominated Doug Fjeldheim as 2024 Vice-Chair, which was seconded by Dennert. Moved by Commissioner Wiese to cast a unanimous ballot for Doug Fjeldheim as 2024 Vice-Chairman and nominations cease, seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

UPDATE BOARD BOOK: Commission Committee Appointments will be as follows: Commissioner Dennert – Weed & Pest Control, NE Mental Health Center, County Buildings, Alternate Union Negotiations, Grow SD NESDCAP, Fair Board and Legislative Contact; Commissioner Sutton – Aberdeen Development Corp., Communications Council, Fair Board, SD Public Assurance Alliance, Dacotah Prairie Museum, Alternate Liaison 4-H Leaders Association/Promotion & Expansion Committee, SDACC Catastrophic Legal Board; Liaison Centennial Village and Edwards Preserve Nature Area; Commissioner Wiese – Range Fire Suppression, Union Negotiations, LEPC, Liaison to Welfare, Alternate Aberdeen/Brown County Regional Railroad Authority, Glacial Lakes; Commissioner Fjeldheim – Sick Leave Bank, Aberdeen/Brown County Regional Railroad Authority, Communications Council, NECOG, Airport Board, CART and FSA Representative; Commissioner Gage – Risk Management Committee, Alternate Legislative Contact, Planning & Zoning, JDIA (Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative), Senior Citizen's Board and Liaison 4-H Leader's Association/Promotion & Expansion.

EXPENSE POLICY – BROWN COUNTY BOARDS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following expense policy for County Boards: Dacotah Prairie Museum and Fair Board – No Per Diem; Planning and Zoning Board - \$75.00 for each meeting attended and if reside outside City Limits of Aberdeen, paid mileage at 51 cents per mile and have expenses paid for by Brown County Planning and Zoning Department if attend the State Conference; Weed & Pest Board - \$40 for each meeting attended and if reside outside City Limits of Aberdeen, paid mileage at 51 cents per mile. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADA COORDINATOR: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve leaving Judy Dosch, Building Superintendent as the ADA Coordinator. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OFFICIAL BANK DEPOSITORYES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Bank Depositories: Dacotah Bank; Dacotah Bank, East Branch; Dacotah Bank, Groton Branch; First National Bank of Frederick, First Savings of Beresford, Hecla Branch – Hecla' Bank North Warner; Bank North Warner, Aberdeen Branch; Plains Commerce Bank; US Bank; Great Plains and

CorTrust. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to designate Groton Independent as the official Brown County newspapers for 2024 (SDCL 7-18-3).

Dennis Feickert asked at what point the Aberdeen Insider could be added. Auditor Heupel stated it could be in April or July 1st. Commissioner Sutton shared depends on when they were founded, in business for a year and Auditor Heupel stated depends on the number of subscriptions as well. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TAX DEED NOTICES: Commissioner Fjeldheim brought the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #01-24

WHEREAS, Brown County has acquired tax certificates on property with delinquent real estate taxes for which tax deeds and notices can be served.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Brown County Commission authorizes the County Treasurer, Patty VanMetter to request States Attorney, Karly Winter, and States Attorney Office personnel to act as agents to process said tax deeds and notices.

Seconded by Commissioner Wiese. All members present voting aye. Resolution adopted.

VOLUNTEERS FOR WORK COMP PURPOSES: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Cert volunteers: Erin Bacon, Clayton Blachford, Bethany Curtis, Joshua Halsey, Janet Herman, Tina Hubert, Weylin Hubert, Charla Irrie, Michele Johnson, Jason Kuntz, Brian LaCroix, Alexandria Little, Jared Little, Douglas Mayer, David McGuire, Wendy Melhaff, Carla Meints, Trevor Meints, David Meyer, Maria Meyer, Mark Musel, Roberta Nichols, Gayle Opp, Cindy Pigors, Rick Pigors, Nancy Radke, Bryan L Rau, Trenia Rexinger, Bonnie Robinson, Freddie Robinson, Mark Shishnia, Shane Schlichenmayer, Kim Schneider, Donna Sharp, Gary Sharp, Brian Sharp, Gretchen Sharp, Dale Smid, Pam Smid, Amanda L Steckelberg, Mike L Steckelberg, Sara Street, Jeff Swank, Karen Swank, Lowell Swanson, Sara Swisher, Mike Ullrich, Jason Villhauer, Janice Waltman, Thomas Wantie and Scott York. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the 2024 Planning and Zoning Board which consist of Stan Beckler, David North, Patrick Keatts, Dale Kurth, James Meyers, and Carrie Weisenburger; Alternate – Paul Johnson. Commissioner Representative is Mike Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MOVED BY COMMISSIONER WIESE: Moved by Commissioner Wiese to cast a unanimous ballot for Doug Fjeldheim as 2024 Vice-Chairman and nominations cease, seconded by Gage. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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Mosquito Control:
Labor & Equipment Charges: (1 hour minimum)
FOGGING:
Labor Charge/Hour= \$40.00
Equipment Charge/Hour.... = \$50.00
Total Charges/Hour= \$90.00/hour + chemical

MISTING:
Labor Charge/Hour= \$40.00
Equipment Charge/Hour.... = \$50.00
Total Charges/Hour= \$90.00/hour + \$30.00 setup and travel fee + chemical

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DEPT. OF EQUALIZATION CLOTHING ALLOWANCE: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the request submitted by Gene Loesche, DOE for 2024 clothing allowance of \$150.00 per employee in the Equalization Office per Employee Policy Section C-12. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DEPT. OF EQUALIZATION (DOE) FEES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to approve the following fees for DOE: Copies: Rate is 25 cents per page. Receipt will be issued for each set of copies. Property owners may receive complimentary copies if they are or about their own parcel. Proceeds will be deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. Transfer of Mass information to a private outside entity: \$470.80 + 6.2% tax = \$500. Information

Technology downloads pertinent information from BC Connect or DEVNET to a flash drive, which is mailed to the requesting entity or uploaded to their site upon receipt of payment. Payment is deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. We typically get two of these requests annually but have had as many as four requests in a year. This will also include smaller data dumps that are sorted for the recipient. Beacon Subscriptions: See below Web access agreement. We currently have 77 active paying Beacon accounts, accounting for \$25,605.17 received annually. This money is deposited with the County Treasurer into the general fund. Tax estimates for real estate transfer closings: These are tax estimates we perform for our local title company and realtors so they can calculate appropriate tax credits between buyers and sellers upon real estate transfers. If we receive a request to do a tax estimate, we will have it ready by five (5) days after we receive the request. These will be charged \$23.54 plus tax (a total of \$25.00) to perform the request. If the request is needed with less than 5 days-notice, the charge will be \$37.66 plus tax (a total of \$40.00). These fees will need to be paid at the time the estimates are returned to the customer, as we are not allowed to maintain accounts receivable status.

