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The Groton Independent

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Wynella Abeln retires from cutting hair after doing it for half a century

Wynella Abeln has been cutting hair for half a century, but on May 2, she officially retired from the salon business.

Wynella started her career by going to Stewarts School of Hairstyling in Aberdeen and graduating in June 1974. She immediately began to work at Koffler's Beauty Salon in Groton two days a week.

Wynella worked at Koffler's for five years and purchased that business in April of 1979. She did not have to move the equipment very far as it was right across the street. Abeln's Beauty Shop was open Tuesday through Friday. In June of that year her son was born and Phyllis Koffler worked a week for her.

As the years went by she decided to take a part time job at Dakota Beauty Supply in Aberdeen on Mondays and Wednesdays while continuing in her salon at home three days a week. After five years in Aberdeen she decided to quit, as her three children preferred she was home. At the same time she had been approached by the Groton nursing home administrator about doing hair at the nursing home. She accepted that position on October 1, 1997. Wynella was there until March 2020 and because of Covid rules she was no longer allowed because hair was not considered an essential service. She then resigned in July 2020 after 22 ½ years at the nursing home.

As some of her clients got older and were unable to stay at home by themselves they moved to an independent living center in Groton. There they received more assistance with their everyday tasks, so she followed them there.

In September of 1985, Wynella decided to get a tanning bed. She went to the bank in Groton for a loan, but they turned her down, citing it was too risky of business. She borrowed the money from her father-in-law and paid the loan off for the tanning bed in nine months.

Back in the day, students were able to leave the school building during their study hall. "I had people tanning from nine in the morning until nine at night." She saw a decline in business once the school closed campus, but she kept the tanning bed active until 2015.

Wynella said her clients have been extremely loyal and stayed with her when her family went through some difficult times, when she could only work every other week for five months, but they all returned. Wynella said "They are the ones that made her business a success and she is dearly indebted to them all."

She had worked on clients from nine months old to one hundred years old. Wynella said, "If young children did not want to behave you just have to send the mom back to the car and 9 out of 10 times they will sit still."

Five Groton hair stylists would attend conventions each year to keep up with the new styles and products. Wynella, being the youngest, would car pool with Bev Sombke, Bev McGannon, Darlene Fisher and Phyllis Koffler. The conventions would usually be held in Sioux Falls, Fargo or Minneapolis.

Wynella cited a funny incident with one of her clients. "The funniest thing that happened was one of her clients came in and said something fell in my hair as I was walking up the walk. She looked and a bird had pooped in her hair," she said. "Good thing it was when she was coming and not leaving!"

Jay Waage was the longest customer of Wynella, starting when he was in junior high and was the final hair cut that Wynella gave on May 2. "He used to come from the chicken barns south of Groton to get his hair cut. I told him I was a farm girl and didn't mind." Jay moved away for a while, but Wynella said, "Every time he came home, he called to get a hair cut. We would work something out." Of the 45 years that Wynella had her own salon, Jay was a customer for 44 years. "I also have had lots of customers for 30 years," she said.

Wynella said, "The hardest thing about closing the doors after so many years of business is not seeing her clients, as they become family. There has been a lot of laughter and good times in the shop that I will not forget. God Bless you All."

Neal and Wynella have three children and four grandsons.



Wynella Abeln gives Jay Waage his final haircut at the Abeln Beauty Shop. (Courtesy Photo)



Tri-M Music Honor Society

From left to right: Teagan Hanten, Natalia Warrington, Kira Clocksene, Rebecca Poor, Gretchen Dinger, Axel Warrington, JD Schwan, and Addison Hoeft. Not pictured is Libby Cole.

The Groton Music Department has started a Tri-M Music Honor Society. The name Tri-M was derived from the original honor society, Modern Music Masters. At this year's Spring Concert 9 members were inducted into the first Tri-M Music Honor Society. These students were selected on their basis of scholarship, character, leadership, and service. Any student interested filled out an application, answered questions that were given, and chose two staff members for a recommendation. Below is a picture of the students reciting the Tri-M Pledge before becoming official members. The Tri-M Chapter Advisor is Desiree Yeigh.

Current events quiz

I'm not saying things are weird, but things are weird out there. Clowns to the left of you, jokers to the right, here you are, stuck in the newspaper with me. Let's see if you're up to speed on current events or blissfully unaware. Or, in medical nomenclature, on Prozac or not.



