The Groton Independent Vol. 141 No. 22 A Groton CD AWA

Vol. 141 No. 22 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024 ♦ Established in 1889



State Wrestling Qualifiers

Groton Area will be sending four boys and one girl to the state wrestling tournament with two Doland girls who wrestle on the Groton team. The top 16 in the state qualify in the girl's division. The top four in the region for the boys qualify for state. The state tournament is this weekend in Sioux Falls.

Pictured left to right are Christian Ehresmann, Korbin Kucker, Walker Zoellner, Wyatt Hagen, Liza Krueger and Doland's girls Reganne Miles and Kyla Logan. (Photo courtesy Alexa Schuring)

City Council discusses downtown buildings issues, summer employment

Buildings in downtown Groton may be in danger.

The Groton City Council discussed maintenance of the alley east of Main Street at Tuesday's council meeting.

Topper Tastad, president of the Groton Community Historical Society, said the problem became apparent when two buildings (15 North Main Street and 29 North Main Street) began having water damage on walls facing the alley.

Water doesn't drain from the alley between North Main Street and North Third Street, he said. And the mess of water and mud has damaged the structures there, and may do more in the future.

"If we don't do this, these buildings are going to be gone," he said. "We're going to be another Stratford or Avon. These buildings will be gone. You don't replace these buildings."

This wasn't an issue likely discussed when Main Street businesses were built in the late 1800s and early 1900s, he said. Gravel has been brought in for years to try and make the alley better, but that has caused the alley to sit above where it should be, and it doesn't allow water to drain into the sewer system, he said.

"It will be everyone's fault if we don't fix this. These buildings will be gone in 20 years if we don't fix it," Tastad said. "...All those guys who owned the buildings a hundred years ago are gone. It's up to us."



Dacotah Bank donates to Groton Area Student Needs Account

Dacotah Bank of Groton donated \$325 to the Groton Area **High School Students Needs Account.**

The donation came from three-pointers and free throws made at the Mobridge-Pollock double header played in Groton on February 10.

Dacotah Bank paid \$5 for each free throw made and \$10 for each three-pointer made.

For Groton Area, 10 free throws were made for \$50 and 13 three-pointers were made for \$130. For Mobridge-Pollock, 23 free throws were made for \$115 and three three-pointers were made for \$30.

Receiving the donation is Groton Area Superintendent Joe Schwan. Making the presentation are Dacotah Bank employees Tammy Locke and Heidi Locke. (Courtesy Photo)

Tastad proposed a number of projects to help the alleyway that runs from East Railroad Avenue north to East Third Avenue. The highest priority would be to pull three to five inches of gravel from behind some of the buildings and grade the alleyway with a low side to the west so that water will drain. **Continues on Page 13**



SD Middle School All State Band

6th grader Liam Johnson (Alto Sax), 8th grader Libby Cole (Trombone) and 7th grader Novalea Warrington (Flute/Piccolo) have been accepted into the 2024 SD Middle School All State Band. This year marks the 25th anniversary with conductors Mr. Randall Standridge (Honor Band) and Dr. Larry Petersen (Festival Band). This year there were 598 auditions submitted from 75 schools. 199 students were selected with 52 schools represented in the state. Novalea and Liam were selected into the honor band and Libby was selected into the festival band. Libby will also be presented with her 3-year member award. MS All State Band will be held next week in Mitchell on March 1-2 with a concert on Saturday March 2nd at 3:00 pm. (Photo from Desiree Yeigh's Facebook Page)

Weekly Vikings Roundup Yearly Recap - Offense By Jordan Wright

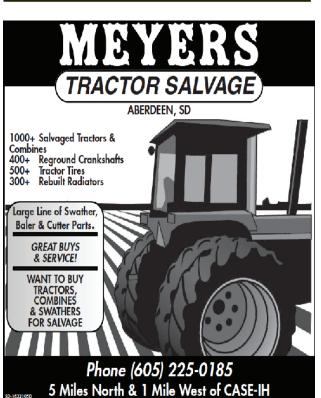
With the Super Bowl behind us, it's time to take one last look back on the 2023 NFL season. The Minnesota Vikings finished with a disappointing 7-10 record and failed to reach the playoffs - a stark reversal from the 2022 season, which saw the Vikings finish with a 13-4 record even with one of the worst defenses in the league.

The NFL is a quarterback-driven league, so it's no surprise the Vikings finished with a poor record considering Kirk Cousins went down with an injury halfway through the season. Prior to the injury, Cousins was playing some of the best football of his career. In eight games this season, Cousins completed 216/311 passes (69.5%) for 2,331 yards, 18 touchdowns and five interceptions. If you extrapolate those numbers out to a full season, Cousins would have been in the conversation for MVP. Instead, the Vikings had to scramble to find a replacement and keep the season afloat. The team traded for journeyman QB Josh Dobbs right before the trade deadline, and although he was able to capture lightning in a bottle for a few games, eventually Dobbsmania fizzled out. Fifth-round draft pick Jaren Hall came in and played admirably, but was clearly not ready to play. Nick Mullens got a few starts as well, and while he put up some good stats, he also threw too many interceptions. Needless to say, it was a carousel at the one position in football where you NEED stability.

To make matters worse, the Vikings were unable to turn to their running game to help support the anemic passing attack. Dalvin Cook was cut prior to the season, and Alexander Mattison failed to take advantage of being the lead back. In fact, he was the first starting running back in Vikings history to fail to reach the end zone. Ty Chandler and Cam Akers also got carries, and while both showed promise, it's too early to tell if either one is capable of replacing Alexander as the starter.

As if all that wasn't enough, the football gods decided to take away Justin Jefferson for much of the season as well. JJ only played in 10 games and was forced to leave many of those games early because of injury, yet he still managed to surpass 1,000 yards for the season (which is especially impressive considering how many different quarterbacks were throwing him the ball). T.J. Hockenson was second on the team with 960 yards, but he missed the final two games of the season after a cheap shot by the Detroit Lions' safety





Addison was third, putting up a very respectable 960 yards and leading the team with 10 touchdowns.

If you needed any more reason as to why the 2023 season was completely off the rails, look no further than the offensive line. For vears, the Vikings' offensive line was the weak link on the offense. This year, however, it was a strength for the team. Offensive tackles Christian Darrisaw and Brian O'Neill are per-Vikings brought in Dalton Risner to play left guard, Garrett Bradbury was a familiar presence at center, and Ed Ingram actually made to grease the squeaky wheel." improvements this year.

break down the 2023 Minnesota Vikings defense. Skol!

A tale of two Bettys

You may have heard my hypothesis before, that small towns produce a larger percentage of big personalities. The nicknames. Colorful escapades, the kind that would get you arrested anywhere else.

Hettinger was like that when I rolled in back in 1991. The only thing that was green in that dusty cowboy town nestled among the buttes was me. Still learning my craft. Still learning how



That's Life by Tony Bender

local government worked. The nuts and bolts. The nuts.

For all the vaguero misogyny—Ted Uecker once called my fiancee "a good looking heifer"—women were major players at City Hall and at the Adams County Courthouse. There were two Bettys. Two different spellings, two different personalities. City Councilwoman Bette Sanger was a tough-talking hat-wearing broad in the best sense of the word. She wore bloody red lipstick that may have been made from the hemorrhages she inflicted. She was opinionated. I always imagined her as a flapper in her youth.

When she viewed the front page feature story of former state's attorney and Republican activist Tom Secrest, she snorted, "There he is... a horse's ass!"

When I discovered that the Hettinger City

Weekly SUDOKU

blew out Hockenson's knee. Rookie Jordan Council had used a since-closed loophole to avoid publishing public notices, I petitioned them to restore the minutes to the Adams County Record so taxpayers could be informed.

Well, they shot the snot-nosed newcomer down, a declaration of war. So, each week, I left a bordered blank space in the paper explaining that this is where the minutes had last run at a cost of \$36 or so. I wrote editorials. Encouraged residents to give their pocket change to council members. A county commishaps the best tackle duo in the league. The sioner gave the mayor a dime. After a month, even Bette Sanger had had enough. I'll never forget her motion. "Well, I suppose it's time

Then there was Adams County Auditor Betty Make sure to check back next week, as we Svihovec. Classy, almost regal. Always impeccably dressed. There were two women's clothing stores in town. I suspect she was a good customer. When the County Commission met, she glided into the room and deftly steered the peoples' business. She was the best politician in town but I doubt that most people grasped her impact.

> Glancing over her obituary last week I learned that she'd gone to work in the courthouse after high school graduation in 1954. Four years later, she was the auditor. The queen of Adams County, really.

> I had much to learn about the workings of local government, and I remember Commissioner Lenny Jacobs (later a legislator) kindly pausing meetings and leaning back in his chair to give me the background on a particular issue. Betty, too, had a way of explaining issues without condescension.

> I didn't find them above reproach, however. They had a way of turning a 90-minute meeting into three hours, complete with a donut break. Betty brought the donuts. I kind of ticked off my friend and commissioner Darrell Papka when I dedicated an editorial to the evils of pastries and government inefficiency. I don't think Betty batted an eye, however. She was the coolest of customers.

> I've opined in the past that the key to good government is a great auditor or business manager. It didn't take me too many meetings to understand the impact Betty Svihovec had. She presented the information in such a way that you'd have to be a complete idiot not to make the right decision. And even if, for the sake of argument, a commissioner wanted to explore the path of idiocy, she respectfully steered them straight. She didn't have a vote, but she was the most powerful force in the courthouse.

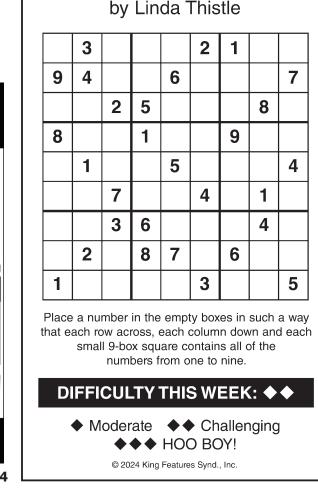
And beyond.

"Betty truly held a special place in my heart," eulogized Blanche (Weishaar) Schumacher, a former auditor. "Not only was she the county auditor from my home county of Adams, but when I was appointed and later elected as Logan County Auditor, she was the go to wealth of knowledge and information for many county-related projects/duties. Betty knew no strangers in the North Dakota County Auditor's Association—she treated each and every one of us like we were her family. Thank you, Betty, and rest in peace, my dear friend."

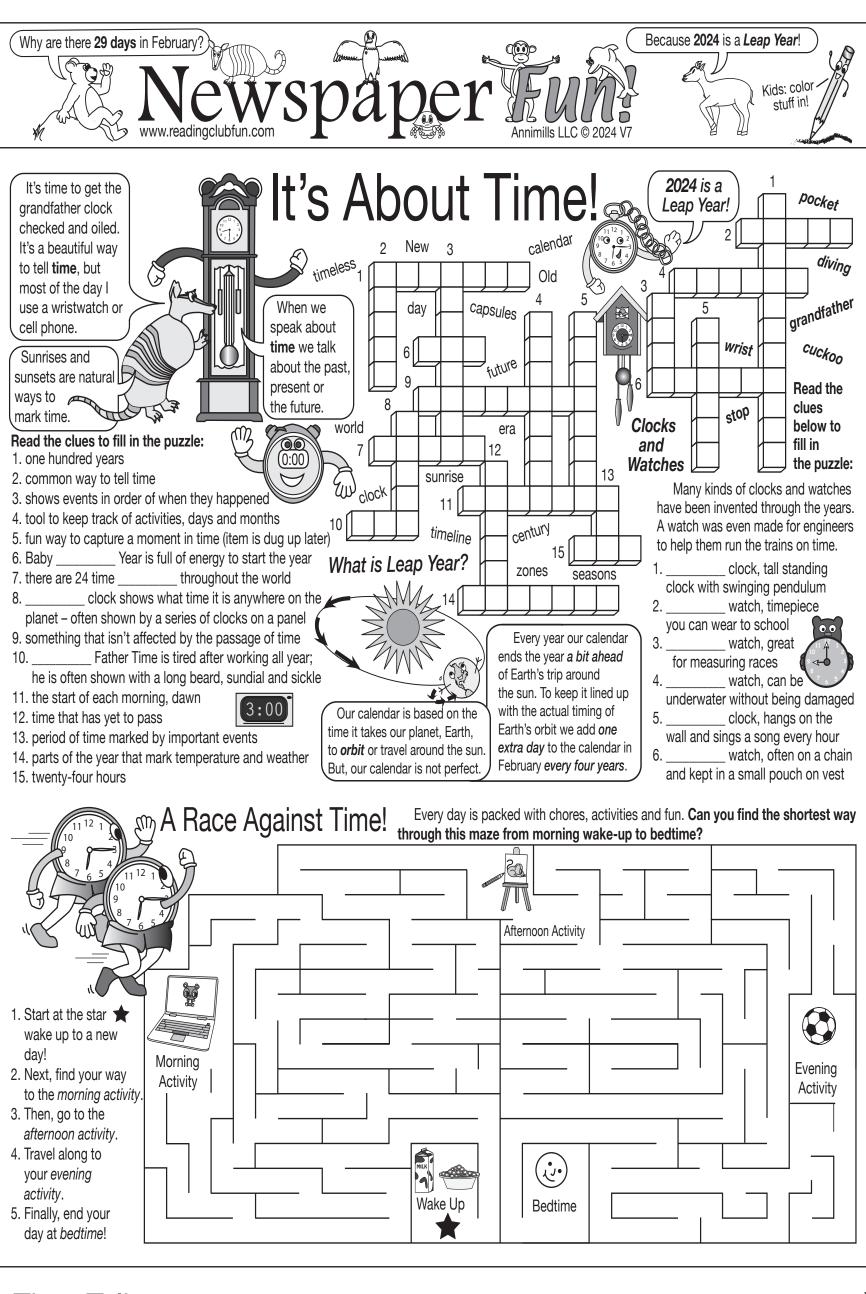
I hadn't seen her in years, but I think we have statues in our minds of those who impacted us and so it is with her. Was anvone more influential, did anyone provide more leadership in Adams County than Betty Svihovec? I think not.