Website Access Agreement: The Brown County website provides real estate information from the convenience of a personal computer 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. Access is allowed by a username and password. There is a fee for access, which covers the expense to provide this service. Fees are based on the number of users and must be paid in advance. Prices have been adjusted as of July 1, 2023, to reflect the change in state tax rate. Fee Schedule/Annual Fee: (Based on number of users): 1-5 people/\$318.60; 6-10 people/\$509.76; 11+ people/\$764.64. Temporary User: 1 Month/\$106.20. \$26.55 Setup Fee. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Jared Bossly, wanted to personally invite the Brown County Commissioners to attend a Rally in Pierre on Monday, January 8th at noon in the Rotunda of the State Capitol to stand up for Property/Landowner Rights along with local control.

SOUTH DAKOTANS FIRST: Craig Schauman informed the Brown County Commission that South Dakotans First is an organization that is wanting to educate people on the property rights and local control. They are going to work hard to keep that local control, including any legislation that deteriorates that. Craig spent 4 days at the Navigator/PUC Hearings, and he was impressed on how PUC staff handled the situation and how well prepared they were. Craig commented that it would be a disservice to the public to take local control away; there are going to organizations actively lobbying to keep the local control where we have it now.

Dennis Feickert commented that some of the counties the Commissioners act as the Planning & Zoning Board; he is concerned about the smaller counties that will give up and say let the State handle it. He stated it would be a disaster to lose local control and we need to lobby to retain local control. Dennis told the Commission to hang in there for Property Rights and Thanked them for what they have done thus far.

ORDINANCE #262 – SECOND READING/ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to adopt Ordinance #262. Applicant Don & Darlene Schumacher 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 #263 – SECOND READING/ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to adopt Ordinance #263. Applicant Nicholas Huber & Brianna Hellwig 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 #264 – SECOND READING/ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to adopt Ordinance #264. Applicant Thomas Monroe 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.

BID - EXPO ROOF: Discussion was held in regard to the Bid from Mega Construction to replace the roof on the Expo Holom Building. Chairman Sutton stated that building supplies are going to continue to rise but they were given until January 16th to accept the bid: personally, he feels that it is a critical need, and the building is worth maintaining and preserving. Commissioner Fjeldheim stated that it's not just an issue with the Expo Building, all the buildings have been neglected over the years because funds were not available, so we need to do something before they all deteriorate. Rachel Kipley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager stated that she didn't have any new information and the flashing between the buildings has been discussed. From the Fairgrounds standpoint they will do whatever they can to raise some additional funds, whether it is signage with the Expo or other donations.

INMATE HOUSING AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Inmate Housing Agreement with Corson County; housing of inmates for Jail and JDC; the cost would be \$100/day for Jail and \$350/day for JDC. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:49 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the December 27, 2023 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Family YMCA \$158,566.06; CommTech Inc \$31,235.55; DEVNET \$3,445.31; D-Ware, Inc \$4,570.00; Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc \$17,600.00; Minn-Kota Communications, Inc \$24,187.00; NECOG \$14,000.00; Police Legal Sciences Inc \$2,880.00; Pulse-Point Foundation \$8,000.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$9,880.55; SD State's Attorneys Association \$2,247.04; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$1,500.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Election Systems & Software \$7,035.00; Hollaway Bridge and Culvert, Inc \$103,300.00; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$181.42. Supplies: Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$265.47; Budget Furniture \$279.00; Century Business Products \$339.26; Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equipment \$508.00; Fastenal Company \$430.85; Hall Sand & Gravel, Inc \$35,056.90; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$249.57; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$114.24; Madison Liquidators LLC \$17,410.50; Menards \$184.30; Performance Oil \$151.20. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$141.75; CenturyLink \$305.48; Dependable Sanitation, Inc \$165.00; Midcontinent Communications \$145.69; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co \$42.95; Northwestern Energy \$555.15. Others: Clerk of Courts \$33.10; KO Safety Services LLC \$2,175.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$900.00; SDML Workers' Compensation Fund \$161,011.00.

PAYROLL: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,144.01; Treasurer \$16,295.53; SA \$33,252.52; Maintenance \$11,281.67; Assessor \$15,744.01; Register of Deeds \$9,932.81; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$8,974.46; HR \$4,698.75; Sheriff \$50,880.47; Jail \$66,734.56; Coroner \$613.60; Court Security \$6,861.66; JDC \$30,945.57; Welfare \$2,336.49; Museum \$10,942.39; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,918.01; Fair Board \$4,107.23; 4-H \$786.79; Weed \$1,338.37; Planning & Zoning \$8,315.53; Highway \$53,090.82; Dispatch \$31,979.71; Emergency \$4,905.81; 24/7 Sobriety

Dennis mentioned; it is Senate Bill 32: the State Department of Revenue would collect the 4.2% State Sales Tax and then send it back to the County in a designated fund; and they have sponsors of both the House and Senate side, so he asks for the Commission and Associations support of this bill. Rachel shared that could potentially be a \$100,000.00 per year, which could replenish the Capital Improvement Fund. Rachel said she could draft a letter to AHA to let them know where we are at and see if there could be a partnership to take care of the roof. Commissioner Dennert verified with Rachel that she still feels this bid is still going to be as competitive as we would likely have; Rachel said she did what she is hearing the prices are only going to go up. Rachel shared that they are looking at option 1 with the removal and replacement of the roof for \$658,500.00 with 2 alternates: alternate option 1 for \$4,125.00 and alternate option 2 for \$5,980.00; if decide to address the flashing right away but Rachel will need to get more information on the differences, and we could look at the shared fund to take care of part of this. Commissioner Sutton stated where the buildings connect has historically been an issue and having the leakage and Commissioner Gage stated the leakage comes in right where the electrical boxes are in the Expo. Commissioner Wiese made a motion that they enter into the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it and have Auditor Heupel create a spreadsheet showing potential available funds for consideration at the next meeting so we can determine before the bill actually becomes due and exercise our options, seconded by Fjeldheim including whichever option is determined by the contractor to include in the funding options. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

INMATE HOUSING AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Inmate Housing Agreement with Corson County; housing of inmates for Jail and JDC; the cost would be \$100/day for Jail and \$350/day for JDC. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:49 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published January 10, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$363.96 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublishnotices.com. 22859