That's Life
by Tony Bender

- Things Kristi Noem has killed:
 - Puppies
 - Goats
 - A man in Reno
 - Any chance of becoming Vice President
- The winner of the 150th Kentucky Derby:
 - Mystik Dan
 - Dan Gladden
 - Mystic Pizza
 - Hootie Patootie
- To what do the Minnesota Twins attribute their recent winning streak?
 - Scoring more runs
 - Voodoo sausage ritual
 - Goat sacrifice
 - The high stanky cheese
- What are Drake and Kendrick fighting for?
 - My dad can out-rap your dad.
 - Attention
 - Dank stash
 - Everyone is Kung Fu Fighting.
- Epic band name:
 - Johnny and the Brain Farts
 - Optimistic Death Wish
 - Just a Phase
 - Howdy Officer
- What we've learned from the Trump hush money trial:
 - Biden sucks.
 - No-Doz sucks.
 - Whoever smelt it dealt it.
 - It's very unfair. People are saying it's the most unfairest unfair thing ever against the most unfairly treated victim in the history of victimhood.
- What you can learn at college:
 - Godless Communism
 - Godless Capitalism
 - Godless Godliness
 - Camping
- Why did Kristi Noem claim she met with Kim Jong Un?
 - Mixed him up with the chef at Lee Ho Fook's.
 - Who among us hasn't made that mistake?
 - Her ghostwriter was told to spice it up.
 - Trying to boost her murderous dictatorial street cred.

- What Doug Burgum wouldn't do to become part a Trump administration?
 - Sell his soul
 - Stop wearing chaps
 - Grovel
 - None of the above.
 - Starbucks recently reported a huge drop in sales because:
 - Not everyone can afford a El Duce Macchiato Foo Foo.
 - Disastrous "Milk It Fresh" in-house cow experiment.
 - Worldwide froth shortage
 - Mysterious dip in South Dakota Pup Cup sales
- BONUS: What is Minnesota Timberwolves wunderkind Anthony Edwards' nickname?
- Ant Man
 - Cicada Man
 - 8 pound, 6 ounce newborn infant Anthony, don't even know a word yet, just a little infant and so cuddly, but still omnipotent.
 - Goat Man
- Answers: 1.C; 2. D; 3. D; 4. D. 5. A; 6. C; 7. C; 8. A; 9. D; 10. B; Bonus: D. Grades: 11-8 correct: I have a feeling we were hacked. 6-8 correct: Smarter than the average bear. 3-5 correct: In baseball those are HOF numbers. 0-2 correct: My people.
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Weekly Vikings Roundup

By Jordan Wright

Last week we evaluated the two first-round picks by the Minnesota Vikings, so this week we turn our attention to the other five rookies who were drafted and the 17 undrafted rookie free agents. J.J. McCarthy and Dallas Turner will undoubtedly be the focus of the national media, but later-round picks are what complete the team and fill in the gaps.

Khyree Jackson, CB, Oregon (4th round) – My favorite late-round cornerback, Jackson should be a perfect fit for Brian Flores' defense. He's 6'4" and nearly 200 lbs with good speed and a bully mentality. He prefers to jam receivers at the line of scrimmage and isn't afraid to come up in run support.

Walter Rouse, OT, Oklahoma (6th round) – The Vikings needed depth on the offensive line, particularly at swing tackle now that Oli Udoh left in free agency. He has 52 starts under his belt at left tackle, and according to PFF, he didn't allow a single sack in 2023 (453 pass block snaps).

Will Reichard, K, Alabama (6th round) – Even though the Vikings signed a kicker in free agency to replace the departing Greg Joseph, they decided to spend a draft pick to bring in some competition. Reichard doesn't have an incredibly strong leg, but he is consistent on kicks under 40 yards.

Michael Jurgens, C/G, Wake Forest (7th round) – The Vikings weren't done adding

depth to their offensive line. They found a swing tackle in the 6th round, now they find an interior offensive lineman in the 7th. Jurgens is primarily a center but he can play guard in a pinch. He will need a few years to increase his strength, but the technique and intelligence are there.

Levi Drake Rodriguez, DT, Texas A&M-Commerce – In a surprising move, the Vikings didn't address what many felt was their second-biggest need until the 7th round. Rodriguez is an undersized defensive tackle who is coming from the FCS, so the huge leap in competition is something to be wary of. He does have a relentless motor, so if he can bulk up, he might make a good rotational player in a few years.

Besides the seven total players the Vikings drafted, they also brought in 17 undrafted rookie free agents.

Matt Cindric, OL, California - K.J. Cloyd, LB, Miami - Jeremy Flax, OL, Kentucky - Dallas Gant, LB, Toledo - Devron Harper, WR, Mercer - Ty James, WR, Mercer - Jashaun Jones, WR, Maryland - Trey Knox, TE, South Carolina - Tyler Manoa, DL, Arizona - Donovan Manuel, LB, FIU - Dwight McGlothorn, CB, Arkansas - Gabriel Murphy, OLB, UCLA - Doug Nester, OL, West Virginia - Owen Porter, OLB, Marshall - Bo Richter, OLB, Air Force - Spencer Rolland, OL, North Carolina - Taki Taimani, DL - Oregon -

Queen of Hearts

The ninth week of the Queen of Hearts drawing was held Thursday night. The jackpot was \$13,025. Ticket sales for the week were \$2,025 with 10 percent of that as a consolation prize. Joel Bierman got the consolation prize of \$202. His number was 45 with the Joker.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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Which came first? The chicken or...