I'll take an apple fritter, Betty.

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Time Talk Match up each saying about time to its meaning:

- A. a race against time
- B. all the time in the world
- C. waste of time
- D. time flies
- E. time out
- F. it's feeding time at the zoo
- G. a stitch in time saves nine

- 1. not worth the effort
- 2. a break in the action
- 3. doing a task well now can save effort later
- 4. group of people eating in a noisy, untidy way
- 5. life moves quickly
- 6. rush to beat a deadline
- 7. plenty of time



- A. there's no time to lose
- B. time is up
- C. pressed for time
- D. not given the time of day
- E. give a hard time
- F. time to call it a day
- G. have a whale of a time

- cause someone trouble
- 2. no time left
- 3. stop working on something
- 4. enjoy yourself
- 5. be rushed to do something
- 6. you need every moment
- 7. not getting attention

The Groton Independent

21 N Main, Groton 605/397-NÊWS (6397) Paul Irvin Kosel, Publisher paperpaul@grotonsd.net ~ 605-397-7460

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

Notices: legals@grotonsd.net News Items: news@grotonsd.net

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BATES TOWNSHIP ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

Bates Township will hold its annual meeting and election on Tuesday, March 5th, 2024 at the home of the Clerk, 14523 409th

Ave, Conde. Election of officers and business meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m.

We will be receiving bids for road maintenance and gravel. Please mail bids to

Betty Geist, Bates Township Clerk, 14523 409th Ave., Conde, SD 57434 prior to meeting date.

Betty Geist, Township Člerk Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$12.15 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23019



Notice is hereby given that the annual Henry Township caucus and election of officers along with the other business that may come before the board will be ĥeld Tuesday, March 7, 2023, at 7 p.m. at Doug Abeln's Seed Company Office. Will also take bids for gravel and road maintenance.

Darlene Sass

Henry Township Clerk

Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$9.38 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublic notices.com. 23023

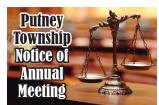


Olean Township is accepting bids for gravel, blading, and security removal for 2024. Send

Sherry Hanson, clerk 15477 409th Ave Conde, sd 57434

Successful bidder must have township on insurance certificate. The board reserves the ight to reject any or all bids.

Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$9.20 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23024



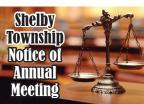
NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN PUTNEY TOWN-

Notice is hereby given that the annual Putney Township Caucus and Election of Officers will be held Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at Mark Thompson's Shop.

election of officers. Sealed bids will be accepted for gravel, loaded and delivered, to designated placed in Putney Township. The township board reserves the right to inspect the gravel before awarding the bid. Bids must be addressed to Mark Thompson, Township Clerk, sealed and plainly marked "Bid for Gravel." Separate bids will be accepted for mowing weeds along road ditches, removal of snow and blading. Bidders are to furnish township with name and address of insurance agent. Bids will be opened by the Board of Supervisors, Tuesday , March 5, 2024, at Mark Thompson's Farm House shop at 5 p.m. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Mark Thompson Township Clerk

Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$22.27 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23021



Citizens of Shelby Township are hereby Notified that the Annual Township meeting will be held at the township hall on Tuesday, March (5), 2024, beginning at 1 p.m. for the following purposes: To elect one supervisor for a three (3) year term, one clerk and one treasurer, and to do any other business proper to be done at said meeting. Shelby Township will accept bids for gravel, road maintaining, snow removal, and other road work as necessary for the year 2024-2025. The gravel is to be delivered before Aug. 1, 2024 and must meet the township board's specifications. The road maintaining, snow removal, and road work bids must state per hour and per mile charges. Date and time records will be required for all work performed.

Bids will also be accepted for mowing the Houghton cemetery. Bids must be received at the clerk's residence on or before March 22, 2024. Bids will be opened at the township hall in Houghton on March 26, 2024 at 7 p.m. All bids for gravel and road work must be accompanied by a Certificate of Contractors Liability Insurance. The board of supervisors reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Colby Crawford. Township Clerk 11760 403rd Avenue Houghton, SD 57449

Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$25.38 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23020



NOTICE OF CAUCUS AND ELECTION IN WEST HANSON TOWNSHIP

West Hanson Township will hold its annual caucus, business meeting and election on Tuesday, March 5th at 7:30 PM. The meeting will be held at the Dirks home, 40305 138th St. There will be an election of one supervisor, lerk and treasurer.

The township will also be accepting bids for 1,000 yds., more or less, of screened and/or crushed gravel within the township. We will also take bids on the same date for road blading and mowing on township roads and snow removal work. We will also be taking bids on mowing and maintenance of the West Hanson Cemetery. All bids must be accompanied by certificate of contractor's liability insurance. The board reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Jennifer Dirks, Township Clerk

Published February 21 and 28, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$18.75 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23022



CITY OF STRATFORD TRUSTEE VACANCY NOTICE

Notice of Vacancy City of Stratford

The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer:

TRUSTEE (TWO-YEAR TERM) Circulation of nominating netitions

Please notify Anna Kwak if you are interested. Petitions will be made available at the Community Center on FEBRUARY 1st, 2024.

First day to begin petition circulation is FEBRUARY 2nd, 2024. Deadline is FEBRUARY 23rd,

2024 at 5:00 PM. Submitted by: Anna Kwak

Finance Officer

Published February 14 and 21, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$16.00 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com, 22982



INVITATION TO BID

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council of the City of Groton, South Dakota, will open bids for the 2024 resurfacing of City Streets on March 2024, at 7:00pm (local time) at City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, SD. Received sealed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

The work on this project includes the following:

Approximately 37,000 square yards of bituminous seal coat. All work areas are located

within the city limits of Groton, The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

may be examined at the following locations:

City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, SD 57445

The approximate quantities mentioned above are subject to increase or decrease. Questions or requests for further information should be directed to the City Finance Office, 605-397-8422, PO Box 587, Groton, 57445.

The City reserves the right to refuse any or all bids, to waive any informalities in the bidding and to award the contract in the best interests of the City of Groton, SD.

February 12, 2024

Published February 14 and 21, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$23.73 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 22988



2024 WOOD WASTE GRIND-ING FOR THE BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL

Sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the Courthouse Annex. Aberdeen, South Dakota 57401 until the hour of 8:45 AM. Tuesday, March 5, 2024 at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners regarding 2024 WOOD WASTE GRINDING for the Brown County Landfill.

Brown County will give notice to the successful bidder that his/ her proposal has been accepted and said bidder shall within ten (10) days thereafter enter into contract with Brown County, South Dakota. The successful bidder shall also furnish proper certificates of insurance required by Brown County.

Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, 25 Market Street, Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401, and are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope "BID ON 2024 WOOD WASTE GRIND-ING FOR THE BROWN COUNTY LANDFILL". To be opened on Tuesday, March 5, 2024. The Brown County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to accept the bid that they deem to be in the best interest of Brown County.

Brown County is exempt from all Federal Excise Tax and State

Specifications and notice to bidders are on file in the Brown County Auditor's Office and at the Brown County Landfill and may be obtained at no charge.

ÁTTEST: Lynn Heupel

Brown County Auditor Published Feb. 21 and 28, 2024 at the total approximate cost of \$32.56 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23026



NOTICE TO WASTE TIRE

CONTRACTORS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be received in the Chambers of the Brown County Board of Commissioners at the

Court House Annex, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401, until 8:45 A.M. on March 5, 2024, at said time and place all bids will be publicly opened, read, and considered by the Brown County Board of Commissioners for the 2024 BROWN COUNTY WASTE

TIRE CLEANUP. Envelopes containing bids shall be addressed to the Brown County Auditor, Brown County Courthouse Annex, 25 Market Street, Aberdeen, South Dakota, 57401, and are to be clearly marked on the outside of the envelope: " 2024 BROWN COUNTY WASTE TIRE CLEANUP", to be opened on March 5, 2024 at

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

Copies of the specifications are on file at the Brown County Auditor's Office and the Brown County Solid Waste Department Office and may be obtained at no charge. ATTEST:

Lynn Heupel

Brown County Auditor

Published Feb. 21 and 28, 2024 at the total approximate cost of \$27.04 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23027



Town of Westport General Meeting

February 7th, 2024

The Town of Westport met on February 7th, 2024 with Jennifer Jason Bender, Larry Schmit, Shane Storm, Mitchell Wilson and Doreen Hertel present.

The following expenses were presented:

City General

NWPS- utility (\$679.00), Groton Independent – Paper (\$16.56), Hall Sand & Gravel-Gravel (\$1,733.60), Kevin Bour-don-hauling gravel (\$2,100.00)

NWPS-Utility (\$61.91) NRWA loan repayment (\$210.13)

Water WEB (\$2,169.69), Dept. of Health (\$15.00)

Mitchell Wilson made motion to pay all bills; second by Larry

The following deposits were presented:

City General

Brown County Collecions (\$378.59), State of SD (\$6,895.00), Interest (\$216.92). Sewer

Resident Payments-(\$980.00). Water

Resident Payments -4,207.04).

NEW BUSINESS:

2023 Annual report was presented and approved. Salary was discussed and approved to pay city board \$25.00 an hour, because they are missing work and this will still be less than what they get paid at their full time jobs. Doreen submitted her resignation as finance officer.

Doreen Hertel, Finance Officer Published Feb. 21, 2024 at the total approximate cost of \$14.62 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.

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FEBRUARY 13, 2024 - GEN-**ERAL MEETING**

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Commissioner Dennert moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Wiese. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried.

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUB-LIC COMMENT: Dennis Feickert wanted to inform the Commission that things are not going well at the Legislative Session regarding the CO2 Pipeline. He asked the Commission to look at SB201 and specifically section 16 of that bill because it removes the Counties opportunity to have any control to put setbacks in place for pipelines, wind towers, solar panels, etc. Dennis encouraged the Commission to testify when it hits the floor, to stand up for the local people. Under Governor Farrar (1969-1971) Planning Districts were implemented to help the Counties do Ordinances and now they are wanting to cut the counties out.

ORDINANCE #256 - FIRST READING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the First Reading of Proposed Ordinance #266. Applicant Alvin & Nancy Haugen requesting to rezone from Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: Lot 2, "Brock Fischer First Richmond Lake Addition" in the NE ¼ of Section 23-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (127277 West Shore Drive; Ravinia Twp.).

All members present voting aye. Motion carried. BROWN COUNTY FAIR FOUN-DATION - ANNUAL REPORT: Laura Siefken, BCF Foundation President and Jeff Kippley met with the Commission to give them an Annual Report. Laura shared that they are up to 13 members currently on the board: she was appointed President and Vice-President is Chad Locken. They raised funds for the permanent Playground set that was installed and dedicated in Since the Foundation has started, they have sold 50 benches, 5 picnic tables and 62 parking lot signs. Recently, they put together a Livestock Committee whose purpose will be to look the buildings and give a livestock perspective to them to see what needs to be addressed. They will be having their Hall of Fame Banquet in March, after this they will have 32 total inductees. Different ways the Foundation is raising funds by doing concessions at events at the Fairgrounds such as the Dwarfanators last year; this year they will be doing the Your Town Tour - Concert with Tracy Byrd in March and then the Dwarfanators will be returning this year, too. Jeff Kippley thanked the Commission for making it a policy that the Fair Foundation gets first chance to do the events held at the Fairgrounds. Jeff went over the financials with the Commission; current balance is \$82,000.00; for assets they have Picnic Table Racks, he shared they have over 40 Picnic Tables but only sold name plates to 5 thus far and they purchased a Storage Container to store their items. The net savings for 2023 was \$54,185.00. The Fair Foundation is wanting to generate income outside County General Funds to help with improvements at the Fairgrounds such as Home Arts Building; Club House; Grandstands; Bathrooms, etc. In July, the Foundation will be donating 350 folding chairs that they are receiving. Jeff shared that the Fair Board has asked them to look into the curtains that are used during the Fair to separate the vendors instead of renting and having to make the trip to pick-up and return them each year. Commissioner Wiese com-

mented that he appreciates all

the effort of the Foundation is

putting in both in fundraising and

building momentum. He hopes

that they will be able to get some

Long-Term Endowments and be

able to do some of the bigger

improvements that are needed.

Chairman Sutton shared that he sits on this Board and that all the members are dedicated and hard-working. ALCOHOL LICENSE: Laura

Siefken, BCF Foundation President shared that they would like to get approval to have liquor sales for the 2 nights of Rodeo. it would not be a full bar. Laura mentioned that the Fair lost sponsorship with Pendelton Whiskey so hoping this could possibly bring them back. The alcohol would be under the VIP Tent on the East side. It was approved by the Brown County Fair Board; Laura shared they have done the research on the insurance, liability and getting the volunteers to bartend. Commissioner Fjeldheim asked what time frame they are looking at for serving; Laura stated open from 6pm then cut-off sales when the Bull Riding begins. Commissioner Dennert asked if they had an estimated potential revenue, Jeff Kippley shared he would estimate \$5,000.00 -\$20,000.00 in the two nights. Mike Hermans, representing the Boys & Girls Club stated he was just here to listen but is concerned they would be competing against them, which means loss revenue for them and what they pay into the County. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to postpone this discussion until next week so they could visit with the Fair Board more and do a bit more research. All members present voting ave. Motion carried.