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the December 27, 2023 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: Claims: Professional Fees: Aberdeen Family YMCA \$158,566.06; CommTech Inc \$31,235.55; DEVNET \$3,445.31; D-Ware, Inc \$4,570.00; Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc \$17,600.00; Minn-Kota Communications, Inc \$24,187.00; NECOG \$14,000.00; Police Legal Sciences Inc \$2,880.00; Pulse-Point Foundation \$8,000.00; SD Dept of Transportation \$9,880.55; SD State's Attorneys Association \$2,247.04; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$1,500.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Election Systems & Software \$7,035.00; Hollaway Bridge and Culvert, Inc \$103,300.00; K&S Plumbing, Inc \$181.42. Supplies: Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$265.47; Budget Furniture \$279.00; Century Business Products \$339.26; Dakota Mailing & Shipping Equipment \$508.00; Fastenal Company \$430.85; Hall Sand & Gravel, Inc \$35,056.90; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$249.57; Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$114.24; Madison Liquidators LLC \$17,410.50; Menards \$184.30; Performance Oil \$151.20. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$141.75; CenturyLink \$305.48; Dependable Sanitation, Inc \$165.00; Midcontinent Communications \$145.69; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co \$42.95; Northwestern Energy \$555.15. Others: Clerk of Courts \$33.10; KO Safety Services LLC \$2,175.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulation \$900.00; SDML Workers' Compensation Fund \$161,011.00.

PAYROLL: Commission \$4,615.41; Auditor \$11,144.01; Treasurer \$16,295.53; SA \$33,252.52; Maintenance \$11,281.67; Assessor \$15,744.01; Register of Deeds \$9,932.81; VSO \$4,254.09; GIS \$2,643.52; IT \$8,974.46; HR \$4,698.75; Sheriff \$50,880.47; Jail \$66,734.56; Coroner \$613.60; Court Security \$6,861.66; JDC \$30,945.57; Welfare \$2,336.49; Museum \$10,942.39; Parks/Fairgrounds \$4,918.01; Fair Board \$4,107.23; 4-H \$786.79; Weed \$1,338.37; Planning & Zoning \$8,315.53; Highway \$53,090.82; Dispatch \$31,979.71; Emergency \$4,905.81; 24/7 Sobriety

Dennis mentioned; it is Senate Bill 32: the State Department of Revenue would collect the 4.2% State Sales Tax and then send it back to the County in a designated fund; and they have sponsors of both the House and Senate side, so he asks for the Commission and Associations support of this bill. Rachel shared that could potentially be a \$100,000.00 per year, which could replenish the Capital Improvement Fund. Rachel said she could draft a letter to AHA to let them know where we are at and see if there could be a partnership to take care of the roof. Commissioner Dennert verified with Rachel that she still feels this bid is still going to be as competitive as we would likely have; Rachel said she did what she is hearing the prices are only going to go up. Rachel shared that they are looking at option 1 with the removal and replacement of the roof for \$658,500.00 with 2 alternates: alternate option 1 for \$4,125.00 and alternate option 2 for \$5,980.00; if decide to address the flashing right away but Rachel will need to get more information on the differences, and we could look at the shared fund to take care of part of this. Commissioner Sutton stated where the buildings connect has historically been an issue and having the leakage and Commissioner Gage stated the leakage comes in right where the electrical boxes are in the Expo. Commissioner Wiese made a motion that they enter into the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign it and have Auditor Heupel create a spreadsheet showing potential available funds for consideration at the next meeting so we can determine before the bill actually becomes due and exercise our options, seconded by Fjeldheim including whichever option is determined by the contractor to include in the funding options. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

INMATE HOUSING AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the Inmate Housing Agreement with Corson County; housing of inmates for Jail and JDC; the cost would be \$100/day for Jail and \$350/day for JDC. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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\$2,557.52; Landfill \$15,579.98; Meal Benefits \$250.00; SDRS Pay-out \$3,845.49; Retirement Award \$150.00; FICA \$26,038.82; Medicare \$6,089.80; Health Insurance Wellmark BCBS \$129,560.92; Dental Insurance_Delta \$8,539.92; Life Insurance_Dearborn \$1,078.14; Retirement_SDRS \$82,317.40. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HR REPORT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Alison Tunheim:

- Acknowledge the employment ending for Everett Krueger, Brown County Jail Detention Officer Sheriff, FT; effective December 27, 2023.
- Approve request to fill amendment-original posting to fill Brown County Highway Heavy Equipment Operator, FT; should be for Highway Roads & Bridges Crew Leader, FT.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the 1st quarter LEMPG Grant Report. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

AUTO BUDGET SUPPLEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to increase spending authority and estimated revenue in the following funds for reimbursement for expenditures: Fund #101.4.33400 @ \$172,566.06, #101.5.712.42201 @ \$172,566.06 (NECOG). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to go into executive session to discuss Personnel per SDCL 1-25-2. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. The chair declared the executive session closed with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:49 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published January 10, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$363.96 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublishnotices.com. 22859

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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

THAT The Groton City Council on

the 16th day of January, 2024 at

7:00pm at the Groton City Hall,

120 N Main Street, Groton, South

Dakota will meet in regular ses-

sion 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 2nd day of January, 2024.

Douglas Heinrich, Groton City

Finance Officer

Published Jan. 10, 2024, at

the total approximate cost of

\$8.58 and may be viewed free of

charge at www.sdpublishnotices.

com. 22856

Notice of Hearing upon

GHS Boys' Wrestling

Three wrestlers places at Jesse James Invite

Three Groton Area wrestlers placed at the Jesse James Invitational Wrestling Tournament held Saturday in Garretson. Christian Ehresmann took first place at 144 pounds, Korbin Kucker placed second at 165 pounds and Gavin Englund placed third at 285 pounds.

Groton Area placed sixth in a field of 12 teams.

Team Points: 1. Bon Homme/Avon 230.5, 2. Tri-Valley 203.5, 3. Luverne 142.5, 4. Beresford/Alcester-Hudson 122.0, 5. Marion/Freeman 111.0, 6. Groton Area 100.0, 7. Flandreau 97.0, 8. Lennox 87.0, 9. Elk Point-Jefferson 76.0, 10. Garretson 65.0, 11. Viborg-Hurley 36.5, 12. Chester Area 25.0, 12. Hanson 25.0,

106: Wyatt Hagen (14-7) scored 8.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 14-7 won by fall (1:04) over Payton Barrick (Tri-Valley) 5-6.

Quarterfinal - Logan Pankratz (Marion/Freeman) 20-8 won by a 5-2 decision over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 14-7.

Cons. Round 2 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 14-7 won by 10-4 decision over Brody Kopp (Luverne) 11-9.