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...the egg? Let's ask Mom!



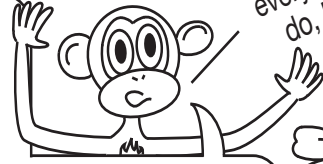
Kids: color stuff in!



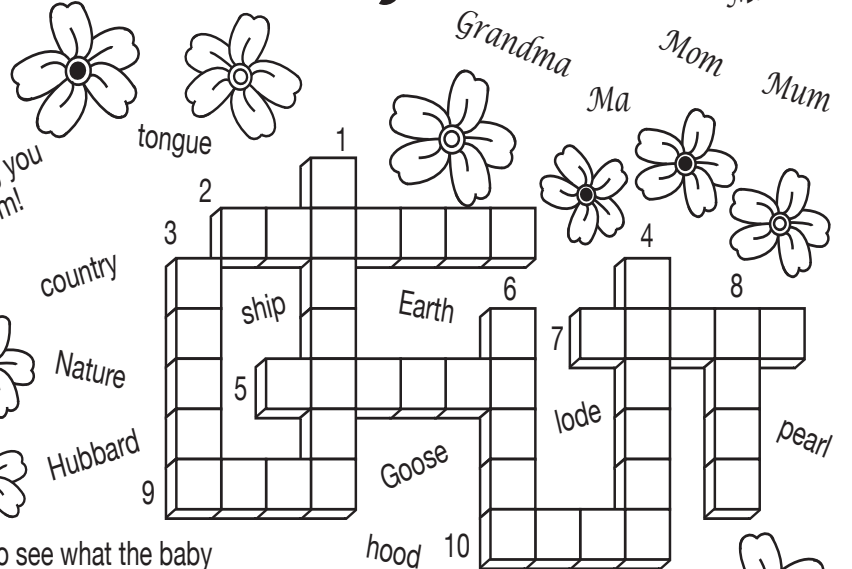
Honoring Mom on Mother's Day!

How can we begin to show our love and thanks to our mothers, grandmothers, special aunts and other women who do so much for us? They teach us, guide us, encourage us, comfort us and love us just because we are their children. How wonderful!

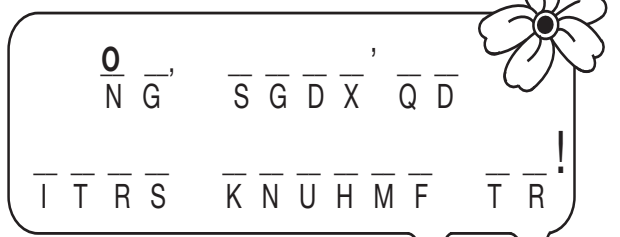
Mothers have been honored in many ways, even before they got their own holiday. Some children picked wildflowers to surprise their mothers. Some thanked or remembered their mothers by attending religious services or banquets that honored them. Mother's Day became a national holiday in the United States in 1914 when President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the second Sunday in May to be a day of "...public expression of our love and reverence for the mothers of our country." How will you show your mother your love?



Thanks for everything you do, Mom!



To see what the baby chicks are saying, look at each letter and put the letter that comes after it (in the alphabet) on the blank above.

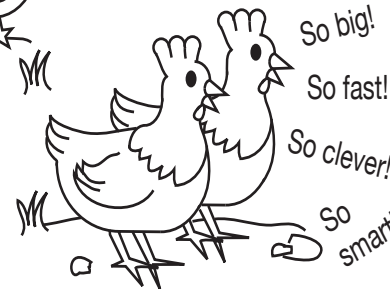


Read the clues below to fill in the crossword:

- Mother _____ - old woman in nursery rhyme
- mother _____ - the nation of a family
- Mother _____ - our planet
- mother _____ - first language learned
- Mother _____ - controlling force of life, events
- mother-of- _____ - hard, shimmery layer in shell
- Mother _____ - "author" of children's rhymes
- mother _____ - protects/services smaller vessels
- mother _____ - being a female who has children and is caring for them
- mother _____ - main vein of gold in the hills



Wow! There's a nice idea. Breakfast on a tray for Mom's special day!