BID FOR MICRO-SURFACING: Time and place, as advertised to open, read and consider sealed bids for 2024 Brown County Micro-surfacing Project. John Florey, Highway Department along with Mike Gutankauf and Troy Nelson with IMEG were present to open the three bids received: ASTECH Corp. from St. Cloud, MN for \$1,583,750.60; ASCO from Sioux Falls for \$1,638,476.99 and Missouri Petroleum for \$1,665,564.70. Mike asked to table this so that they could review and run the numbers, Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent commented that he would recommend the bid from ASTECH if the math is correct because they have worked with them in the past and done a good job.

BID FOR EXPO ROOF: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/ Parks Manager met with the Commission regarding the Bids for the Expo Roof that were opened on February 6, 2024. Rachel shared that her and Dean Marske had visited with North Central Steel regarding the flashing issue where the 2 buildings meet, and his rough estimate was for \$7,800.00. Their recommendation was to accept the bid from North Central Steel for \$585,654.00. Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to accept the bid from North Central Steel for \$585,654.00 to replace the Holum Expo Roof. All members present voting aye. Motion car

UPDATE: Rachel Kippley, Fair/Fairgrounds/Parks Manager shared with the Commission that she was asked to testify at the Legislative Session in Pierre on Senate Bill 32 regarding the Sales Tax Revenue for County Fairs tomorrow the 14th of

February HOUSTON ENGINEERING CONTRACT FOR LANDFILL: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager met with the commission asking of the contract w Houston Engineering, Inc. (HEI) for monitoring and consulting services for 2024. The difference this year is that every 5 years they need to do an Air Sampling Process: analysis of landfill gas from organic compounds. This is a subtitle D requirement every 5 years, so the normal annual fee will be about \$33,000.00 higher this year. Moved by Commission-er Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the contract with Houston Engineering, Inc. for monitoring and consulting services required for an estimated compensation of \$96,270.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

2023 ANNUAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFCATION REPORT: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager shared this is an annual state required report that they need to complete and have Chairman sign off on. Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the 2023 Annual Compliance Certification Report. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

2023 OPERATIONAL REPORT AIR EMISSION INVENTORY: Mike Scott, Landfill Manager shared this is an annual state required report that they need to complete and have Chairman sign off on. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the 2023 Operational Report Air Emission Inventory documents. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

BID FOR MICRO-SURFACING: Mike Gutankauf with IMEG returned stating the math was correct on all the bids Per recommendation from Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent and IMEG to go with ASTECH. Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to accept the bid from ASTECH for \$1,583,750.60 to do the Micro-Surfacing Project. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

INMATE HOUSING AGREE-MENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Inmate Housing Agreement with Sisseton-Wahpeton Ovate for Jail; the cost would be \$100/day. All members present voting aye.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the February 6, 2024 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: CLAIMS: Insurance: SD Public Assurance Alliance \$2,161.04. Professional Fees: CGI, LLC \$968.75; Fischbach Law Office \$1,570.00; Gregory DeClue \$4,220.00 Koletzky Law Office, Prof. LLC \$171.20; Language Line Ser vices, Inc \$319.54; Lewis & Clark BHS \$639.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$200.00; Lucy Lewno \$310.00; Mark Katter hagen \$27.00; RegistrationMax, LC \$750.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$835.00; SD Dept of Revenue & Regulations \$3,557.59; SDJPS \$300.00; Valerie Larson \$27.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$150.00. Publishing: Gannett South Dakota Local iQ \$256.70; Groton Daily Independent \$187.69. Rentals: Aramark \$336.53. Repairs & Maintenance: Diesel Machinery. Inc \$33,694.45; EcoLab Pest Elimination Division \$270.29; Graham Tire Inc \$19.16; Honey well International Inc \$3,797.52; House of Glass \$117.96; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$286.55; Ken's Alignment \$103.92; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$487.32; Meister Mowing LLC \$782.50; RDO Equipment \$1,028.43; Safety Service \$68.50; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$20,204.86; Ultimate Upholstery Solutions, LLC \$254.69; Vosika Fencing \$2,381.73. Supplies: Agtegra Cooperative \$53,595.15; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$598.46; Auto Value Aberdeen \$197.90: Burdette Security & Technologies, LLC \$892.50; Butler Machinery Company \$988.86; Century Business Products \$750.48; Cole Paper Inc \$1,295.50; Diesel Machinery, Inc \$20,712.38; DiscountCell LLC \$6,293.00; Farm Tire Service LLC \$470.00; Fastenal Company \$56.89; Full Circle Ag \$4,011.39; GovConnection, Inc \$1,380.96; Hoven Auto Repair, Inc \$39.00; Kessler's \$304.31; Koletzky Law Office Prof LLC \$4.00 Linde Gas & Equipment Inc \$153.51: Lucy Lewno \$13.27; Menards \$946.49; Midstates Group \$231.56; Pantorium Cleaners LLC \$378.00; Performance Oil \$455.78; PharmChem, Inc \$639.00; Plumbing & Heating Wholesale, Inc \$466.85; Rachel Wilson \$31.85; RDO Equipment \$1,765.78; Run-nings \$161.24; Safe Life De-fense \$651.60; Safety Service \$5,441.75; Schwan Welding \$6,238.00; Share Corporation \$389.85; Transource Truck & Equipment, Inc \$21,248.39; Tri-State Water \$35.00; Vosika Fencing \$1,513.30; WEB Water Bottling Company \$36.00. Travel & Conference: Candace Rohrbach \$295.95; Karla Nelson \$254.12. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$43.23; CenturyLink \$1,153.20; City of Aberdeen Treasurer

\$1,507.22; Economy Propane,

LLC \$4,008.78; Northern Electric \$1,200.00; Northwestern

Energy \$8,466.15; Town of Fred-

erick \$77.00; Verizon Wireless \$3,433.39. Machinery & Equip-

ment: Karl Chevrolet \$48,661.40;

Transource Truck & Equipment,

Inc \$146,000.00. Others: City of

Groton \$2,000.00; City of Hecla \$500.00; Emma Burnham Public

Library \$1,000.00; SD Assoc of

County Officials \$650.00; SD

Dept of Agriculture & Natu-

ral Resources \$3,615.45; SD

Dept of Revenue & Regulations

\$854,058.22; Warner Library \$1,000,00.

Sheriff \$58,613.53; \$2,586.75; Landfill \$17,220.77 Motion carried

missioner Wiese, seconded by Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:

Transfer of Jason Stichka from Brown County Jail Detention Officer to Brown County JDC Detention Officer; effective February 18, 2024.

Transfer of Savanna Simon from Brown County JDC Detention Officer to Brown County Jail Detention Officer; effective February 18, 2024.

Approve Transfer of Branson Sheriff to Brown County Sheriff Office Investigator, FT, starting

All members present voting

aye. Motion carried. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following lease agreements: American Foundation for Suicide Prevention for lease of Holum Expo Building for Out of Darkness Fundraiser on September 6, 2024; Hub City Radio for lease April 6, 2024 for the Big Boy Toy Show. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Fieldheim, seconded by Wiese to authorize and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignments against individuals to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members pres-

ent voting aye. Motion carried. FOR THE WASTE TIRE REMOVAL BID: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to set hearing date and authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider bids for Waste Tire Removal at 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 in the `ham house Annex, Brown County, SD. Specifications may be viewed and obtained at the Brown County Landfill, Brown County Auditor's Office, during normal business hours or via the Brown County website: www.brown. sd.us. All members present vot-

FOR THE WOOD WASTE GRIND-ING BID: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to set hearing date and authorize advertising public hearing to open, read and consider bids for Wood Waste Grinding at 8:45 a.m. on Tuesday, March 5, 2024 in the Commission Chambers, Courthouse Annex, Brown County, SD. Specifications may be viewed and obtained at the Brown County Landfill, Brown County Auditor's Office, during normal business hours or via the Brown County website: www. brown.sd.us. All members pres-

ent voting aye. Motion carried. BRIDGE INSPECTION RESO-LUTION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the following

BRIDGE REINSPECTION

PAYROLL: Commission \$4,753.89; Elections \$1,834.40; Auditor \$9,850.83; Treasurer \$17,265.67; SA \$34,989.43; Maintenance \$12,074.75; DOE \$17,373.50; ROD \$10,406.84; VSO \$4,491.55; GIS \$2,790.90; IT \$9,322.67; HR \$4,960.63; \$68,644.03; Coroner \$648.00 Ct. Security \$7,748.17; JDC/ HD \$31,404.27; Welfare \$2,466.75; DPM \$12,727.14; Welfare Parks/Fairgrounds \$5,191.95 Fair \$4,336.33; 4-H \$830.80; W&P \$1,117.37; P&Z \$7,645.58; Hwy. \$57,066.89; Dispatch \$37,216.96; EM \$5,098.61; 24/7 Meal Benefits \$262.00; FICA \$26,775.99; Medicare \$6,262.17; Discovery_HSA \$1,790.95. All members present voting aye.

HR REPORT: Moved by Com-Gage to approve the following

Mills from Brown County Deputy wage \$30.08/hr.; effective February 18, 2024.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the following travel requests: Brandon Mills, Sheriff's Office to attend Crime Scene Inves tigations on April 22-24, 204 in Sturgis; Dirk Rogers, Hwy. Dept. to attend House/Senate Local Government Committee on February 8 & 13, 2024 in Pierre; Dirk Rogers, John Florey, Dean Zumbaum & Joshua Ulmer, Hwy. Dept. to attend Asphalt Conference on February 14-15, 2024 in Chamberlain; Lynn Heupel & Stephanie Jacobson, Elections to attend Election Training on February 28-29, 2024 in Pierre. All members present voting aye.

of the Holum Expo Building on

AUTHÖRÍZE ADVERTISING ing aye. Motion carried.

AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING

Resolution with SD DOT:

PROGRAM RESOLUTION

FOR USE WITH SDDOT RE-TAINER CONTRACTS

WHEREAS: 23 CFR 650 Subpart C, requires initial inspection of all bridges and reinspection at intervals not to exceed two years with the exception of reinforced concrete box culverts that meet specific criteria. These culverts are reinspected at intervals not to exceed four years.

THEREFORE, Brown County is desirous of participating in the Bridge Inspection Program.

The County requests SDDOT to hire IMEG (Consulting Engineers) for the inspection work. SDDOT will secure federal approvals, make payments to the Consulting Engineer for inspection services rendered, and bill the County for 20% of the cost. The County will be responsible for the required 20% matching funds.

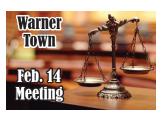
Dated this 13 day of February, 2024 at Aberdeen, South Dakota. Board of County Commissioners of Brown County: Duane Sutton, Chairman of the Board Attest: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

OTHER BUSINESS: None EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, 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

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:42 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

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TOWN OF WARNER AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Evns, Gaylon Townsend, Stewart Nelson and Nichol Townsend. Dave Fair was absent

DECLARATION OF POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST: None APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Evans to approve the minutes from January . 10th, 2024 meeting with the following correction...Payroll Taxes 1130.40. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: MSC: Evans/Townsend. Checking: Town \$268,391.72; Water \$93,684.73; Sewer \$167,379.30. CDs: Town \$32,287; Water \$49,392.67; Sewer \$27,838.93. BILLS APPROVED FOR PAY

MENT: MSC: Townsend/Evans. AGTEGRA (fuel) \$75.94, Amazon (supplies) \$167.76, AVG Technologies (antivirus) \$64.77, MAC Toos (supplies) \$59.44 Office Max (supplies-return) -\$19.89, Warner Post Office (postage) \$19.15, WEB Water (water usage) \$4981.06. USDA (water and sewer loans) \$2083.00, Badger Meter (Jan. reads) \$11.10, Cole Papers (supplies) \$227.16, Crawford Trucks & Equipment (supplies)

\$169.12, Dakota Pump (annual contract) \$1068.75, Dependable Sanitation (garbage service) \$2640, Groton Independent (advertising) \$72.02, Lynn Aman (CC Cleaning) \$75, MAC'S (supplies) \$57.93, Menards (supplies) \$29.18, Midcontinent (phone & internet) \$276.64, Northwestern Energy (electric & gas) \$2675.29, SD Dept of Rev/Sales Tax \$197.63, SD Public Health Lab (water test) \$15, Town Water/Sewer \$225.65, Stewart Nelson \$3479.84, Terry Evans \$53.56, Gaylon Townsend \$53.56, Nichol Townsend \$788.07, SD Retirement Fund \$524.04, Payroll Taxes \$1130.13.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Notice of Vacancy-Municipality of Warner SD: The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer: Trustee, Dave Fair. This is for a three year term. The following office will become vacant due to the expiration of the present term of office of the elective officer: Trustee, Terry This is for a one year term. Circulation of nominating petitions may begin on January 26th, 2024. Petitions may be filed in the office of the Finance Officer located in the Warner Community Center, 11 West Main Street, Warner SD 57479 between the hours of 9:00AM and 12PM, Monday, Thursday or Friday and no later than Friday, February 23rd, 2024 at 5 PM central time. Nichol Townsend, Finance Officer

Warner Dairy Plat was reviewed and signed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Equalization Meeting will be held Monday, March 18th @ 7PM at the Warner Community Center. SD Lead Service Line Inven-

tory was discussed. No action

Approved Resolution #02-24: RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES TO SIGN PAYROLL CHECKS AND CHECKS FOR BILLS IN A TIMELY MANNER, PRIOR TO BOARD AP-PROVAL, TO AVOID PENALTIES AND TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DISCOUNTS. WHEREAS; the Town of Warner receives bills for accounts that are due prior to the following council meeting: WHEREAS; said bills may be subject to a penalty for late payment; WHEREAS; said bills may be allowed a discount if paid prior to a specific date; BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF WARNER: that the authorization of the official signatories to sign payroll checks and checks for bills in a timely manner, prior to board approval, to avoid penalties and to take advantage of discounts, is approved by the Warner Board of Trustees Signed: David Fair, Chairman and

Gaylon Townsend, Trustee.
Delinquencies: 7 were noted and notices will be posted on doors. Two have been shut off. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, March 13th at 7 PM at the Warner Community

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer. Dave Fair, Chairman; Nichol

Townsend, Finance Officer. Published February 21, 2024 at the total approximate cost of \$38.36 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23030





UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIS-REGULAR MEETING

February 12, 2024 President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. in the GHS Library Conference Room. Members present: Fliehs, Gengerke, Lerseth-Fliehs, Pharis, and Rix. Absent Harder and Weismantel. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, Principal Edwards, and Business Manager

Moved by Pharis, second Rix to approve the agenda with an amendment of first reading of Wellness Policy, and first reading of job description for maintenance director Motion carried.