Cons. Round 3 - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 14-7 won by fall (2:13) over Lucas Ludwig (Garretson) 5-4.

Cons. Semi - Owen Bunde (Tri-Valley) 13-4 won by fall (1:49) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 14-7.

113: Lincoln Krause (10-6) scored 8.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 10-6 received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Corbin Palsma (Bon Homme/Avon) 16-9 won by fall (3:14) over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 10-6.

Cons. Round 2 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 10-6 won by fall in 42 seconds over Beckett Fennel (Elk Point-Jefferson) 2-6.

Cons. Round 3 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 10-6 won by fall in 22 seconds over Joseph Lee (Viborg-Hurley) 3-10.

Cons. Semi - Ty Kopp (Luverne) 13-8 won by a 7-6 decision over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 10-6.

132: Walker Zoellner (12-8) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 12-8 received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 12-8 won by a 5-2 decision over Alaric Knittel (Marion/Freeman) 7-13.

Semifinal - Brayden Wiese (Flandreau) 13-5 won by an 8-2 decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 12-8.

Cons. Semi - Keaton Prehie (Marion/Freeman) 21-10 won by fall (2:07) over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 12-8.

144: Christian Ehresmann (16-2) placed 1st and scored 25.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 16-2 received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 16-2 won by fall (1:35) over Levi Hanson (Elk Point-Jefferson) 6-10.

Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 16-2 won by fall (1:30) over Brock Kotalik (Bon Homme/Avon) 8-4.

1st Place Match - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 16-2 won by a 12-1 major decision over Ramsey Williams (Lennox) 19-7.

157: Eastern Ekern (2-13) scored 1.0 team point.

Champ. Round 1 - Jensen Christensen (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 9-7 won by fall (1:55) over Eastern Ekern (Groton Area) 2-13.

Cons. Round 1 - Eastern Ekern (Groton Area) 2-13 received a bye.

Cons. Round 2 - Dawson Holtz (Luverne) 8-11 won by fall (5:00) over Eastern Ekern (Groton Area) 2-13.

165: Korbin Kucker (6-2) placed 2nd and scored 21.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 6-2 won by fall (1:29) over Brodee Snyders (Marion/Freeman) 1-11.

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 6-2 won by a 10-0 major decision over Cole Schleuter (Garretson) 12-11.

Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 6-2 won by fall (4:42) over Robert Watkins (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 10-9.

1st Place Match - Landyn Reiser (Tri-Valley) 14-3 won by a 7-1 decision over Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 6-2.

175: Ben Hoeft (6-12) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Sam Rock (Luverne) 19-2 won by tech fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 6-12 (TF-1.5 2:10 (17-2))

Cons. Round 1 - Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 6-12 received a bye.

Cons. Round 2 - Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 6-12 won by fall over Alex Lopez (Flandreau) 4-7 (Fall 3:38)

Cons. Round 3 - Logan Willi (Luverne) 12-4 won by fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 6-12 (Fall 1:49)

190: Drew Thurston (3-6) scored 7.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 3-6 won by forfeit over a wrestler from Luverne.

Quarterfinal - Karter Headrick (Flandreau) 15-6 won by fall (3:19) over Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 3-6.

Cons. Round 2 - Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 3-6 won by fall (4:20) over Elliot Powell (Tri-Valley) 2-5.

Cons. Round 3 - Trevor Ryan (Viborg-Hurley) 5-5 won by fall (0:55) over Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 3-6.

215: Charlie Frost (2-4) scored 6.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 2-4 received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Cody Sassaman (Bon Homme/Avon) 12-10 won by fall (2:36) over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 2-4.

Cons. Round 2 - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 2-4 received a bye.

Cons. Round 3 - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 2-4 won by fall (2:48) over Jamin Peterson (Hanson) 1-6.

Cons. Semi - Kane Akkerman (Luverne) 10-5 won by a 6-4 decision over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 2-4.

285: Karter Moody (8-5)

Champ. Round 1 - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 8-5 won by fall (1:00) over Aiden Hilbelink (Chester Area) 5-8.

Quarterfinal - Karter Moody (Groton Area) 8-5 won by fall (1:50) over Tanner Baatz (Garretson) 10-9.

Semifinal - Randall Powers (Bon Homme/Avon) 16-8 won by fall (0:45) over Karter Moody (Groton Area) 8-5.

Cons. Semi - Jacob Johnson (Viborg-Hurley) 13-11 won by fall (1:59) over Karter Moody (Groton Area) 8-5.

285: Gavin Englund (14-6) placed 3rd and scored 16.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 14-6 received a bye.

Quarterfinal - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 14-6 won by fall over Connor Neumayr (Beresford/Alcester-Hudson) 1-13 (Fall 3:48)

Semifinal - Masy Akkerman (Luverne) 10-1 won by fall (1:51) over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 14-6.

Cons. Semi - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 14-6 won by fall (2:51) over Tanner Baatz (Garretson) 10-9.

3rd Place Match - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 14-6 won by a 6-2 decision over Jacob Johnson (Viborg-Hurley) 13-11.

GHS Boys' Junior Varsity Wrestling

Block places third at Madison Tournament

Donovan Block took third place at the Madison Junior Varsity Wrestling Tournament held Saturday. Four other Groton Area wrestlers went to Madison. There were 14 teams at the tournament.

99: Luke Gauer (1-6).

Quarterfinal - Tanner Urdahl (Watertown) 4-2 won by fall over Luke Gauer (Groton Area) 1-6 (Fall 2:00)

Cons. Round 1 - Andrei Schmidt (Chamberlain) 1-2 won by decision over Luke Gauer (Groton Area) 1-6 (Dec 11-6)

106: Aiden Strom (2-6).

Quarterfinal - Charles Aldanna (Madison) 11-8 won by fall over Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 2-6 (Fall 1:04)

Cons. Round 1 - Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 2-6 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Semi - Braxten Petersen (Watertown) 4-2 won by fall over Aiden Strom (Groton Area) 2-6 (Fall 2:15)

106: Noah Scepaniak (4-6) scored 3.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - William O'Connor (Sioux Falls O'Gorman) 8-5 won by tech fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-6 (TF-1.5 2:37 (15-0))

Cons. Round 1 - Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-6 won by fall over Kenneth Arends (West Central) 0-2 (Fall 0:49)

Cons. Semi - Charles Aldanna (Madison) 11-8 won by fall over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 4-6 (Fall 1:31)

126: Donavon Block (6-7) placed 3rd and scored 20.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 6-7 won by fall over Braxten Miller (West Central) 6-5 (Fall 2:40)

Quarterfinal - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 6-7 won by fall over Brody Call (Sioux Falls Lincoln) 3-5 (Fall 1:18)

Semifinal - Brylee Brennan (Chamberlain) 5-0 won by decision over Donavon Block (Groton Area) 6-7 (Dec 10-6)

Cons. Semi - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 6-7 won by fall over Braxten Miller (West Central) 6-5 (Fall 2:46)

3rd Place Match - Donavon Block (Groton Area) 6-7 won by fall over Jackson Keoke (Watertown) 5-4 (Fall 2:31)

175: Isaiah Scepaniak (1-11) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Will Dose (Sioux Falls Jefferson) 3-2 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-11 (Fall 1:21)

Cons. Round 1 - Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-11 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-11 won by forfeit over Forfeit Forfeit (Huron) 4-5 (For.)