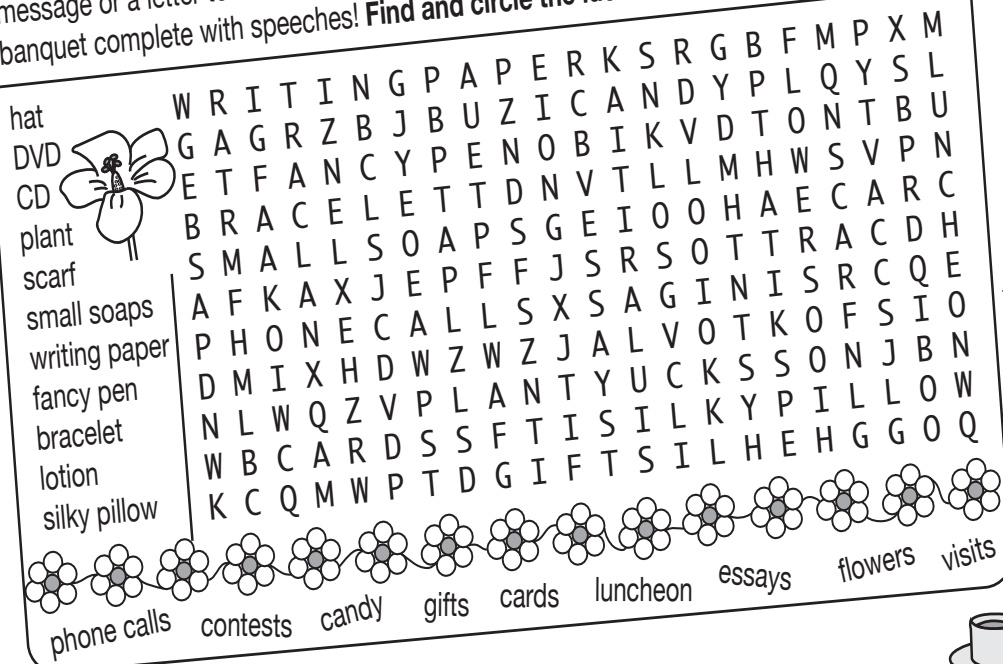
So big!
So fast!
So clever!
So smart!

Pssst.... I wish they'd stop s'mothering us!

Love you, Mommy!

Ways to Honor Mom

There are many ways to honor mothers. They can be as simple as writing a text message or a letter to mail across the miles. They can be as complicated as planning a banquet complete with speeches! Find and circle the ideas listed around this card:



Gifts and Fun Ideas for Moms

A handmade card from you is a great present for your Mom. Use your own ideas to decorate it and write about your own feelings inside. It is a gift that lets your mother know how much she means to you, and it can be tucked away for her to cherish for many years. Unscramble the letters below to fill in the blanks to show some other gifts or ideas for Moms:

1. a special _____



2. vase or garland of _____



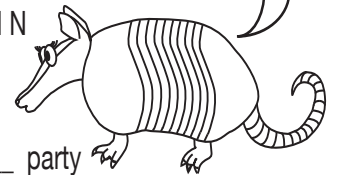
3. a _____

in the park _____

ETA _____

4. a lovely _____ party

I need paper, colored pencils, glue, sparkles...



We flower! Mothers:



We flourish!

Mothers Help Us To Blossom!

Read the clues to fill in the boxes:

1. teach us how to use good _____

2. help us when we are stuck on our _____

3. let us invite our _____ over to play

4. are full of love, encouragement and _____

5. care for us when we are _____

6. are there when we need to _____

ill talk pride friends manners homework

Wait for me!



The Groton Independent

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APRIL 30, 2024 – GENERAL MEETING

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

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Chief Dave McNeil, Captain Jay Tobin and Captain Tanner Jondahl with Aberdeen Police Department (APD) met with the Commission to respond to recent issues with the Brown County Sheriff's Office and matters of public concern regarding a Blood Draw Investigation. APD expressed concerns with the nepotism issue of Sheriff Lunzman employing his wife and offered some solutions/recommendations to improve communication and teamwork for the Brown County Sheriff Office and its supporting agencies and partners.

Sheriff Lunzman responded to the APD statements stating that the video doesn't encompass the entire event of the night in question, explained the jail was extremely busy that evening, but the only job the Blood Tech is to do is draw the blood. Sheriff also commented that due to staff shortages for Blood Techs, he questioned the State's Attorney office prior to hiring his wife, MJ. He also stated that he waited quite some time before moving forward with hiring his wife to do the blood draws.

ORDINANCE #267 - SECOND READING/ADOPTION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to adopt Ordinance #267. Applicant Trevor Zeck to rezone from Chapter 4.06 Agriculture Preservation District (AG) to Chapter 4.07 Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use: "T. Zeck Outlot A" in the SW1/4 of Section 25-T123N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13451 400th Avenue, Henry Twp.). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