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

Moved by Fliehs, second Pharis to approve the following consent agenda items as presented: District minutes of January 15, 2024, school board meeting and January 30, 2024, special school board meeting; January

accounts, investments, January 2024 district bills, January 2024 school lunch report, and January 2024 school transportation report. Motion carried

GENERAL FUND: Net Pay-301,359.28; Benefits -80,613.93; Advance Auto Parts parts, 122.51; Amazon – supplies, 349.44; Capital One – supplies, 128.96; Cole Papers – janitor supply, 1,130.65; Comfort Inn – MS jazz band lodging, 287.00; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 51,289.65; EMC Insurance – insure new bus, 695.00; Good Shred - shredding service, 43.50; Groton Area Food Service - testing snacks, 71.60; Groton Daily Independent – legal printing, 192.55; Hillyard – drain hose, 55.71; Interstate All Battery Center – batteries, 196.80; JW Pepper – music, 183.19; North Central Special Ed – services, 6,000.00; Northside Implement - parts, 25.40; Northwestern Energy – utilities, 8,635.27; Performance Foodservice – tin foil, 67.09; Kristi Peterson – class photo reimbursement, 74.48; Robotics – supplies, 206.00; S&Ś Lumber – IA supplies, 2,436.07; Sewer Duck – plumbing work, 190.00; Sheyenne Transport – charter, 1,350.00; Stan Houston blades, 115.98; Wageworks admin fee, 92.00; World's

1,108.73. Total General Fund -\$457,020.79.

Finest Chocolate - fundraiser,

ness - managed print agreement, 2,175.25; Allied Climate – HVAC upgrade, 8,980.00; Amazon – dvd cord, 9.95; Connecting Point – Fiber job, 42,896.52; Custodial Fund – advanced payments, 709.22; Fay's Refrigeration and Heating - HVAC upgrade, 190,280.52; Follett – HS books, 579.37.

Total Capital Outlay \$245,630.83.

SPECIAL ED: Net Payroll -43,905.15; Benefits - 13,527.55; Avera St Lukes - PT/OT 14,384.21; North Central Special Education – services, 35,097,92; Nikki Wright – mileage, 856.80.

Total Special Ed - \$107,771.63. FOOD SERVICE: Net Payroll -6,628.40; Benefits – 2,472.37; BIMBO Bakery – food, 226.92; Cintas – apron/towel service, 203.84; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 305.76; East Side Jersey Dairy - milk, 1,458.70; Jeff's District - kitchen sink repairs, 214.00; Performance Foodservice – food, 8,253.47; US Foods – food, Total Food Service \$24,915.63.

OST: Net Payroll – 3,083.32; Benefits – 686.95; Custodial Fund - advanced payments, 83.99; Dollar General - supplies, 133.34; Julie Weig - refund, Total OST - \$4,687.60.

DRIVERS ED: Net Payroll – 0.00; Benefits – 0.00. Total

Driver's Ed: \$0.00.

RECEIPTS: Local Sources, Taxes - 12,945.91; Local Sources, Other -184,981.13; County Sources – 2,633.33; State Sources – 27,699.00; Federal Sources – 6,999.05. Total Receipts - 235,258.42.

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

Program overviews were provided by fourth-grade teacher Sue Fjeldheim, who discussed curriculum and activities happening in both fourth-grade classrooms this year.

Discussion regarding football cooperative with Langford School District. Board members Fliehs. Weismantel, and Pharis will make up a board committee that will meet with Langford's board committee for discussion. No action was taken.

The following items were discussed in administrative reports: J. Schwan recognized school board members and their hard work and dedication to the school. Associated School Boards of South Dakota recognizes School Board Recognition Week February 19-23, 2024. Mr. Schwan gave the board 2024 legislation update; food service review was conducted on February 1st; the Groton Area School an ad space on the Highway 12 Electronic sign. The Tiger logo will be placed there for a year as part of their promotionthank you Groton Area Chamber, and lastly gave an updated vacancies listing of first-grade teacher(24-25 school year), ag education teacher (24-25 school year), elementary special education teacher (24-25 school year), maintenance director immediate), and sign language nterpreter (immediate).

S. Edwards reported enrollment of 299 students, 8th grade students completed NAEP testing, class registrations are beginning for next school year, with adding BIO II every year, health science career exploration, and an athletic training senior experience.

B. Schwan report indicated Comprehensive Needs Assessment group completed the fourth session, and the group is studying the data to develop goals. elementary conferences will be held February 15 starting at 1:30, with OST being open during conferences from 1-6pm. OST will be closed February 16 and 19. ACCESS testing for EL students is finishing up, and Elementary PAC will be kicking off their annual fundraiser with information being sent home with students.

Hubsch reported on W-2's 1099's and 1095 tax information ered, along with SDMAC reports. Hubsch also provided information on a workforce gathering she attended.

Moved by Rix, second by Pharis, to approve the resignation of Sadie Hanna, Elementary Special Education Teacher, at the end of the 2023-2024 school year. Motion carried.

Moved by Fliehs, second by Lerseth-Fliéhs, to declare 15 Auto Fundamental textbooks surplus at no value for disposal. Motion carried.

Moved by Pharis, second by Rix, to declare the 2016 Chevy Van as surplus and sold to the EMC insurance carrier for \$22,325. Motion carried.

First reading of the Wellness Policy. No action was taken.

First reading of the job description for maintenance director. No action was taken.

Moved by Rix, second Pharis to adjourn at 7:48 pm. Motion carried.

Becky Hubsch, Business Man-

Deborah Gengerke, President The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes as official.

Published Feb. 21, 2024 at he total approximate cost of \$155.90 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23029

2024 financial report, custodial CAPITAL OU	TLAY: A&B Busi- Cl	JSTODIAL FUND: 97,		was selected to	have has been	processed and d	eliv-	
6	eneral Capit Fund Outla	ay Education	Bond Redemption	Food Service	OST	Driver's Ed	Custodial	
JAN. 1 2024\$1,833, RECEIPTS	127.89 \$891,992.7	⁷ 2 \$518,922.48	\$20.43	\$187,169.06	\$27,515.21	\$18,108.33	\$96,387.82	
Local Sources	633.33 699.00	\$2,253.63	\$22.36	\$13,643.50	\$5,108.35		\$132,326.52	
Bank Franchise Federal Sources Sale of Assets Due from Govt Transfer In/Out				\$6,999.05				
TOTAL MONTHLY RECEIPTS\$70, FUNDS AVAILABLE\$1,903, MONTHLY DISBURSEMENTS (\$483,2 JOURNAL ENTRIES	312.73 \$896,712.8 34.12) (\$41,707.09	89 \$521,176.11	\$42.79		\$5,108.35 \$32,623.56 (\$3,951.93) \$498.67	\$18,108.33	\$132,326.52 \$228,714.34 (\$61,682.71)	
JAN. 31, 2024\$1,419,	473.61 \$855,005.8	80 \$438,845.72	\$42.79	\$188,203.61	\$29,170.30	\$18,108.33	\$167,031.63	
GENERAL FUND		oll on \$43,905.15 enefits \$13,527.55 c. \$24,897.69	Employee Be Food, Supplies,		OST Payroll Instruction Employee Ben Supplies, Etc. Total	\$3,083.32 efits \$686.95	Oriver's Education Payroll Instruction Employee Benefits Supplies, Etc. Total	\$- \$- \$0.00 0.00

GBB Region 1A

Dunker has double-double night in Groton's win over Webster

A stubborn Webster Area girls' basketball team hung around until the fourth quarter when the Tiger defense wore down the Bearcats and the Lady Tigers posted a 50-31 win. It was the first round of Region 1A that was played at Aberdeen Roncalli. In the other game, Roncalli defeated Redfield, 43-37. Groton Area and Roncalli will play for the Region 1A title game on Thursday at Roncalli at 7 p.m.

Webster Area had the early lead, jumping out to a 9-2 advantage and held a 9-6 lead after the first quarter. The Tigers scored eight straight points to take the lead and led it at halftime, 22-19. Groton Area led, 37-29, going into the fourth quarter.

Rylee Dunker had a double-double night with 11 points and 14 rebounds plus she had two assists, five steals and one block. Sydney Leicht had eight points and two steals. Jaedyn Penning had eight points, seven rebounds, four assists, three steals and one block. Brooklyn Hansen had eight points, four rebounds, two assists and four steals. Jerica Locke had seven points, six rebounds, three assists and two steals. Faith Traphagen had four points and five rebounds. Kennedy Hansen had two points, one rebound, one assist and one steal. Talli Wright had two points and one rebound. Laila Roberts had two rebounds, one assist and one steal. Taryn Traphagen had one rebound.

Groton Area made 15 of 46 three-pointers for 33 percent, four of 17 in three-pointers for 24 percent, eight of 15 free throws for 53 percent, had 37 rebounds, 16 turnovers, 13 assists, 18 steals, nine fouls and two block shots.

Erin Cannes led Webster Area with 14 points followed by Allison Case with five, Payton Snell and Bailee Nine each had four, Harley Johnson had three and Chloe Mammenga added a free throw. The Bearcats made 13 of 42 field goals for 31 percent, three of four free throws, had 19 turnovers and 16 team fouls.

Famous Sights + the Countryside June, July, & August Departures oramic Glass-Dome Railway • Commercial Vegetable Farm • Alaskan Dinner Theate Denali Park Tour - See More Wildlife! • Mt McKinley • Trans-Alaska Pipeline Gold Dredge - Pan for Gold • Anchorage Trolley Tour • Musk Ox Farm • Boeing Factory Iditarod Sled Dogs • Seattle Tour • 7-Day Cruise + 7-Day Land Tour • More!

Canada & Niagara egetable Farm & Greenhouse $\mathsf{Corn} \bullet \mathsf{Soybeans} \bullet \mathsf{Tobacco}$ Niagara Falls • Hog Farm **National Parks** Grand Canyon • Zion Park

Europe Germany • Belgium • Austria Netherlands • Switzerland

Austria • Czech Republic **Calgary Stampede** Glacier National Park Yellowstone • Farm & Ranch Chuckwagon Races • Parade Bryce Canyon • Horseshoe Bend Columbia Ice Fields • Rockies

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The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE. COM, sponsored by Bary Keith at Harr Motors, BK Custom Ts & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Farmers Union Coop, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Chiropractic Clinic, Groton Ford, Hanlon Brothers, John Sieh Agency, Krueger Brothers, Lori's Pharmacy, Professional Management Services, S & S Lumber, Spanier Harvesting & Trucking, Sun & Sea Travel, The MeatHouse, Witte Exteriors LLC. Shane Clark did the play-by-play assisted by Paul Kosel and Jeslyn Kosel ran the camera.

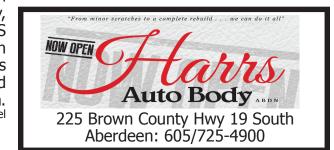
NEC Girls' Basketball

Sisseton wins the Northeast Conference title this year with a perfect 10-0 record. Now attention switches to regional competition as Sisseton and Roncalli are the host sites for Region 1A.

FINAL Girls NEC Standings

Sisseton	10-0	18-1
Hamlin	9-1	13-7
Roncalli	8-2	17-3
Groton Area	7-3	13-7
Milbank	6-4	11-9
Deuel	4-6	6-14
Clark/Willow Lake	4-6	8-12
Webster Area	3-7	7-13
Redfield	3-7	6-14
Britton-Hecla *	1-9	7-13
Tiospa Zina	0-10	1-19
* Class B Team		

Sisseton 65, Deuel 26 Clark-Willow Lake 62, Tiospa Zina 33 Hamlin 54, Britton-Hecla 36 Aberdeen Roncalli 54, Deuel 43 Milbank 60, Webster 37 Hamlin 51, Clark-Willow Lake 44 Groton 69, Britton-Hecla 31 Redfield 58, Tiospa Zina 29



GHS Boys Basketball

Groton Area boys stun Dakota Valley in 17-point win

The game lived up to all the hype and intensity as the Groton Area boys avenged an earlier loss to Dakota Valley and handed the Panthers their third loss of the season. The game was played Monday in Groton and was a make-up game from earlier in the season. Groton Area won, 71-54. It was Dakota Valley's lowest scoring game of the season. The previous lowest was 62 points which came on the heels of Hamlin's win over Dakota Valley and was also 62 points in the Panther's win over Groton at the DAK12-NEC Clash at Madison.

Dakota Valley had the early 12-7 lead, but the Tiger defense forced turnovers and capitalized on them and took a 16-12 lead at the end of the first quarter. Groton Area had the upper hand for most of the second quarter with a four-point lead being the average. The Panthers tied the game at halftime at 29.