Cons. Round 3 - Ryder Sauer (Sioux Falls Jefferson) 4-4 won by fall over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) 1-11 (Fall 0:37)

190: Layne Johnson (3-4) scored 3.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 3-4 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Evan Guilfoil (Sioux Falls Lincoln) 5-5 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 3-4 (Fall 2:53)

Cons. Round 2 - Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 3-4 won by fall over Wyatt Bengford (Sioux Falls Lincoln) 0-5 (Fall 2:56)

Cons. Round 3 - Deaonte Brewer (Lakota Tech) 5-6 won by fall over Layne Johnson (Groton Area) 3-4 (Fall 2:12)

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter
 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter
 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter
 4th consecutive week is free
605/397-NEWS (6397)
 PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

EMPLOYMENT

PRESS POSITION OPEN: Rocket Printing in Armour, SD, is looking for an individual to run their newspaper press and additional technologies. Experience a plus, will train the right individual. Benefits include insurance incentive and retirement. Send letter and resume to Rocket Printing, PO Box 369, Armour, SD 57313.

LAND

FARMLAND rents are strong. Do you need representation or a Farmland Manager? Contact Tim Peters at 605.270.9410 or tpeters@pifers.com. Pifer's Land Management, www.pifers.com

LIVESTOCK

Double J Farms 50th Annual Simmental, SiAngus Bull & Female Sale, Live on DVAAuction.com Friday Jan. 26 @ Noon. Garretson, S.D. Kipp Julson 605-351-9088 doublejsimmentals.com

NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Statewide Full Digital Ad is \$300 for 1 week. Call the Groton Independent at 605-397-7460.

— King Crossword — Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

OMAN	BOT	ALFA
CALAMARI	ROAR	
TEARDROP	CRUE	
NIT	PLAINS	
HELIX	DYAN	
IKEA	BATTERS	
PGA	GATOS	AAH
SPEAKUP	ARNE	
SPATES	EIN	
ALPO	HEDGEHOP	
RASP	OPINIONS	
AYES	PAT	DIET

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

Winter Wonderland!



1. horse and sleigh rides
2. ice carving competition
3. ice fishing contest
4. snowmobile races
5. giant snow maze
6. dogsled rally
7. snow sculpture
8. toboggan slide

Melvin Larson Farm Sale

11724 391st Ave. Columbia, SD 57433

Brown County, SD Land for sale.

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

Legal: NW 1/4 of section 34-T126N-R63W

Brainard township

From US Highway 12 it is 14.5 miles north on Brown County Highway 14 on the east side of the highway.

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.



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

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will HURT EVERY South Dakotan**

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PROTECT SOUTH DAKOTA'S
AG FUTURE

A message from Protect South Dakota's Ag Future.

Tigers stun Clark/Willow Lake in a clean sweep Tietz breaks scoring record Dolan recognized for his 100th win at Warner



Former players came back to honor Coach Brian Dolan for his 100th career basketball win.

It was a historical night Friday in Groton with so many things at play. It has been many years since the Groton Area boys have beaten Clark/Willow Lake, but this was the year and it was in big fashion with 84-20 final score.

Head Coach Brian Dolan was recognized for his 100th win at Warner which includes his coaching time at Aberdeen Roncalli. Dolan said, "It was a nice touch to have those kids back. It's all about them. We have the luxury of sitting there, not have to run or do the hard work. Those kids do all the hard work. Same as the kids at Roncalli - those kids are just as much a part of this. It's been a journey - never thought I'd be coaching high school basketball, but we're here."

Lane Tietz broke the school record that was held by JR Johnson back in 1998 or 1999. Johnson's record was 44 points. Tietz hit 47 points with just over four minutes left in the game.

"When he got to 36, he was too close to not have a shot at it," Dolan said. "We were ready to take him out but we thought we'd give him a couple of minutes in the fourth quarter. I had Rozell (official) tell Jerome (Clark head coach) what we were doing. They did a great job trying to preventing him from getting it, which they should. He deserves it. He played a very good team game tonight and I thought it was the right thing to do."

Senior Lane Tietz said, "For the past four years, even before I was playing high school basketball we haven't beaten Clark. To finally have a game like this against them is awesome. Yes, I got the school record, but I couldn't have done it without my teammates. Once they saw that I was getting close, they just got me the ball. It's always been a goal of mine to get it, but I didn't think it was possible. It was so fun."

Groton Area had a 17-point run in the first half and an 18-point run in the second and third period that was propelled by the Tiger defense. Tietz ended up with a double-double on the night with 47 points and 10 steals. Tietz said, "We've been going so hard in practice on our defense, and that's all coach Dolan is asking. Let the defense create our offense."

Clark/Willow Lake made just two field goals in the second half, which included allowing Cayden Binger to come off the bench and everyone stood there until he made a shot. Binger made the fourth shot after he got some direction from teammate Masyn Knock.

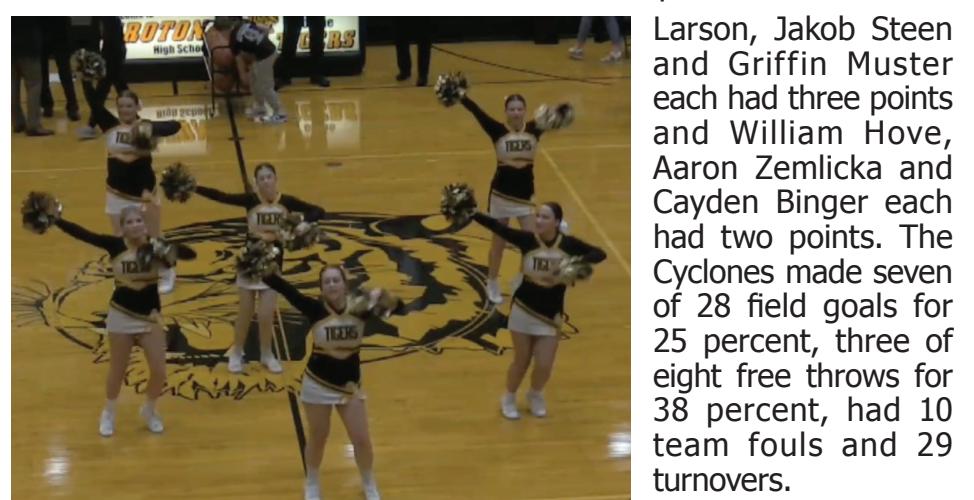
Quarter scores were 22-4, 48-14 and 72-15.