DISCUSS PIPELINE FROM GROTON: Kyle Sultz met with the Commission to inform them of his and several other Brown County residents concerns regarding POET plans to tie into the SUMMIT/Glacial Lakes CO2 Pipeline. The proposed route will go across Henry, West Hanson and Gem Townships and plan to be within 200 yards of farms, houses, and livestock. Kyle commented that by having a pipeline on the West and South side of Aberdeen they are boxing in Aberdeen City and Warner, which will limit the economic expansion of this area along with the infrastructure and shortening the life of Hwy. 21. Another issue, Kyle mentioned was the tax revenue. He also stated that they will be requesting significant deductions on parcels that are containing or adjacent to the pipelines due to not being able to develop on them. Kyle shared they have spoken to drain tile contractors and they stated they are not going to cross the pipelines due to liability and safety. He discussed safety concerns and how this will affect the prices of utilities for everyone due to the amount of electricity and water that is needed for these pipelines; believes blackouts will be more common. Kyle questioned the Commission to see if they have looked at costs for safety precautions to be ready for CO2 issues: Chairman Sutton replied that Emergency Management has been attending meetings and doing research and trying to establish Safety Features and/or Training for potential ramifications. Kyle also asked if the PUC has been taking input from the

Counties on this issue: Chairman Sutton shared they have attended several meetings early on but there haven't been any lately because was waiting to see what would come out of the Legislative Process, which ended up being SB201 and there are a lot of people with concerns and unanswered questions at this time; including what they are taking away from the Counties. Commissioner Gage asked Kyle if he had been approached regarding an easement: Kyle stated he had been and shared that he was told directly that Summit has no intentions of following the set-back ordinance and they are looking for volunteers at this point. Commissioner Dennert wanted to clarify that the landowners' intentions are to go into Assessor's office to ask for reduction in their land values if the pipeline crosses their property due to future development being less and topsoil not being as productive; Kyle replied yes to all of it. Kyle encouraged everyone to talk to their utility providers, people who are unfamiliar with this so they can understand how it will hit your pocketbook and trying to keep the lights on. Representative Perry shared there is a Referendum on SB201 being circulated and needs to be in by July to be referred to the people and be on the November 5th General Election Ballots. Other landowners' encouraged people to visit with your neighbors, stand your line: landowners' will be affected first and the city people will have power to vote but everyone will be affected.

JDC AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Dennert to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the JDC Agreement with the Aberdeen School District that will be in effect from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TOWING SERVICES AGREEMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Towing Services 3-year Agreement with Kirk's Auto & Towing Service. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the April 23, 2024 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the April 23, 2024 Consolidated Equalization Meeting Minutes. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following Claims: Insurance: SD Public Assurance Alliance \$103.25. Professional Fees: Aberdeen ED \$399.91; Avera Medical Group Radiology \$197.09; Avera St. Luke's Hospital \$68.95; Carrels & Bain Family Dental Care, LLC \$86.38; Den Herder Law Firm \$161.00; Elisa Martinez \$20.00; Emergency Services Marketing Corp, Inc \$5,461.75; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$230.00; Lewis & Clark BHS \$426.00; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$364.04; Lucy Lewno \$90.00; Mark Katterhagen \$30.00; Sara J. Zahn \$120.50; Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center \$583.60; US Bank Visa \$2,879.14; Valerie Larson \$30.00; Yankton County Treasurer \$702.00; Zylstra Investigations \$2,740.00. Publishing: Aberdeen Parks, Recreation and Forestry \$500.00; US Bank Visa \$300.00. Repairs & Maintenance: Ace Refrigeration, LLC \$163.20; Gary's Engine and Repair \$438.88; Jason's Electric Inc \$878.24; Lawson Products, Inc \$120.05; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$187.18; Olson's Pest Technicians \$250.00; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$80.00; Quality Welding, Inc \$372.94; Sign Solutions USA, LLC \$601.04; Superior Jetting, Inc \$4,381.52; These Glass Doktor, LLC \$90.00; US Bank Visa \$433.91. Supplies: Advance Auto Parts \$68.10; Agtegra Cooperative \$94.98; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$307.10; Century Business Products \$282.56; Cole Paper Inc \$1,436.19; Dooley Enterprises, Inc \$2,219.99; Fox Law Firm, PLLC \$3.53; Great Western Tire \$1,833.44; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota

\$325.90; Larson Products, Inc \$1,870.41; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$171.85; Lucy Lewno \$1.75; Marco Technologies, LLC \$117.97; Menards \$91.03; Midstates Group \$76.00; Performance Oil \$1,155.42; Pomp's Tire Service, Inc \$761.28; Pressure Washer Central \$101.20; Pro Ag Supply, Inc \$4.39; Runnings \$53.58; Share Corporation \$570.00; Sign Solutions USA, LLC \$7,847.19; Stan Houston Equipment Company, Inc \$151.27; US Bank Visa \$9,316.96. Travel & Conference: Jennifer Stoddard \$427.54; Jesse Milbrandt \$221.06; Karla Nelson \$427.54; Lynn Heupel \$104.86; Tucker Anderson \$427.54; US Bank Visa \$4,056.97. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$141.40; Montana-Dakota Utilities Co \$63.54; Northwestern Energy \$4,543.62; US Bank Visa \$3,654.89; Verizon Wireless \$3,480.97. Others: SD Dept of Revenue \$3,150.00; WEX Health Inc \$3,000.00. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

- Resignation of Kristin Boeshans, Brown County Museum Curator of Education, FT – effective June 29, 2024. Request to fill.