The first half stats were as even as it could possibly be. Both teams shot 57 percent in the first half. Both teams had five turnovers. Both teams had three fouls. Both teams missed nine field goals and both teams had 29 points.

Groton Area never trailed in the second half. The Panthers had closed to within one two times, but the Tigers went on a six-point run to take a 46-38 lead and took a 48-40 lead into the fourth quarter.

Keegen Tracy sparked the Tigers in the fourth quarter with 11 points and Lane Tietz was seven of eight from the free throw line as Groton Area slowly pulled away for the win.

Coach Brian Dolan said, "This is by far the best we've played all year. Our goal was to shut down Logan Collette and he only had one free throw all night. The kids were dialed in. Jacob did a nice job getting to the basket. Lane carried us in the first half and made some big free t throws down the stretch. It took all of us. We've had great practices the last 10 days. The players on the bench are just as much a part of this as the guys on the floor."

Senior Lane Tietz said after the game, "We played absolutely together tonight. We trusted each other. Everyone stepped up. When Gage came in - great minutes. When Kassen came in - got a deflection and got a layup. That's huge.

"In all the struggles we've had all year, they have gotten us to this

point right now. At the beginning the season, I would ask God just to prepare this team to make a run for the state tournament. No one knows His plan, but He's gotten us ready for this moment. We've had a lot of growing pains with our younger guys, but they're not younger guys any more."

Groton Area is now 15-4 on the season and will finish the regular season with a home game against Aberdeen Christian in Groton on Friday. Dakota Valley falls to 15-3.

"Friday is the biggest game on our schedule right now," Dolan said. "It's a 47 point seed game for us. That will help us for our seeding for the SoDak 16. I want the kids to enjoy tonight, but we have to refocus for Friday. This didn't happen just today. This happened in all the practices and all the hard work.

"Let's make sure we're all at Roncalli to support the girls in the first round of the region against Webster. That's the next big game for this family and we need to cheer them on."

The percentages were high in all categories for Groton Area. The Tigers made 15 of 28 in two-pointers for 54 percent, nine of 14 in three-pointers for 64 percent and 14 of 16 in free throws for 88 percent. The Tigers had 22 rebounds, nine turnovers, 16 assists, three steals, 13 team fouls and one block.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 28 points including six of 10 three-pointers and seven of eight free throws. Tietz also had four rebounds, three assists and one steal. Jacob Zak had 18 points which included one three-pointer and was five of six from the line plus he had three rebounds, six

assists and one steal. Keegen Tracy had 16 points with included two of two in three-pointers, two of two in free throws and four of five in two-pointers and he had three rebounds and six assists. Logan Ringgenberg scored the opening basket of the game and finished with two points, two rebounds and one assist. Kassen Keough had two points. Gage Sippel had three rebounds and one block shot and Colby Dunker and Easton Weber each had one rebound.

Jaxson Wingert led the Panthers with 29 points while Luke Bruns had 14, Charlie Margeas eight and Grant VanDenHul and Logan Collette each had one free throw. Dakota Valley made 19 of 38 in field goals for 50 percent, 12 of 17 free throws for 71 percent, had eight turnovers and 13 team fouls.

Boys Junior Varsity: Groton 33, Dakota Valley 30

Groton Area rallied in the closing minute to some from behind to beat Dakota Valley in the junior varsity game, 33-30. Groton Area held a 12-11 lead after the first quarter and Dakota Valley led at halftime, 18-15, and after three quarters, 24-17. The Panthers opened up a 10-point lead early in the fourth quarter at 27-17. Gage Sippel made seven fourth quarter points and Turner Thompson made a two-pointer and a three-pointer in the fourth quarter to spark the Tiger offense. Jayden Schwan made a basket with 46 seconds left to tie the game at 30. Sippel made a basket with 2.1 seconds left, was fouled and made the free throw for the final three-point win.

Sippel led the Tigers with seven points, Blake Pauli, Turner Thompson and Easton Weber each had five points, Karson Zak had four, Kassen Keough three and Jayden Schwan and Logan Warrington each had two points. Keough, Thompson and Weber each made one three-pointer.

Tyler Cornelsen led Dakota Valley with 12 points while Drew Lukken and Luke Anema each had four points, and adding two points apiece were Dylan Lukken, Sean Meiske, Grady Ramos, Zachary Schlotman and Carver Fritchen.

The games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. The junior varsity game was sponsored by Craig and Jodi Sternhagen. 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, The MeatHouse of Andover, Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Harvesting and Trucking. Paul Kosel did the play-by-play and Jeslyn Kosel ran the camera.

- Paul Kosel

Groton Area February Students of the Month



Holden Sippel Senior



Faith Traphagen Junior



Rylee Dunker Sophomore



Kira Clocksene Freshman



Sydney Locke Eighth Grade



Asher Johnson Seventh Grade



Asher Zimmerman Sixth Grade

Groton Area School works to ensure that all levels of academic instruction also include the necessary life skills teaching, practicing, and modeling that encourages essential personal life habits that are universally understood to facilitate helping our students become good human beings and citizens.

It is learning with our heads, hearts, and hands to be caring and civil, to make healthy decisions, to effectively problem solve, to be respectful and responsible, to be good citizens, and to be empathetic and ethical individuals.

Students are selected based on individual student growth in the areas of: positive behavior, citizenship, good attendance, a thirst for knowledge, and high academic standards.

Groton Area wins all six games over Britton-Hecla

Boys Varsity: Groton 77, Britton-Hecla 35

Groton Area made 70 percent of its two-pointers as the boys basketball team posted a 77-35 win over Britton-Hecla. Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 21-10, 40-22 and 66-33.

Lane Tietz led the Tigers with 25 points, two rebounds, three assists and five steals. Keegen Tracy had 19 points, four rebounds, two assists and two steals. Ryder Johnson had 10 points, four rebounds, two assists, three steals and one block Jacob Zak had nine points, seven rebounds, six assists, six steals and one block. Logan Ringgenberg had four points, one rebound and three steals. Gage Sippel had four points and three rebounds. Jayden Schwan had two points, Logan Warrington had two points and one rebound, Colby Dunker had one point and three rebounds, Blake Pauli and Kassen Keough each had one assist, Turner Thompson had one rebound and Karson Zak had two rebounds and one steal.

Three-Pointers: Jacob Zak - 1, Tietz - 3, Tracy - 3.

Groton Area made 23 of 33 two-pointers

free throws for 63 percent, had 27 rebounds, 14 turnovers, 14 assists, 21 steals, 11 team fouls and two blocks.

Ty Fagerland led the Braves with 12 points followed by Daniel Person with 10, Jaxon Zuehlke had seven and adding two points apiece are Isaiah Jackson, Graham Fosness and Jordyn McGregor.

Three-Pointers: Zuehlke - 1.

Britton-Hecla made 15 of 32 field goals for 47 percent, four of 10 free throws for 40 percent, had 25 turnovers and 12 team fouls.

Boys Junior Varsity: Groton 47, Britton-Hecla 19

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 47-19, leading at the quarterstops at 11-5, 18-7 and 31-12.

Gage Sippel led Groton Area with 14 points followed by Kassen Keough with eight, Easton Weber five, Blake Pauli, Turner Thompson and Ethan Kroll each had four, Jayden Schwan and Logan Warrington each had three and Jace Johnson added two points.

Benjamin Folkman led Britton-Hecla with five points while Mitchell Burger and Nathaniel Schuller each had four, Jordyn McGregor had had three, Riley Holland two and Jace Rein added one point.

Boys Eighth Grade: Groton 43, Britton-Hecla 35

Groton Area won the eighth grade game, 43-35. The game was tied at 13 after the first quarter and the Tigers took a 27-18 lead at halftime and a 37-31 lead after the third quarter.

Jace Johnson led Groton Area with 19 points followed by Ryder Schelle with 12 and Anthony Gilmore and Ethan Kroll each had six points.

LaFrom Herr and Chaz Victor each had nine points for the Braves wheel Jack Teveldal had seven, Kaden Mills six and Luke Bosse had four.

Boys Seventh Grade: Groton 52, Britton-Hecla 13

Groton Area won the seventh grade game, 52-13, leading at the quarterstops at 20-4, 28-9 and 36-13.

Anthony Gilmore led Groton Area with 24 points followed by Asher

NEC Boys' Basketball Johnson with 11, Jordan Schwan six, Zach Fliehs five and Connor Kroll, Ian Kutter and Sam Crank each had two points.

Jett Ford led Britton-Hecla with four points while Bowman Micko, Luke Bosse and Trey Biel each had two points.

Girls Varsity: Groton 69, Britton-Hecla 31

Groton Area's Lady Tigers defeated Britton-Hecla, 69-31. Jaedyn Penning did not commit a single foul on the night and Emily Clark made her first three-pointer of the year.

Groton Area led at the quarter stops at 21-8, 43-16 and 54-22. Groton Area had a 16-point run in the first half.

Sydney Leicht led Groton Area with 16 points, one rebound, one assist and two steals. Faith Traphagen had 12 points, one assist and two steals. Jaedyn Penning had 10 points, five rebounds, one assist and one steal. Mia Crank had five points and one rebound. Jerica Locke had four points, one rebound, four assists and one steal. Kennedy Hansen had four points, six rebounds, three assists and three steals. Brooklyn Hansen had four points, three rebounds, three assists and one block. Rylee Dunker had four points, six rebounds, four assists, one steal and two block shots. Emily Clark had three points. Laila Roberts had three points, five rebounds and four assists. Talli Wright had two points. Taryn. Traphagen had two points, two rebounds and one assist. McKenna Tietz had one assist.

Three-Pointers: Leicht - 3, Faith Trpahgen - 2, Crank - 1, Clark - 1. Groton Area made 20 of 38 field goals for 53 percent, seven of 21 three-pointers for 33 percent, eight of 10 free throws for 80 percent, had 30 rebounds, seven turnovers, 23 assists, 10 steals, 12 rebounds



Senior Emily Clark gets ready to launch and make this three-pointer. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

and three block shots.

Sterling Brassfield led. Britton-Hecla with with points followed by Tiyanna Schott six, Jayden Bender four, Danika Zuehlke and Faith Small each had three points, RaeAnn Hagenson had two and Maddi Micko added a free throw.

Three-Pointers: Brassiield - 1.

The Braves made nine of 31 in field goals for 29 percent, 12 of 20 free throws for 60 percent, had 19 turnovers and seven team

Groton Area, now 13-7, will play Webster in the first round of the Region 1A tournament Tuesday at Aberdeen Roncalli.

Girls Junior Varsity: Groton 36, Britton-Hecla 8

Groton Area won the junior varsity game, 36-8, leading at the quarterstops at 3-2, 19-8 and 30-8.

Groton Area scored the last 21 points of the game, limiting Britton-Hecla's scoring from the free throw line, making eight of 14 free throws.

McKenna Tietz led Groton Area with nine points while Emerlee Jones. Had six points, Faith Traphagen and Mia Crank each had four points, Kella Tracy had three and add-

for 70 percent, seven of 25 three-pointers for 28 percent, 10 pot 16 ing two points apiece were Laila Roberts, Taryn Traphagen, Ashlynn Warrington, Talli Wright and Sydney Locke.

Koryn Jones had four points and Karlie Zuehlke and Adriana Buer each had two points for Britton-Hecla.

The games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. Varsity game sponsors were Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, BK Custom Ts & More, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Krueger Brothers, Locke Electric, The MeatHouse of Andover, Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Harvesting and Trucking. The junior varsity game sponsors was were Craig and Jodi Sterhagen and Tom and Lindsey Tietz. The junior high game sponsor was the Groton Chiropractic Clinic. Shane Clark, Paul Kosel and Jeslyn Kosel were on the scene for the games.

Paul Kosel



Shane Clark and Jeslyn Kosel ran the GDIL-IVE broadcasts for the junior varsity games.



Anna Bisbee sang the National Anthem prior to the girls varsity game Friday night.

Musical chairs for number two

It appears that Groton Area should maintain the number one spot for Region 1A; however, the number two spot has musical chairs. It's been Waubay/Summit, Milbank and Tiospa Zina all in the hunt for the second seed. Sunday morning, it was Milbank. By Sunday afternoon, it was Tiospa Zina. By Monday morning, it was Milbank.

A big game this week for number two features Milbank and Tiospa Zina on Friday. Regions begin Tuesday. Groton will host the first round. For the Northeast Conference, Hamlin wins the championship outright with Groton Area in number two.

Boys NEC Standings

NEC	Overall
10-0	17-3
9-1	14-4
7-3	9-10
7-3	13-7
6-3	13-5
5-5	8-12
4-5	13-6
3-7	8-11
2-8	4-16
1-9	3-16
0-10	1-19
	10-0 9-1 7-3 7-3 6-3 5-5 4-5 3-7 2-8 1-9

Hamlin 90, Britton-Hecla 31 Hamlin 52, Clark-Willow Lake 38 Aberdeen Roncalli

46, Deuel 34 Tiospa Zina 76, Redfield 33

Groton 77, Britton-Hecla 35 Milbank 68, Webster

Feb. 23: Tiospa Zina at Milbank

Aberdeen Roncalli 58, Clark-Willow Lake 35 Clark-Willow Lake 59, Tiospa Zina 49 Deuel 60, Sisseton 51

Groton Area boys beat Florence-Henry in all five games

Groton Area boys took all games into the mercy rule with the 30-point difference as the Tigers defeated Florence-Henry in all five games. The games were played Saturday in Henry.

Groton Area reached the 30-point spread in the varsity game with 4:08 left in the third quarter, in the junior varsity game with 1:31 left in the game, the C game with 1:22 left in the third quarter, the eighth grade game with 5:42 left in the third quarter and the seventh grade game with 15 seconds left in the third quarter.