Dolan was surprised but the final score. "I thought we would win. I thought we were the better team. Our guards would give them a lot of trouble. We've been practicing too good lately. Our guys on the bench are getting better, better and better and it's making us deeper and deeper. Turner Thompson has come out of nowhere and playing great. JD Schwan, Logan Warrington, Colby has been great since Gage has been out. Those two eighth graders (Karson Zak and Easton Weber) can play with anybody. We're growing. After Pine Ridge, that's what's we've been talking about. We're growing together as a team. The younger kids are growing in with the older kids. It's a fun process."

Tietz finished the night, making eight of 10 two-pointers, nine of 15 three-pointers, four of five free throws, had four rebounds, five assists and 10 steals. Jacob Zak had 13 points, one assist and two steals. Ryder Johnson had eight points, four rebounds, two assists and one steal. Keegen Tracy had five points, three rebounds and one steal. Colby Dunker had five points, two rebounds and one steal. Turner Thompson had three points, one rebounds and one assist. JD Schwan had three points and one rebound. Taylor Diegel had three assists and four steals. Blake Pauli had one rebound, two assists and one steal. Kassen Keough had one rebound. Holden Sippel had one assist. Karson Zak had one steal and Easton Weber had one block shot.

Groton Area made 19 of 29 two-pointers for 66 percent, made 13 of 24 three-pointers for 54 percent, made seven of nine free throws for 78 percent, had 23 rebounds, six turnovers, 15 assists, 21 steals, 13 fouls and one block shot.

Three-Pointers: Zak 1, Tietz 9, Johnson 1, Thompson 1, Schwan 1. Jack Hellenen led Clark/Willow Lake with five points while Emerson



The GHS Pep Band played Friday night at the Clark/Willow Lake boys' basketball game. GHS alumni came back to also play in the band as pictured below. They are Braden Freeman, Jackson Dinger, Ethan Clark, Band Director Desree Yeigh, Ellie Weismantel, Carter Barse and Candance Tullis. (Above photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video. Below photo from Desree Yeigh's Facebook Page)



GHS Cheerleaders performed and sang the school song. (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)

Larson, Jakob Steen and Griffin Muster each had three points and William Hove, Aaron Zemlicka and Cayden Binger each had two points. The Cyclones made seven of 28 field goals for 25 percent, three of eight free throws for 38 percent, had 10 team fouls and 29 turnovers.

Continues on next page

Continued from previous page

Three-Pointers: Hellen 1.

At the end, Tietz added, "The main goal is to go to the state tournament. If that means I score 47 points or six, if my teammates are scoring, we're moving the ball and playing well together, that's all that matters."

Groton Area is now 5-2 on the season while Clark/Willow Lake goes to 3-3. The Tigers will be playing a pair of double headers next week with Tiospa Zina on Thursday and Dakota Valley on Saturday.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 50-18, leading at the quarter stops at 10-8, 28-12 and 41-16. Teylor Diegel led the Tigers with 12 points followed by Logan Warrington with 10, Turner Thompson had seven, Kassen Keough and Easton Weber each had six, Blake Pauli five, and Karson Zak and Ethan Kroll each had two points.

Three-Pointers: Pauli 1, Keough 1, Diegel 2, Thompson 2, Weber 2.

Mato Denoyer led Clark/Willow Lake with six points and Masyn Knock added five.

Three-Pointers: Sullivan Felberg 1.

Groton Area made it a clean sweep with a 37-10 win in the C game. Quarterscores were 17-4, 22-5 and 35-5.

Karson Zak led Groton Area with 10 points followed by Easton Weber with eight, Logan Warrington seven, Jayden Schwan six, Ryder Schelle four and Jace Johnson two.

Three-Pointers: Zak 2, Weber 1.

Talon Huber and Levi Atkins each had three points two lead the Cyclones.

- Paul Kosel

Clark/Willow Lake's GDILIVE.COM broadcasts

All of the events from last night were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The C game was sponsored for all of the grandparents watching. The junior varsity game was sponsored by Ed and Connie Stauch. The varsity game was sponsored by 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, Krueger Brothers, Locke Electric, Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Harvesting and Trucking. Paul Kosel did the play-by-play and Jeslyn Kosel ran the camera.

GHS Girls' Basketball

Lady Tigers have clean sweep over Clark/Willow Lake

Jaedyn Penning had her best night of the season as she led the girls' basketball team to a 53-26 win over Clark/Willow Lake. The game was played Thursday in Willow Lake.

Groton Area jumped out to a 12-0 lead and led, 14-2, after the first quarter. The Tigers led, 27-4, late in the second quarter before the Cyclones put in nine straight points to make it a 27-13 lead at halftime. The Tigers led, 42-20, at the end of the third quarter.

Penning had 12 points, nine rebounds, one assist and one steal to lead the Tigers. Brooklyn Hansen had nine points, two rebounds, one steal and one block. Faith Traphagen had nine points and four rebounds. Kennedy Hansen had eight points, two rebounds, one assist and one steal. Rylee Dunker had seven points, seven rebounds, three assists and four steals. Jerica Locke had five points, nine rebounds, four assists and four steals. Laila Roberts had four points (four for for four from the line), and two steals. Taryn Trapahgen had two points and two rebounds.

3-Pointers: Locke 1, Faith Trapahgen 1.

Brynn Roehrich and Tehya Vig each led Clark/Willow Lake with six points followed by Kamryn Nesheim with five, Shelby Begeman had four and Shay Michalski added two points.

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 16-10. Laila Roberts and Chesney Weber each

had four points while Faith Trapahgen, Taryn Trapahgen, Talli Wright and Mia Crank each had two points. Shelby Begeman led the Cyclones with seven points.

Groton Area won the C game, 25-22. Clark/Willow Lake led, 3-2, after the first quarter and Groton Area scored 13 straight points to take a 21-7 lead, leading 15-7 at halftime. Groton Area led, 23-12, at the end of the third quarter. Clark/Willow Lake scored 10 straight points in the second half and closed to within one, 23-22. Taking the ball out of bounds, Ashlynn Warrington threw the ball into Kella Tracy who was all alone under the basket and she made the shot to put Groton up by three, 25-22, good for the win.