- Adjusted effective date: Hiring of Nancy Radke as Brown County Fairgrounds Seasonal Worker – effective April 22, 2024.

All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

MALT BEVERAGE & SD FARM WINE LICENSE RENEWALS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to approve the renewal of the following Retail (on/off sale) Malt Beverage and SD Farm Wine Licenses to operate outside of the Municipality: Aberdeen Hockey Association (Brown County Fairgrounds SW 1/4, Sec 1-T123N-R64W – Odde Hockey Building); PZA Inc. DBA Anchors Away Lodge & Resort (Palmer's Richmond Resort SD Lt 1, SD OL 1 Richmond OL 1 & 2); Stacy J. Gossman DBA Annies (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD NW 17-123-63 – Ste. C); Bath Quick Stop (Lot B Weismantel's 1st Subdivision of Lot 1 EX N 12' Jenkins Subdivision Inc. Adj N 12', Lt 1 Jenkins Subdivision E 1/2 of SE 1/4 Section 18-123-62); Stacy J. Gossman DBA Bergyz (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD NW 17-123-63 – Ste. E); Stacy J. Gossman DBA BigZ (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD NW 17-123-63 – Ste. D); Brown County Centennial Village (Brown County Fairgrounds SW 1/4 Sec 1-T123N-R64W – Centennial Village) Motor Sports LLC DBA Brown County Speedway (Brown County Fairgrounds SW 1/4 Sec 1-T123N-R64W – Grandstand); Stacy J. Gossman DBA Caponez (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD NW 17-123-63 – Ste. F); G & T Gaming Inc DBA Dakota Player's Club BC (Lt 1B Gossman 1st ADD (Kessler's OL1) S 1/2 15-123-63 – Ste. 2); G & T Gaming Inc DBA Dakota Player's Club BC (Lt 1B Gossman 1st ADD (Kessler's OL1) S 1/2 15-123-63 – Ste. 3); G & T Gaming Inc DBA Dakota Player's Club BC (Lt 1B Gossman 1st ADD (Kessler's OL1) S 1/2 15-123-63 – Ste. 4); Elm Lake Resort LLC (Lot 1 Elm Lake Resort SE 1/4 8-128-65); ARR LLC DBA Flatland Flyways Lodge (Lodge OL Art Russo OLS in GOV Lt 3 & 4 NW 1-127-62); Moccasin Creek Country Club Inc (Prairiewood Village OL 7, E2, 33-124-63); Parkview Nursery Inc. (Lot 1 Parkview Nursery Addition to Aberdeen in the NE 1/4 Sec 25-T123-R64W); Stacy J. Gossman DBA Ollies (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD – NW 17-123-63 – Ste. B); Jackie Chantal LLC DBA Richmond Oasis (Lot 4 Schaeffer Richmond Lake 2nd Add NW & NE 25-124-65 5 AC); Richmond Pavilion LLC (Richmond Resort Outlot 2, NE 1/4 of Section 25-T124N-R65W); Marge Frohling DBA The Connection (Lots 10-11-12-13 & 14, Block 2 Sec 31-T127-R61); Stacy J. Gossman DBA Tinkaz (Lt 1 Ronnie's Way ADD NW 17-123-63 – Ste. H). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to authorize and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignment against an individual to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve and authorize the Chairman to sign the following Lease Agreements: Doug Kranz for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp Lodge & 1 Dormitory on May

31-June 2, 2024; Carl Perry for lease of the Club House on May 4, 2024 for a Campaign Event. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve the following Travel Requests: Brandon Mills, Sheriff's Office to attend Criminal Interview & Interrogations on July 15-17, 2024 in Pierre, SD; Adelaide Mouna, State's Attorney's Office to attend Mass Fatality Incident Management on April 28 – May 1, 2024 in Rapid City, SD and to attend SD Victim Witness Subcommittee Meeting on May 1-3, 2024 in Deadwood, SD; Josh Lee, Sheriff's Office to attend 2024 Narcotics Officer Conference May 1-3, 2024 in Deadwood, SD. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL LICENSE PERMIT HEARING: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Wiese to authorize advertising public hearing for the following Special Alcohol License Permit: Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce for Business After Hours Event to be held at Budget Furniture, LT1 Budget Furniture – Schumaker SD NW 22-123-63 (Old Schumaker) Brown County, SD on May 21, 2024. (Special License effective July 11, 2024). All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