Varsity Game: Groton Area 73, Florence-Henry 50

Three players hit double figures as Groton Area defeated the Falcons in the varsity game, 73-50. The Tigers led at the quarterstops at 23-17, 45-24 and 61-34.

Ryder Johnson had four three-pointers to lead the Tigers with 21 points, seven rebounds, three assists and one steal. Jacob Zak made one three-pointer and finished with 13 points, six rebounds, one assist and one steal. Lane Tietz made one three-pointer to finish with 13 points, four rebounds, two assists and one steal. Keegen Tracy made two three-pointers and finished with eight points, three rebounds, five assists and one steal.

Colby Dunker had six points, one rebounds and two assists. Gage Sippel had four points, two rebounds, one steal and one block. Logan Ringgenberg had two points, one rebound and one assist. Jayden Schwan had two points and one rebound. Karson Zak had two points and one assist. Easton Weber had two points, one rebound and one assist. Blake Pauli had one assist and one steal. Kassen Keough, Logan Alex Abeln seven, Jordan Schwan five, Anthony Gilmore, Asher Johnson Warrington and Turner Thompson each had one rebound.

Groton Area made 21 of 30 two-pointers for 70 percent, eight of 24 three-pointers for 33 percent, seven of 13 free throws for 54 percent, had 29 rebounds, nine turnovers, 17 assists, six steals, 13 fouls and one block.

Carson Vavruska led the Falcons with 20 points, James Schroeder had 11 points, Logan Vavruska seven, Ty Bergh six, Jaxon Orthaus three, Tristan Sumner two points and Tate Hartley added one free throw.

Junior Varsity Game: Groton Area 54, Florence-Henry 24

Groton Area led at the questerltops at 20-7, 31-12 and 41-22 en route to a 54-24 junior varsity win.

Kassen Keough led the Tigers with 14 points, Gage Sippel and Karson Zak each had 11, Turner Thompson six, Logan Warrington five, and Blake Pauli, Jace Johnson and Easton Weber each had two points.

Three-Pointers: Keough - 2, Zak - 1.

Jaxon Orthaus led the Falcons with eight points, Zach Schroeder had six, Tucker Keller five, Carson Kelly three and Masyn Warne two. Three-Pointers: Keller - 1, Schroeder - 1, Kelly - 1, Orthaus - 2.

C Game: Groton Area 46, Florence-Henry 20

Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 17-0, 25-5 and 42-11 en route to a 46-20 C game win.

Logan Warrington led Groton Area with 16 points, Ethan Kroll 10, Karson Zak six, Jace Johnson and Ryder Schelle each had four, and adding two points apiece were Jayden Schwan, Keegen Harry and T.C. Schuster.

Zack Schroeder led the Falcons with eight points.

8th Grade Game: Groton Area 52, Florence-Henry 18

Groton Area led at the quarterstops at 18-0, 36-7 and 48-16 en route

Groton Prairie Mixed Week #13

Team Standings: Chipmunks – 17, Shihtzus – 16, Coyotes – 15, Jackelopes – 10, Foxes – 9, Cheetahs – 5

Men's High Games: Randy Stanley – 223, Tony Waage – 222, Lance Frohling and Vern Meyers – 218

Women's High Games: Sue Stanley – 163, Darci Spanier and Vicki Walter – 160, Hayley Merkel – 158

Men's High Series: Tony Waage – 604, Lance Frohling – 589, Mike

Siegler – 547

Women's High **Series:** Darci Spanier 455, Sue Stanley 450, Vicki Walter – 448

FUN GAME: Most Splits - Chipmunks with 19!

— King Crossword -**Answers**

Solution time: 22 mins.







Coach Brian Dolan goes over a game plan with the team during a time-out. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

to a 52-18 win in the eighth grade game.

Jace Johnson led Groton Area with 17 points, Ethan Kroll had eight, and Ryder Schelle each had four and T.C. Schuster had three points.

7th Grade Game: Groton Area 50, Florence-Henry 10

The seventh graders won their game, 50-10, leading at the quarterstops at 14-4, 24-6 and 41-10.

Anthony Gilmore led Groton Area with 13 points, Zach Fliehs had 11, Jordan Schwan and Asher Johnson each had nine points and Connor Kroll and Wes Morehouse each had four points.

The games were broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM. Varsity game sponsors were Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bary Keith at Harr Motors, BK Custom Ts & More, Bierman Farm Service, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Full Circle Ag, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Krueger Brothers, Locke Electric, The MeatHouse of Andover, Rix Farms/R&M Farms and Spanier Har vesting and Trucking. The junior varsity game sponsors was were Craig and Jodi Sterhagen and Tom and Lindsey Tietz. The C game sponsor was S & S Lumber. The junior high games were sponsored by Jesse and Bridgett Scott of Waubay. Paul Kosel and Jeslyn Kosel were on the scene for the games.

King Crossword

ACROSS

ACROSS	1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8		9	10	11
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4 "Get Here"	12				13						14		
singer Adams 9 Opposite of	15			16							17		
"post-"				18				19		20			
12 Equal (Pref.) 13 Jeremy of	21	22	23					24					
"Entourage" 14 Corn serving	25				26		27		28			29	30
15 Prepaid con-	31			32		33		34		35			
venience for cell users	36				37		38		39		40		П
17 Texter's "Enough!"		<u>'</u>	41			42		43		44			П
18 Common	45	46						47					
verb 19 Spiritualist	48				49		50				51	52	53
21 Oliver Twist, for one	54				55						56		
24 Cabinet dept.	57				58						59		
25 "Norma —"	49	Cell	user	's		Ga	bor		2	27 N	lorm	(Ab	br.)

- 25 "Norma -- " 49 Cell user's 26 Snake's 54 Conk out warning 55 Dodge 28 Mexican
- 56 Classic car snacks 31 Actor Richard 57 Hosp. areas
- 33 UFO crew 35 Commanded
- 36 Enticed
- 38 Rep.'s rival 40 "Diamonds"

- singer 41 Goatee's spot
- 43 "O Pioneers!" author
- 45 Long recliner
- 47 Magic, on scoreboards
- 48 "A spider!"

- practical joke

- 58 Opposite of most
- 59 Watch chain

DOWN 1 Red-carpet

- type 2 "Kinda" suffix 21 Pitcher 3 Cow's greet-
- ing 4 Verdi works
- 5 Permit
- 6 Hollywood's
- 22 Pasta sauce

7

Semesters

expenses

"Bohemian

Rhapsody"

8 "Still ..."

9 Fund for

minor

10 Malek of

11 Guitarist

Clapton 16 "Unh-unh"

20 Wound cover

Hershiser

- brand goods
- 23 Fruity baked

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- 27 Norm (Abbr.) 29 Garfield's pal
- 30 Blacken
- 32 Classic soda brand
- 34 Extra helpings 37 Put to rest
- 39 Grocery store 42 Audacity
- 44 Patient's
- need, briefly 45 Give up
- 46 Estate recipient
- 50 Bond rating 51 Canine cry
- 52 Zodiac feline
- 53 Arced tennis shot

Four wrestlers to advance to state

Four Groton Area wrestlers have advanced to the state tournament in Region 1B competition held Saturday in Gettysburg. The state will be held Feb. 22-24 in Sioux Falls.

Wyatt Hagen took fourth place at 106 pounds, Walker Zoellner placed third at 126 pounds, Christian Ehresmann placed second at 144 pounds and Korbin Kucker took first at 157 pounds.

106: Wyatt Hagen (29-16) placed 4th and scored 12.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 29-16 won by major decision over Chase Henriksen (Kingsbury County) 32-24 (MD 12-0)

Semifinal - Cade Gaikowski (Clark/Willow Lake) 36-9 won by fall over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 29-16 (Fall 5:10)

Cons. Semi - Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 29-16 won by major decision over Logan Smith (Faulkton Area) 21-19 (MD 18-6)

3rd Place Match - Tayten Kurkowski (Webster Area) 28-15 won by decision over Wyatt Hagen (Groton Area) 29-16 (Dec 5-1)

113: Lincoln Krause (23-17) placed 6th and scored 6.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Nicholas Schlachter (Potter County) 27-7 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 23-17 (Fall 1:12)

Cons. Round 1 - Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 23-17 won by fall over Avery Williams (Sully Buttes) 0-14 (Fall 4:21)

Cons. Semi - Sean Roseland (Faulkton Area) 35-16 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 23-17 (Fall 0:41)

5th Place Match - Caden Singrey (Kingsbury County) 22-13 won by fall over Lincoln Krause (Groton Area) 23-17 (Fall 2:26) () (Bye)

126: Walker Zoellner (32-14) placed 3rd and scored 17.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 32-14 won by fall over Dubhlainn Vermeulen (Sioux Valley) 13-25 (Fall 0:30)

Semifinal - Conner Zens (Redfield) 33-10 won by major decision over Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 32-14 (MD 10-0)

Cons. Semi - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 32-14 won by major decision over Tyson Hagberg (Deuel/Deubrook Area) 16-22 (MD 11-0) 3rd Place Match - Walker Zoellner (Groton Area) 32-14 won by fall

over Dubhlainn Vermeulen (Sioux Valley) 13-25 (Fall 2:13)

144: Christian Ehresmann (35-5) placed 2nd and scored 21.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 35-5 received a bye () (Bye)

Quarterfinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 35-5 won by fall over Donovan Sandven (Kingsbury County) 14-16 (Fall 1:51)

Semifinal - Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 35-5 won by major decision over Bryce Hawkinson (Britton-Hecla) 38-10 (MD 11-3)

1st Place Match - Landon Coyle (Faulkton Area) 36-9 won by decision over Christian Ehresmann (Groton Area) 35-5 (Dec 5-2)

157: Korbin Kucker (24-7) placed 1st and scored 30.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 24-7 won by fall over Lincoln Reidburn (Clark/Willow Lake) 4-12 (Fall 2:26)

Quarterfinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 24-7 won by fall over Beau Schilling (Ipswich/Bowdle) 14-19 (Fall 0:52)

Semifinal - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 24-7 won by fall over Gage Baumgarn (Webster Area) 31-16 (Fall 4:19)

1st Place Match - Korbin Kucker (Groton Area) 24-7 won by fall over Charlie Dulany (Warner/Northwestern) 27-7 (Fall 2:38)

165: Easten Ekern (13-25) placed 6th and scored 3.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Deion Harris (Kingsbury County) 17-24 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 13-25 (Fall 0:53)

Cons. Round 1 - Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 13-25 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Semi - Dustin Dirksen (Warner/Northwestern) 29-13 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 13-25 (Fall 0:41)

5th Place Match - Deion Harris (Kingsbury County) 17-24 won by fall over Easten Ekern (Groton Area) 13-25 (Fall 0:28)

175: Ben Hoeft (13-23).

Champ. Round 1 - Marshall Holz (Kingsbury County) 29-18 won by fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 13-23 (Fall 2:31)

Cons. Round 1 - Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 13-23 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 2 - Justin Rorhbach (Ipswich/Bowdle) 24-16 won by fall over Ben Hoeft (Groton Area) 13-23 (Fall 2:31)

Shade Shelters coming to Groton Baseball Complex

The Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation is in the process of installing three new shade structures at the Groton Baseball Complex. There will be one shade structure for each field. The bases were poured last fall and the support poles arrived yesterday. The follow photos are from the Groton Baseball/Softball Foundation Facebook Page.





190: Drew Thurston (7-14) scored 4.0 team points.

Champ. Round 1 - Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 7-14 won by fall over Kameron Hunnel (Potter County) 3-28 (Fall 3:02)

Quarterfinal - Tristen Baloun (Faulkton Area) 25-9 won by fall over Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 7-14 (Fall 0:50)

Cons. Round 2 - Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 7-14 received a bye () (Bye)

Cons. Round 3 - Riley Popp (Clark/Willow Lake) 17-26 won by fall over Drew Thurston (Groton Area) 7-14 (Fall 2:31)

215: Charlie Frost (15-16) placed 6th and scored 6.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Kadyn Weisser (Ipswich/ Bowdle) 27-14 won by fall over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 15-16 (Fall 1:27)

Cons. Round 1 - Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 15-16 won by fall over Raymond Klein (Deuel/ Deubrook Area) 20-24 (Fall 2:47)

Cons. Semi - Preston Cavalier (Warner/ Northwestern) 38-9 won by fall over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 15-16 (Fall 0:46)

5th Place Match - Matthew Angiolelli (Webster Area) 21-17 won by decision over Charlie Frost (Groton Area) 15-16 (Dec 7-3)

285: Gavin Englund (30-14) placed 5th and scored 10.0 team points.

Quarterfinal - Owen Vandeweerd (Sioux Valley) 41-5 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-14 (Dec 4-1)

Cons. Round 1 - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-14 won by fall over Gage Miotke (Webster Area) 11-22 (Fall 1:39)

Cons. Semi - Tucker Hardy (Britton-Hecla) 34-14 won by decision over Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-14 (Dec 10-6)

5th Place Match - Gavin Englund (Groton Area) 30-14 won by fall over Brayden Satter (Warner/Northwestern) 15-21 (Fall 2:13)







(605) 395-6421 Ferney

Watertown Youth Tourney Results for Groton

TOTS 31-34: Watson Herron's place is 3rd and has scored 8.0 team points.

Round 1 - Griffen Gerrish (watertown) won by fall over Watson Her- Pederson (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 0:27) ron (Groton) (Fall 0:27)

Round 2 - Watson Herron (Groton) won by major decision over Rhett **scored 18.0 team points.** Myhre (Minneota) (Maj 14-1)

Round 3 - Theo Bortz (watertown) won by fall over Watson Herron () (Bye) (Groton) (Fall 0:20)

TOTS 40-44: Ryker Herron's place is 1st and has scored 20.0 team points.