Tracy led the Tigers with nine points followed by Chesney Weber with six, McKenna Tietz and Emerlee Jones each had three points and Sydney Locke and Avery Crank each had two points.

All three games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM with Shane Clark and Jeslyn Kosel assisting. The C game was sponsored by Jason and Robyn Warrington, the junior varsity game sponsored by Adam and Nichole Wright and the varsity game was sponsored by 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, Krueger Brothers, Locke Electric, Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Harvesting and Trucking.

- Paul Kosel

GHS Wrestling

Five double winners at Webster Triangular

Lincoln Krause, Donovan Block, Christian Ehresmann, Korbin Kucker and Charlie Frost were all double winners at the triangular wrestling matches held Thursday in Webster.

Redfield 46, Groton Area 36

106: Maddon Oland (Redfield) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) (MD 8-0) 113: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) over Tate Neuharth (Redfield) (Fall 3:39) 120: Kasey Hermann (Redfield) over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) (Fall 0:31) 126: Donavon Block (Groton Area) over Jake Wipf (Redfield) (Fall 3:02)

132: Conner Zens (Redfield) won by forfeit

138: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Marken Cazeau (Redfield) (Fall 3:28) 144: Ayden Understock (Redfield) won by forfeit

150: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) won by forfeit

157: Collin Dean (Redfield) over Eastern Ekern (Groton Area) (Fall 0:35)

165: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) won by forfeit

175: Dylan Murray (Redfield) over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) (Fall 1:37)

190: Camden Murray (Redfield) over Isaiah Scepaniak (Groton Area) (Fall 0:36) 215: Charlie Frost (Groton Area) won by forfeit

285: Grady Fey (Redfield) over Gavien Englund (Groton Area) (Fall 0:32)

Webster Area 40, Groton Area 39

106: Tayten Kurkowski (Webster Area) over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) (Dec 7-1) 113: Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) over Karstyn Schlechter (Webster Area) (Fall 0:35) 120: Tacey Miller (Webster Area) over Noah Scepaniak (Groton Area) (Fall 1:06)

126: Donavon Block (Groton Area) won by forfeit

132: Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) over Gavon Larson (Webster Area) (Dec 7-4) 138: Haeden Jorgenson (Webster Area) won by forfeit

144: Trace Shoemaker (Webster Area) won by forfeit

150: Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) over Rylan Meuer (Webster Area) (Fall 0:59)

157: Gage Baumgarn (Webster Area) over Eastern Ekern (Groton Area) (Fall 0:10) 165: Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) over Nathan Hubsch (Webster Area) (Fall 3:27) 175: Hunter Bourassa (Webster Area) over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) (Fall 3:17)

190: Isaac Nelson (Webster Area) over Drew Thurston (Groton Area) (Fall 3:01)

215: Charlie Frost (Groton Area) over Matthew Angiolelli (Webster Area) (Fall 5:38) 285: Gavien Englund (Groton Area) over Gage Miotke (Webster Area) (Fall 0:53)

GHS Girls' Wrestling

Krueger places second at Lyman Invite

Liza Krueger took second place at the Mid Dakota Bride of the Monster Tournament held Saturday in Lyman.

100: Liza Krueger (12-3) placed 2nd and scored 24.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 12-3 won by fall over Timber Hanson (Stanley County) 4-2 (Fall 0:38)

Quarterfinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 12-3 won by fall over Emery Voelker (Tea Area) 8-6 (Fall 2:00)

Semifinal - Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 12-3 won by fall over Jaynie Perkins (Lakota Tech) 10-8 (Fall 4:22)

1st Place Match - Finley Evjen (Canton) 21-2 won by fall over Liza Krueger (Groton Area) 12-3 (Fall 1:05)

107: Maddie Little (1-6).

Champ. Round 1 - Harley Iverson (Sisseton) 8-4 won by fall over Maddie Little (Groton Area) 1-6 (Fall 1:39)

Cons. Round 1 - Gemma Stangeland (Pierre T.F. Riggs) 6-5 won by fall over Maddie Little (Groton Area) 1-6 (Fall 2:50)

Groton Prairie Mixed Bowling League Week #7

1st Third Standings: Jackelopes – 19, Coyotes – 19, Shihtzus – 16, Cheetahs – 14, Chipmunks – 11, Foxes – 5

Men's High Games: Brad Waage – 223, Lance Frohling – 203, Brad Larson – 200

Women's High Games: Vicki Walter – 185, Emily Sternhagen – 176, Lori Giedt – 161

Men's High Series: Brad Waage – 605, Lance Frohling – 585, Brad Larson – 501

Women's High Series: Vicki Walter – 506, Lori Giedt – 434, Dar Larson – 427

Jackelopes and Coyotes tied for the first third!

Week #7 Fun Game - Most 9 Spares - Jackelopes with 27!

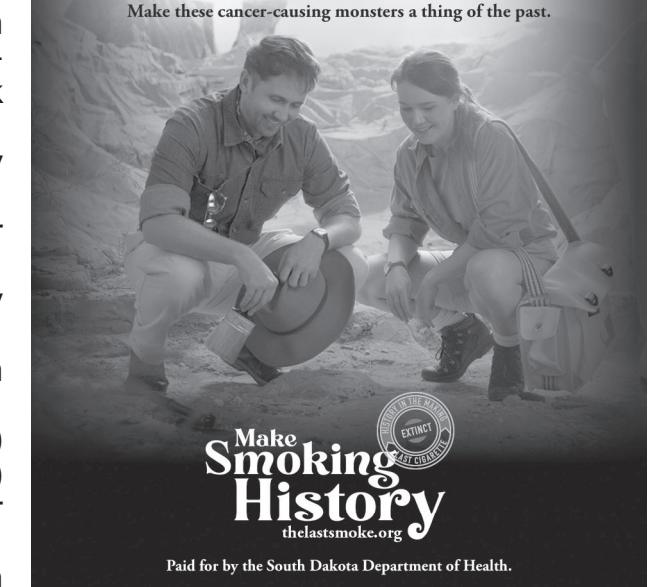


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School Board sets amount and term for school opt-out resolution

A school district opt-out has been talked about since 2016 and the board has engaged in serious discussion for the past six months. At the meeting held Wednesday evening, the board agreed with a maximum opt out of \$1.25 million for a term of 10 years. Now that the dollar amount and term have been set, a resolution will be passed at the next school board meeting. Projections have the district using \$1.25 million in 2025, \$1.15 million in 2026, \$1 million then for the next four years, \$1.045 million in year seven, \$1.062 million in year eight, \$1.125 million in year nine and \$1,135 million in year 10.