TOWNSHIP BONDS: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Wiese to approve the following Township Bonds (Treasurer & Clerk): PORTAGE #1 – Mary A. Ewing Thorpe, Tom Stehly; GREENFIELD #2 – Valerie Weisser, Karen Lunzman; FREDERICK #3 – Dennis Walworth, Jill Gisi; ALLISON #4 – Kash Cutler, Pamela Sue Cutler; LANSING #5 – Dixie Clark; ONEOTA #6 – Karla Engelhart, Neil Schaanaman; BRAINARD #7 – Charles Dennert, Diane Bruns; SHELBY #8 – Michael Knecht, William Colby Crawford; NORTH DETROIT #9 – Candi Beck; CLAREMONT #10 – Donald J. Wegleitner, Justin Wegleitner; COLUMBIA #11 – Martin Weismantel, Amy Weismantel; WESTPORT #12 – Bruce Jones, Doug Fjeldheim; CARLISLE #13 – Ashlee Nelson; ORDWAY #14 – Kerry Howell, Mike McHugh; CAMBRIA #15 – Monte McNickle, Brenda Johnson; RIVERSIDE #16 – Steve Simon, Adam Sippel; GROTON #17 – Joyce Walter, Jeff Howard; HENRY #18 – Matt Oswald, Darlene Sass; BATH #19 – David Stahl, Scott Sperry; ABERDEEN #20 – James Kunkle, Heather Basham; MERCIER #21 – Rodney Artz, Daryl Reick; NEW HOPE #22 – Alan Borchar, Kim Schneider; WARNER #23 – Stacie Wiedebush, Robert Seaton; GEM #24 – Loel Schott, Bob Simon; EAST HANSON #25 – Justin Harry, Lynn Miller; GARDEN PRAIRIE #26 – Craig Dunker, Todd Osterman; EAST RONDELL #27 – Carlson Stange, Megan McNeil; PALMYRA #28 – Renee Martin, Greta Thorpe; OSCEOLA #29 – Deborah Kay Witte, Zachary Christopher Sumption; SAVO #30 – Calvin Raisanen, Judy Bretsch; LIBERTY #31 – Todd Lunzman, Janet Elsen; RAVINIA #34 – Anna Wylie, Peggy Salwei; HIGHLAND #35 – Dan Misslitz, Deanna Nelson; FRANKLYN #36 – Chelsea Gappa, Shirley Stein; RICHLAND #37 – Taylor J Sumpston, Cheryl L. Gelling; LINCOLN #39 – Tawney Beifelspacher, Terry Nash; BATES #44 – Kathy Dobberpuhl, Betty Geist; GARLAND #46 – Landon Dennert, Jolynn Podoll; PUTNEY #48 – David LaMee, Mark Thompson; WEST HANSON #49 – Alyssa Lord, Jennifer Dirks; HECLA #50 – Susan Rosendahl, Mary Tisher; PRAIRIEWOOD #53 – Heidi Carrels, Matt Prehn; WEST RONDELL #57 – Jim Fischbach, Allen Ryckman; SOUTH DETROIT #59 – Faye Hoines. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

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

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:36 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$144.87 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23279

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

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NOTICE OF HEARING FOR TEMPORARY SPECIAL EVENT ALCOHOL LICENSE

Notice is hereby given according to SDCL 35-2, a Public Hearing on the following Temporary Special Event Alcohol License Application for Malt Beverage and Wine to be used by Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce will be held on May 21, 2024 in the Chambers of the Brown County Commissioners, in the Courthouse Annex, Brown County, South Dakota, at which time any interested persons wishing to register complaint on their approval may appear.

Aberdeen Area Chamber of Commerce, Aberdeen, SD for Business After Hours to be held at Budget Furniture, LT 1 Budget Furniture - Schumaker SD NW 22-123-63 (Old Schumaker) Brown County, SD. Temporary Special Event Alcohol License effective July 11, 2024.

ATTEST: Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$10.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23280



City of Columbia Council Meeting - May 1, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER - 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL - Cara Dennert, Corey Mitchell, Trevor Meints, Emily Eichler, Scott Meints

Community: Sydney Hanna
Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the posted agenda. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All in favor - motion carried. Corey Mitchell called for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts. Minutes were handed out from the April 3rd meeting. Emily Eichler made a motion to approve the minutes. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers: JVT - fire prevention - 201.91; Web Water - fire prevention - 52.14; Northwestern Energy - electricity - 1807.89; GDI - publication - 238.46; Siegel, Barnett & Schutz - legal fees - 70.00; Jeremy Dosch - April wages - 419.99; Cara Dennert - April wages - 1235.25; Trevor Meints - April wages - 28.00; Runnings - shop supplies - 9.29; Menards - shop supplies - 100.66; B&B Contracting - road blading - 2150.00; GDI - publication - 44.98; Dacotah Bank - shop supplies - 413.91; Stockwell Engineers - 3750.00; SDPAA - insurance - 9123.94
Cara mentioned that the SDPAA bill was not yet received at the time of the agenda being posted. There was also another bill from Menards that changed the amount owed. Trevor Meints made a motion to approve the vouchers as corrected. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORESPONDENCE:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - Summer Rec will not be held this summer - Emily has asked numerous people, and no one is interested in being in charge/organizing. Some of the board members met with The Columbia Foundation regarding questions that they had about the security system cameras that the city applied for grant money to be used in the new parks.