Round 1 - Ryker Herron (Groton) won by fall over Hudson Morris (Claremont) (Fall 3:56)

Round 2 - Ryker Herron (Groton) won by injury default over Jack Tadlock (watertown) (Inj. 3:00)

Round 3 - Ryker Herron (Groton) won by fall over Bennett Vandersnick (Hazel) (Fall 0:18)

BANTAM 71-77: Kroy Khali's place is 1st and has scored 17.0 team points.

Round 1 - Kroy Khali (Groton) won by fall over Darin Peterson (Colton) (Fall 0:19)

Round 3 - Kroy Khali (Groton) won by major decision over Reed Trapp (Milbank) (Maj 9-0)

Round 4 - Kroy Khali (Groton) won by fall over Leon Hahn (Chester) (Fall 2:41)

Round 5 - Kroy Khali (Groton) won by fall over Grayson Bevers (watertown) (Fall 2:02)

Ipswich Youth Tournament Results for Groton Tuff Tigers

Tots 52-61: Vic Fliehs's place is 3rd and has scored 9.0 team points.

Round 1 - Vic Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Lincoln Traversie (Timber Lake Youth Wrestling) (Fall 0:40) Kolb (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 4:29)

Round 2 - Kru Peterson (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) won by 20.0 team points. decision over Vic Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Dec 14-10)

Round 3 - Kohen Resel (Miller) won by fall over Vic Fliehs (Groton Warriner (Governor Wrestling) (Fall 1:08) Tuff Tigers) (Fall 3:25)

Bantam 50-56: Levi Davis's place is 5th and has scored 5.0 team points.

Round 1 - Henry Schaffner (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) won by major decision over Levi Davis (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Maj 10-2)

Round 2 - Rowan Richard (MATPAC Wrestling) won by decision over Levi Davis (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Dec 6-5)

Round 3 - John Lechner (warner northwestern) won by decision over Levi Davis (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Dec 4-0)

Round 4 - Levi Davis (Groton Tuff Tigers) received a bye () (Bye) Round 5 - Elmer Braun (Ipswich Area) won by fall over Levi Davis

(Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 0:21) Bantam 56-61: Roman Bahr's place is 3rd and has scored 7.0 team points.

Round 1 - Roman Bahr (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by decision over Teague Resel (Miller) (Dec 7-2)

Round 2 - Cayson Howard (Ipswich Area) won by fall over Roman Bahr (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 1:18)

Round 3 - Kasper Weisz (Redfield) won by decision over Roman Bahr (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Dec 5-2)

Midget 51-56: Bennett Iverson's place is 4th and has scored 4.0 team points.

Round 1 - Carter Olson (Mobridge Youth Wrestling) won by fall over Bennett Iverson (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 1:45)

Round 2 - Tobias Jones (Miller) won by tech fall over Bennett Iverson (Groton Tuff Tigers) (TF 15-0)

Round 3 - Gabriel Shempert (Mobridge AAU Wrestling) won by fall over Bennett Iverson (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 0:54)

Midget 57-58: Carter Zoellner's place is 1st and has scored 20.0 team points.

Round 1 - Carter Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Kamdyn Frost (Tea) (Fall 1:15)

Round 2 - Carter Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Ramiro Flores (Faulkton Trojans) (Fall 0:40)

Round 3 - Carter Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Ryker Hoffman (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 3:44)

Midget 60-62: Bo Fliehs's place is 2nd and has scored 14.0 team points.

Round 1 - Bo Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Peyton

Jandel (warner northwestern) (Fall 1:02) Round 2 - Bowdrey Logan (Doland) won by fall over Bo Fliehs (Groton

Tuff Tigers) (Fall 2:43) Round 3 - Bo Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Alec Griese (Hoven Greyhounds) (Fall 0:33)

Midget 78-80: Samuel Fliehs's place is 2nd and has scored

12.0 team points. Round 1 - Hayzen Davis (Governor Wrestling) won by fall over Samuel

Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 1:17) Round 2 - Samuel Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Jacob Powell (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 1:41)

Round 3 - Samuel Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by decision over Axton Geist (Faulkton Trojans) (Dec 8-5)

Midget 112-118: Keenan Moody's place is 1st and has scored 18.0 team points.

Round 1 - Keenan Moody (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Jonathan Becker (warner northwestern) (Fall 1:04)

Round 2 - Keenan Moody (Groton Tuff Tigers) received a bye () (Bye) Round 3 - Keenan Moody (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Lincoln

Novice 65-72: Bentley Ehresmann's place is 1st and has

Round 1 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton Tuff Tigers) received a bye

Round 2 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by injury default over Easton Pochop (Redfield Youth Wrestling) (Inj. 2:15)

Round 3 - Bentley Ehresmann (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Jared Steiger (Mobridge Youth Wrestling) (Fall 0:57)

Novice 77-80: Brayson Hubbs's place is 3rd and has scored 9.0 team points.

Round 1 - Brayson Hubbs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Anderson Braun (warner northwestern) (Fall 0:13)

Round 2 - Ryder Long (warner northwestern) won by fall over Brayson Hubbs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 3:00)

Round 3 - Carter Lane (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) won by fall over Brayson Hubbs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 0:36)

Novice 79-82: Preston Hinkelman's place is 1st and has scored 18.0 team points.

Round 1 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Jeremyah Heidzig (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 0:21)

Round 2 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Graham Reuer (warner northwestern) (Fall 0:56)

Round 3 - Preston Hinkelman (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by decision over Coy Stephenson (Faulkton Trojans) (Dec 6-2)

Novice 84-92: Adam Fliehs's place is 2nd and has scored 14.0 team points.

Round 1 - Connor Van Wagner (Ipswich Youth) won by decision over Adam Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Dec 12-5)

Round 2 - Adam Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Markem Wright (Dupree) (Fall 1:20)

Round 3 - Adam Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Taitum

Novice 87-93: Parker Zoellner's place is 1st and has scored

Round 1 - Parker Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Colt

Round 2 - Parker Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Xzander Logan (Doland) (Fall 3:49)

Round 3 - Parker Zoellner (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Draycen Easterby (Ipswich Area) (Fall 1:08)

Novice 129-140: Hank Fliehs's place is 2nd and has scored 14.0 team points.

Round 1 - Hank Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Tristan Powell (Aberdeen youth wrestling club) (Fall 0:37)

Round 2 - Hank Fliehs (Groton Tuff wrestling club) (FF)

by fall over Hank Fliehs (Groton Tuff Tigers) (Fall 3:25)

Girls Midget 77-86: Elsy Hagen's place is 1st and has scored 6.0 team points.

Round 1 - Elsy Hagen (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Harper Opsahl (Ipswich Tigers) (Fall 1:27)

Round 2 - Elsy Hagen (Groton Tuff Tigers) won by fall over Harper Opsahl (Ipswich Tigers) (Fall 0:56)

Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

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

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EMPLOYMENT

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The Life of Susan Kurth

"Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43 Memorial services for Susan Kurth, 77, of Groton will be 11 a.m., Thursday, February 22, 2024, at St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton. Pastor Jeremey Yeadon will officiate. Inurnment will follow in the spring at Union Cemetery, Groton.

Surrounded by her loving family, Susan Kurth was called home by her Lord to her eternal resting place on February 15, 2024 after several

years of battling dementia.

Susan Lynn Ulrich was born in Aberdeen, SD on November 11, 1946 to Ervin and Ruth (Stablein) Ulrich. She was raised on the Ulrich farm near Putney, SD. Susie, as she was often known by her family and friends, attended the two room Putney country school through the 8th grade. Her fondest memories of growing up was time spent with her beloved mother, often in her flower garden, from which Susan

entered many varieties in the Brown County Fair. She spent time swimming and playing at Garness Funeral Cha-Tacoma Park with her sisters and friends. She also enjoyed trips with her mother to Aberdeen to visit her cousins and family. And, of course, her very favorite television show, "The Howdy Doody Show." To which she was known, in her later years, to greet everyone with a

very, cheery, "Howdy Doody!"

From Putney, she attended Groton High School and graduated in the Class of 1964. In high school she was an active member of Girls' Glee Club, Pep Club, the school newspaper, chorus, class plays and "declam" contests, where she advanced to the district contest for her dramatic reading. She carried her love of these activities throughout life as she enjoyed many musicals, plays, and public speaking - often, with her dear friends through her association in the local Red Hat Society club.

After high school, Susan attended Dakota Wesleyan University in Mitchell, SD where she pursued a degree in teaching, receiving a Bachelor's degree in English. The summer before leaving for college, Susan met Dale Kurth in Claremont. And the rest, as they say, is history.

Dale and Susan dated throughout her time in college and were married following her graduation from DWU on June 29th, 1968 at the First Methodist Church in Groton. They settled on Dale's family farm near Claremont, SD, where they would reside for over 50 years. Time spent together centered around their children but also meant attending church events, card parties, dancing or taking in a local baseball game. She was a member of the Claremont American Legion Auxiliary and Putney Ladies Aid. At the time of Susan's passing, Susan and Dale were lovingly married for 55 years.

Susan joined the faculty at Britton High School teaching English, speech and directing class plays. Upon the arrival of her first child in 1971, she made the decision to stay at home to raise their family. They were blessed with 3 children - Travis, Troy and Tiffany. She rarely, if ever, missed an event in which her children participated. Somehow, she attended more sporting events than could be counted - while never really becoming a "sports fan." All for

her kids and grandkids.

As her children grew, Susan returned to college earning a degree in Special Education from Northern State University in 1990. She spent the next 20 years teaching Special Ed, coaching oral interp and directing class plays in Langford, Roslyn, and Groton. She retired from Groton High School in 2011. She continued to scratch her teaching itch by guiding classes for Weight Watchers, something she had done throughout her life. She was an inspiration for many in their pursuit toward healthier lives.

A "city girl" at heart, one of Susan's favorite pastimes was window shopping. Which, admittedly, sometimes became actual shopping, much to Dale's chagrin. She loved to model jewelry and new clothing, always finding the perfect match. Susan also loved decorating her home for the various holidays, with her favorite being Christmas. She loved Christmas. Baking, singing, shopping, wrapping gifts and celebrating the birth of Jesus. She often reminisced about visiting the famous Christmas scene on the 8th floor of the Dayton's store in downtown Minneapolis as a youth. She was an avid collector of The Dicken's Village houses and created stunning winter model scenes that she enjoyed sharing with the community.

Susan loved playing games. You might often find yourself at the wrong end of a witty jab as she placed another winning Scrabble tile or a winning hand in cards. She was always quick with a smile or a laugh, even to the very end. Her greatest laughs, however, were shared with her grandchildren whom she loved to pamper, whether with a gift, a special trip, an

amusement park ride or a "sweet treat" – which she definitely shared.

Susan's deepest passion was reserved for her faith and relationship with Jesus. She was firm in her conviction her entire life and spent a lifetime cultivating her relationship with God. Before she was called home, she expressed her excitement to find her final resting place in heaven where she could be reunited with all her loved ones, but especially her cherished mother and sister. Today she is celebrating that reunion with the same vigor she showed in life.

Susan is survived by her husband of Claremont; sons, Travis (Debbie) Kurth of Groton and Troy (Jessica) Kurth of Minnetonka, MN; one daughter, Tiffany (Jake) Unzen of Groton; her sister Penny (Craig) Wenzel of Wessington Springs, SD; 10 grandchildren, Marlee, Cali, Boston, Laken, Annie, JD, Haley, Megan, Erin, and Nathan; and 1 great-grandchild Stetson.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Sharon.

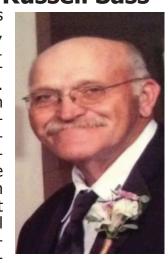
Memorials may be directed to Avera Hospice or St. John's Lutheran Church, Groton.





The Life of Russell Sass

Memorial services for Russell Sass, 68, of Groton will be 11 a.m., Friday, February 23, 2024 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church. Father Gregory Tschakert will officiate. Military honors will be provided by Groton American Legion Post #39. Visitation will be held at Paetznick-



pel on Thursday from 5-7 p.m. with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m. Deacon Greg Sass will lead.

Russell passed away February 19, 2024 at Sanford Medical Center in Sioux Falls, surrounded by his family. He graciously gave life to others as a donor.

Russell Patrick was born on March 22, 1955 in Webster, South Dakota to Raymond F. and Pauline (Gaikowski) Sass. He attended school in Webster, graduating in 1973. Russ farmed for several years before enlisting in the US Marine Corps, where he served from 1980-1984. Following his honorable discharge, he returned to the Webster area. On November 15, 1985 he was united in marriage with Darlene Heupel and together they were blessed with two sons. Russ began driving truck for Hyman Freight Ways, later working for Mitzel and Sons in Aberdeen. He later drove for 3M, New Deal Tire and Full Circle Ag before his retirement.

Russ enjoyed spending time in the outdoors, hunting and fishing. He also enjoyed card and board games, building model cars/airplanes

and spending time with his family.

Celebrating his life is his wife, Darlene of Groton, his sons, Jacob of Aberdeen, Ethan (Sarah) of Aberdeen, three grandchildren, Brooklynn, Shane and Harley, his siblings, Jim (Janet) Sass of Annadale, VA, Jerry (Ricky) Sass of Bigfork, MT, Ron (Judy) Sass of Florence, MT, Allan (Pat) Sass of Webster, Gene Sass of Milbank, Dwayne Sass of Webster, Greg (Nancy) Sass of Rapid City, Bob (Melinda) Sass of Rapid City, Becky (Jack) Vander Poel of Jasper, MN. Barb (John) Bauman of Maple Plain, MN and Mary (Jay) Aadland of Webster. Russ is also survived by 28 nieces and nephews.