A lot of school districts are using capital outlay funds to help fund the general fund. There are also a number of districts (about 25 percent) that also have an opt-out and are using capital outlay funds. Groton Area has been using \$600,000 to \$830,000 from capital outlay to fund the general fund.

Superintendent Joe Schwan said he wants to restore the integrity of the capital outlay fund to keep its funds. The board entered into a lengthy discussion to figure out what the dollar amount should be and the term of the opt out should be in order to create a resolution.

Schwan said you take what you need. He said that the board does not need to take the full amount of the opt-out. It is decided on a year-by-year basis. His projection reflects a 3 percent annual expenditure growth.

Projected opt-out amounts

Year	CY	CY Opt Out Amount	FY Revenue	FY	Projected short-fall or surplus
0	2024	0.00	0.00	FY2024	
1	2025	1,250,000.00	625,000.00	FY2025	231,205.81
2	2026	1,150,000.00	1,200,000.00	FY2026	-318,108.01
3	2027	1,000,000.00	1,075,000.00	FY2027	-166,651.25
4	2028	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	FY2028	-64,400.79
5	2029	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	FY2029	-36,332.81
6	2030	1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00	FY2030	-7,422.80
7	2031	1,045,000.00	1,022,500.00	FY2031	-145.48
8	2032	1,062,000.00	1,053,500.00	FY2032	-474.85
9	2033	1,125,000.00	1,093,500.00	FY2033	-8,884.09
10	2034	1,135,000.00	1,130,000.00	FY2034	-12,845.61

The Ken's Super Fair Foods flyer highlights several promotional offers:

- APP DEAL OF THE WEEK:** FREE 7-Up, A & W, Sunkist or Squirt 2-liter bottle with \$10 purchase & Ken's App. Requires \$10 additional purchase and use of Ken's App.
- Introducing Kens Package Kiosk Machine:** Shows a kiosk displaying various products like Sendlane, FedEx, and Ken's products.
- Meat:** Smithfield Whole Boneless Porkloin \$2.29 per lb.
- Dairy:** Cass Clay 2% Swiss Chocolate Milk \$2.49 per 1/2 gallon plastic jug.
- Frozen:** Orv's Ultimate Rizer Pizza \$3.99 (25.45-28.45 oz.)
- Liquor:** Angels Envy Bourbon \$47.99 (750 mL).
- Household:** Lysol Cleaner \$3.99 (22-40 oz. bottle or 2 ct.).
- Bakery:** Ken's Famous Fried Chicken \$11.49 (8 piece bucket).
- Flora Bath Tissue:** Sale Price \$7.99, Digital Coupon -\$1.00, Net Price \$6.99 (12 mega roll or paper towels).
- Prego Pasta Sauce:** \$1.88 (23-24 oz. jar).
- Creamette Pasta:** 4/\$5 (12-16 oz. boxes).
- Campbell's Chunky Soup:** 2/\$4 (18.6-19 oz. cans).
- Flora Paper Towels:** \$6.99 (12 mega roll bundle).
- Ken's Groceries To Go!** Order online and have them delivered.

"We can't pocket the money," Becky Hubsch, school business manager, said. "We have to maintain a certain cash balance." A district has to have at least one month of under 30 percent cash balance which is set by state law. "The days of sitting on large fund balances are long gone," Schwan said.

Hubsch said that the flexibility of the opt out would benefit the district. "Something weird could happen with the state formula," she said, "but we have to have teachers in the building."

"I think we would be tying our hands if we go any lower than \$1.25 million," said board member Marty Weismantel. "This school is going to be here. We are looking out for the best interest of the students, staff and the district."

Board President Deb Gengerke said if the district did the \$1 million opt out, by year seven, the district would need to start withdrawing funds from the capital outlay fund, which could be up to \$295,088 by year 15. With the \$1.25 million opt out, the district would opt out in varying amounts to keep the district from taking money from capital outlay. However even at that, by year 14n(2038), the district would need to pull \$7,367 from capital out and by year 15 (2039), it would be \$45,088. "We need to finance a sound district," she said.

"We're in a pickle," said Board Member Kara Pharis.

Weismantel encouraged the general public to ask questions. "We welcome the opportunity to talk about it," he said. "Talk to the administration. Talk to a board member."

State funding formula is going to be reviewed by the state legislature this year. One of the things being considered is the teacher salaries where districts are getting money from the state but that money is not totally being used for teacher salaries and Schwan said that Governor Noem is questioning if that should continue. There will be different accountably in the works.

The Langford School District wants to engage in discussion for a co-op with Groton Area for football next year. The discussion started two years ago, but Langford is now looking more seriously about it. Options with Webster and Britton-Hecla are off the table. A coop with Langford Area would not change Groton Area's classification. The board agreed to proceed with talks. Langford is planning a community meeting in February.

The school van was stolen in Sioux Falls. Schwan said that they found the license plates. The kids belongings were not on the bus. "It could have been a lot worse," Schwan said.

The board set April 9 as the date for the school board election, if there is one. The terms of Marty Weismantel and Kara Pharis are up this year - they are three-year terms. The deadline to submit a petition is 5 p.m. on February 23. Petitions can be taken out January 27th.

There were a number of resignations approved: Anna Fuhrman as ag instruction at the end of the 2023-24 school year (husband has a new job and they will be moving to Watertown); Brittany Hubbard as oral interp advisor (no student interest in the program); Mike Nehls as head custodian effective February 2, 2024 (moving out to the Mobridge area to work for the Mobridge-Pollock school and also as a code enforcer for the City of Mobridge); and the retirement of Julie Milbrandt at the end of the 2023-24 school year.

The board approved a HVAC change order for about \$1,100 to add an additional swing door for filter change-out ease.

The 2024-25 school calendar was approved. Start date is Wednesday, Aug. 21. Final day is Wednesday, May 15 with graduation being held on Saturday, May 17.

Next school board meeting is set for Tuesday, Jan. 30, 7 p.m.

- Paul Kosel

Groton Area performs above state average in all three subject areas

Gengerke read a letter from the Associated School Boards of South Dakota:

"During the previous school year, your students and district achieved something academically that less than half of the state's public school districts did by scoring above the state average in all three subject areas - English Language Arts, Mathematics and Science - of the annual state assessments. The Board of Directors and staff members of the Associated School Boards of South Dakota congratulate your district's students, staff, administration and school board for this accomplishment as we believe it evidences high academic performance in your district."

- Paul Kosel

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