Preceding him in death were his parents, an infant child and infant grandchild, Alex.

Petition being circulated to put **Groton Area opt-out to a vote**

The \$1.25 million opt-out resolution passed by the Groton Area School Board could be going to a vote of the people. A petition is currently being circulated to put the measure on the ballot. The opt-out amount is the maximum that the board would use and under its proposal, would use less in several of the 10year opt-out period.

Good Luck Tigers in post season action from these GDILIVE.COM sponsors!

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City Council

Continued from front

The second priority in Tastad's plan presented to the council would be for an engineer to determine what elevation the alley should be and to put a large storm drain in the alley.

The third and fourth priorities deal with the alley between East First and East Third avenues, specifically determining what elevations should be and reshaping the alley.

The proposal from Tastad may not be the best option, but something has to be done, he said.

to happen, or we're going to lose these buildings."

This issue could have long-ranging consequences, Tastad warned. affordable electricity to our member-owners. With recent talk of economic development and new building in town, "it's going to be a hard sell if we can't take care of our buildings."

The city is going to have to do something, Mayor Scott Hanlon electricity to go around. agreed. He added he would speak with Public Works Coordinator Terry Herron about the best steps moving forward.

"There are a lot of variables, but we will get something going on this," he said. "We need to look into all these and get something figured out."

Councilman Brian Bahr cautioned the group about moving to quickly. The first thing that needs to be done, he said, is to locate the utilities so those aren't disrupted or damaged by alley-way work.

Summer employee list taking shape

The council approved hiring summer baseball employees, as well as this winter. setting pay rates for all summer employees.

Matt Locke will continue as baseball coordinator, with seven years of prior experience. Softball coordinator will be Jackie Iverson.

Additional baseball positions hired include:

- Seth Erickson as Legion Coach with two years of experience
- Aaron Severson as Jr. Legion Coach with one year of experience
- Spencer Locke as Jr. Teener Coach with four years of experience
- Susan Fjeldheim as U14 Softball Coach with six years of experience
 - Christopher Frost as U12 Softball Coach in his first year
- Reilly Fuhrman as U10 Softball Coach with one year of experience
- Sydney Kurtz as U8 Softball Coach with two years of experience The city is also opening the application period for other summer positions, including swimming pool manager, swimming pool lifeguard, baseball groundskeeper, baseball gatekeeper and cemetery caretaker. Other positions opened include public works laborer and assistant still have a useful life ahead of them. part-time swimming pool manager, though those positions might not

The council also approved salaries and time of payment for summer employees.

- Public works laborer at \$16 per hour paid biweekly
- Cemetery caretaker at \$16 per hour paid biweekly
- Swimming pool manager at \$16 per hour paid biweekly
- Assistant part-time swimming pool manager at \$14 per hour paid biweekly
- Swimming pool lifeguard at \$11.20 per hour plus 25 cents per year of service paid biweekly
- Water Safety Instructor lifeguards during swim lessons at their regular salary plus \$1 per hour paid biweekly (plus \$25 bonus per private lesson session paid upon successful completion of entire swimming pool season)
- their regular salary plus 50 cents per hour paid biweekly
- profit paid at the end of the season
- Baseball coordinator at a yearly rate of \$4,000 plus \$77.32 per year of service paid monthly
- Softball coordinator at a yearly rate of \$1,500 plus \$25.77 per year of service paid monthly
 - Legion baseball coach at a yearly rate of \$4,000 paid monthly
- Jr. Legion baseball coach at a yearly rate of \$3,000 plus \$51.55 per year of service paid monthly
- of \$2,000 plus \$51.55 per year of service paid monthly
- Jr. Teener baseball coach (if two are hired) at a yearly rate of new technologies. \$1,500 plus \$38.66 per year of service paid monthly
- U8/U10/U12 day baseball coach at a yearly rate of \$2,500 plus \$50 per year of service paid monthly
- Girls softball coach (U8, U10, U12, U14) at a yearly rate of \$1,000 plus \$20.62 per year of service paid monthly
- Baseball groundskeeper at \$11.20 hourly plus 25 cents per year of service paid biweekly
- Baseball gatekeeper at \$11.20 hourly plus 25 cents per year of service paid biweekly

Other actions taken Tuesday:

The city council named a building inspector to identify code violations in the community. Dennis "Mike" Olson, doing business as OCCS Consulting/Contracting Service, will identify issues with proper maintenance of building exteriors, maintenance of yard area and safety issues in commercial and residential areas. Olson is a retired Edmunds County sheriff (1979-95), Aberdeen code enforcement officer (2003-14)

and Aberdeen City Councilman (2016-20).

- The council authorized accepting bids for the 2024 resurfacing of city streets, with bids to be opened at 7 p.m. March 5. Work on the project includes about 37,000 square yards of bituminous seal coat.
- The city will begin accepting quotes for 1,200 yards of gravel. Quotes are due March 5.

Reliable Energy is in Jeopardy

By: Steve Barnett & Jim Matheson

South Dakota's families and businesses rightfully expect their lights to "This is what I think is workable," he said. "No matter what, it has stay on at a price they can afford. Our national energy policies should support our cooperative mission, which is to provide safe, reliable, and

> Unfortunately, our country is now confronted with a harsh reality we are quickly approaching a point where there won't be enough.

> The North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) is the nation's grid watchdog. For years, the organization has issued a string of increasingly dire reports warning that threats to grid reliability are mounting and more frequent rolling blackouts could soon become the norm.

> In fact, nine states experienced rolling blackouts at the end of 2022 as demand for electricity outstripped supply during a period of extreme cold. In its 2023-2024 Winter Reliability Assessment, NERC warned that half of the nation faces the same risk during extreme weather

> Keeping the lights on is not a partisan issue. Yet, politics and energy policy have had an outsized impact on how we got here. The current state of our nation's energy policy related to electricity can be summed up simply: Do more with less.

> That's just not sustainable. From data centers to EVs, from home heating and cooling to the way we run America's farms, our nation is increasingly reliant on electricity to power the economy. As technology and energy demands advance, a recipe for rolling brownouts and blackouts is brewing.

> Opposite that increasing demand for electricity is an alarming reduction in supply as our country shutters existing always available power plants to comply with various federal and state regulations.

> South Dakota experiences extreme weather conditions throughout the year with temperatures rising above 100 degrees in the summer and falling far below zero in the winter. When the sun is not shining and when the wind is not blowing, renewable energy sources do not fit the bill for reliability. We simply cannot fully retire power plants that

> The final challenge to meeting our nation's energy needs is the arcane set of rules and regulations required to build anything in this country. The process for siting, permitting and building infrastructure - everything from solar farms, to pipelines to transmission lines - is mired in red tape and years of litigation.

These trends are not going to get any better in the coming years.

The EPA recently proposed a rule to overhaul the way always-available power plants operate – requiring them to either deploy carbon capture technology or run on clean hydrogen in seven years. The proposal is unlawful and will lead directly to more blackouts, higher costs, and uncertainty for America. That's a dangerous approach to regulation.

We must have a serious conversation in this country about where we're going and what it will take to realistically get there. Policymakers cannot overlook the laws of physics or the reality of the current situation. Adding more renewable resources to the nation's energy Water Safety Instructor assist lifeguard during swim lessons at portfolio can be part of the solution; however, since the wind doesn't always blow and the sun doesn't always shine, our country also needs Concession manager at \$50 daily paid biweekly plus 50% net a robust supply of readily available energy resources to call on at a moment's notice.

> Any long-term solution requires policymakers to recognize the need for time, technology development and new transmission infrastructure. These are essential ingredients for an energy future that prioritizes reliable electricity for all consumers.

Electricity powers industries, businesses, and technology. It fosters economic development vital for medical facilities, ensuring the functioning of life-saving equipment. Reliable power is essential for emergency Jr. Teener baseball coach (if only one is hired) at a yearly rate services, law enforcement, and disaster response efforts. It also fuels innovation by supporting research, development, and deployment of

> Keeping the lights on is vital to South Dakota's economy. The stakes are too high to get this wrong.
>
> Steve Barnett is General Manager of the South Dakota Rural Electric Association, a statewide as-

> sociation that represents 31 member-owned electric cooperatives. He previously served as Secretary of State for South Dakota.

> Jim Matheson is CEO of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association that represents the nation's more than 900 not-for-profit, consumer owned electric cooperatives. He previously served seven terms as a U.S. representative from Utah.

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



EARTHTALK

Dear EarthTalk: What are the climate benefits of switching over to a four-day workweek?

-- P. Proby, Denver, CO

Nearly 200 companies across the globe have completed six-month trials of a four-day workweek with promising results. Juliet Schor, an economist and sociologist at Boston College, is leading the trials with the nonprofit group Four Day Week Global. Schor says, "Stress, burnout, mental health, physical health...job satisfaction... all of those are going in the right directions." While the four-day workweek seems to improve employee lives, the results of the trial also suggest that the shorter workweek has climate benefits as well.

The four-day workweek benefits the environment by lessening the environmental impacts of commuting, reducing energy consumption and cutting greenhouse gas emissions. In 2021, the transportation sector was the leading contributor of greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S., accounting for around 28 percent of total emissions nationwide. By committing to a four-day workweek every employee could reduce their commute by 20 percent. Furthermore, during a six-month trials, workers spent less time commuting by car and more time biking and

Another major contributor to greenhouse gas emissions is lighting, heating, cooling and generally powering up office buildings. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimates that commercial and residential buildings account for nearly 13 percent of total greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. Keeping offices closed (or partially powered down) for an extra day per week could yield significant emissions reductions. Schor found that just a 10 percent reduction in work hours is linked to a 8.6 percent fall in carbon footprint.

Along with climate benefits, the four-day workweek provides employees with their own perks. During a 2022 trial in the U.K., of 70 firms, 56 said they planned to keep a four-day workweek in place after the trial ended. The most commonly cited benefits of the trial were increased

productivity and significant financial savings for employees. Employ-Dakota White Grade A Large Eggs w/\$10 Purchase & Ken's App Introducing Kens Package Kiosk Machinel Ken's Sushi Rar Welcomes Lin Open 7 Days a Week! Let us make all your Shipping EASY! Boneless Sirloin CHOICE Tip Roast Dairy Iceberg Cass Clay Lettuce Chocolate Milk **57**69 1/2 Gallon Plastic Jug Frozen Ultra-Thin Crust Pizza Corn, Peas or Green Beans **Boneless** 12.76-21.71 Oz Porkloin Liquor **Lord Calvert** Hunts Hunts Household Aluminum **Pasta** Foil Sauce Pasta 12-16 Oz. 24 Oz. Can Deli Bakery Naan Bread

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\$299

ees saved money on both transportation and childcare during the trial. The UK trial also found that during the four-day workweek daily production rose by 22 percent. This statistic exemplifies the main goal of four-day workweek which is the idea of improving efficiency by avoiding overworkdesire to constantly



The four-day workweek benefits the environing employees. Re- ment by lessening the environmental impacts of thinking the culture commuting, reducing energy consumption and around work and the cutting greenhouse gas emissions.

produce could not only benefit employees, but could yield reductions in carbon pollution.

The idea of the four-day workweek sounds great, but is it really viable? The fact is, most companies have been able to implement the four-day workweek without seeing a decline in productivity. A case study in New Zealand focused on Perpetual Guardian, an estate management company that started using the four-day workweek in 2018. The results were beyond expectations. Employees maintained their work output by eliminating unproductivity during work hours and working more efficiently. Additionally, all 240 employees experienced a 24 percent improvement in work-life balancing, while maintaining their high productivity levels. The employee perks, combined with the climate benefits, make the four-day workweek an increasingly strong option for businesses.

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"No Man is an Island"

"No man is an island, entire of itself, every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main." This is the beginning of a poem from 1624. In it, the poet John Donne appreciates how humans are all connected. Indeed, humans are



social beings, and social connection is a factor in our health.

We all know the importance of a healthy diet and exercise for our health. We are getting better at understanding the importance of mental health. One thing we do not discuss much, however, are the benefits of social connection.

Our relationships with family, friends, people at work and in the community have a major impact on our health and well-being. Those who are socially connected and have stable and supportive relationships can more easily make healthy choices and have better mental and physical health outcomes. Social connections can help us cope with stress, anxiety, depression, and hard times. Rates of most any disease are lower for those that feel a high sense of community. This includes lower rates of heart disease, strokes, dementia, depression, and anxiety. Social connection with others can improve sleep, decrease your risk of death, and reduce your risk of violence and suicide.

Similarly, marriage decreases your risk of disease. While you may not need to get married to have a life-long partner, the benefits of a long-term relationship are well established. Marriage has been found to help with lower rates of cancer, dementia, and increases your chances of surviving a heart attack.

Loneliness is becoming more rampant even as cities grow larger and transportation faster. We seem to have everything right on our phones to keep us company. Somehow, despite all these advances in technology, or perhaps because of them, people can feel ever more isolated and alone.

So how do we build community? How do we foster social connections? One way is to encourage face to face contact, to get people together. Schools, sporting events, churches, grocery stores, coffee shops, parks, concerts, festivals, and more all help to build community. Civic organizations and volunteering can help foster social connections and help us find meaning and purpose.

You can improve your social connections right now. You could call someone. You could consider going to a local basketball game, visiting someone alone in their home, or seek out a volunteer opportunity. When you increase your sense of social connection and community, you can improve your health. When you brighten up someone else's day, you often brighten your own.

John Donne's famous poem "No Man is an Island" ends with a warning: "Any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.'

Andrew Ellsworth, M.D. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices family medicine in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook and instagram featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc® a medical Q&A show celebrating its 22nd season of health information based on science, built on trust, streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

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