Nuisances - After the community clean up day, there will be a list put together regarding ordinance violations.

Streets - The rain has been doing a number on the roads. We need gravel, but they will probably start with the potholes. Scott is going to canvas the town to see what signage needs replacing.

Parks - Emily is still trying to find someone interested in running Summer Rec.

Lagoon/sewer - The sewer/discharge gate is still frozen shut.

Rubble Site - The city received the solid waste permit from DNAR.

NEW BUSINESS - Scott Meints

took his oath of office as a councilman. There was discussion and appointment on council assignments to head up the following areas: Emily Eichler will cover nuisances, Trevor Meints - streets, Scott Meints - parks, and Jeremy Dosch - lagoon/sewer. Trevor Meints was appointed the President of the Council, replacing Cole Kampa. Sydney Hanna was present representing the Columbia Community Cares and the Improving Community Appearance Committees. She discussed the city web page found at columbia-sd.com. The groups are going to have a Clean Up Day May 18th. The committees have applied for 501C3 status. They are planning on putting a storage box in the park to hold sporting equipment. They also would like to purchase an AED for the baseball field. The committees are also looking to the future having a digital sign in town. They are planning a welcome sign for the north side of town. Finance Officer School is going to be held in Spearfish. Cara will not be attending. Emily was asked to relay some Columbia Fest information from the Social Committee. She asked about a couple street issues. They are planning on having a car show. Corey discussed how parking needs to be more contained to areas like the new firehall area, the Legion parking lot, and the area by Agtegra. Last summer the streets were too crowded with parked cars - not good if there was an emergency. Corey presented some information regarding trading a John Deere mower that is not being used for an ATV that would be very useful in the new parks. It will be a Sourcwell contract - a state bid situation. It will be less than \$8,000 to trade. He will have more solid numbers in future meetings.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Cara presented bank balances. Scott Meints made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.
April 30, 2024 balances: SF - \$73,112.46; SF Money Market - \$150,953.41; GF - \$156,683.31; GF Money Market - \$50,650.88; CD Money Market - \$32,322.97; FIT - \$15078.08; Cash on hand - \$0
Mayor Corey Mitchell declared the meeting adjourned.
Next City Council Meeting - June 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.
Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$46.08 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23281

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$10.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23280

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$10.42 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23280



NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex, on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Kevin & Jean Nelson
Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Kevin and Jean Nelson First Addition to the City of Columbia" in the NE1/4 of Section 29-T125N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (4 4th Avenue NW, Columbia City).
Reason: A Variance for Building Setbacks in a Rural Urban District (RU) to be 20'-0" from the Front Yard property line rather than 25'-0" required and 10'-0" from the Rear Yard property line rather than the 20'-0" required by Brown County Ordinance for a new garage addition.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.
Dated this 8th day of May, 2024
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$14.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23282

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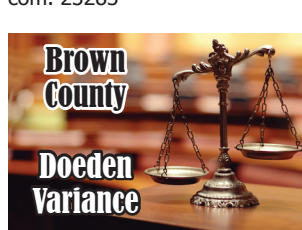


NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Susan Clark
Description of property: Outlot 6, "Derian's Outlots" in the NW1/4 of Section 27-T123N-R64W of the 5th P.M., together with the 3' strip of vacated Derian Drive next South of Outlot 6 & extending easterly to the center line of "A" Street extended South, Brown County, South Dakota (1826 Derian Drive, Aberdeen Twp.).
Reason: The petitioner is requesting a Variance to Building Setbacks in a Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to have a 6' West Rear Yard & 5' South Side Yard Setback rather than the 20' Setback required by Brown County Ordinance.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.
Dated this 8th day of May 2024
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$14.41 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23283

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NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex, on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Chad Lyke for owner Toby Doeden
Description of property: Proposed Lot 2, "Doeden First Addition" in the SE1/4 of Section 24-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (13371 382nd Avenue, Mercier Twp.).
Reason: A Variance for Approach Separation in a Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to be 225'-0" from an existing approach rather than 500'-0" required in Brown County Zoning Ordinances.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.
Dated this 8th day of May 2024
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$12.88 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23284

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$12.88 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23284



NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex, on Tuesday May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Collin & Deb Gengerke
Description of property: Lots 31-34, "Raetzman's Richmond Lake Subdivision" in the NW1/4 of Section 13-T124N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (126383 North Bridge Road, Ravinia Twp.).
Reason: Requesting a Variance to Building Setbacks in a

Lake Front Residential District (R-3) to be 20'-0" minimum at the NW Front Yard Setback to the high water mark rather than 50'-0" as required; to be 10'-0" from the SE Rear Yard Setback to the right-of-way line rather than 30'-0" required in the Brown County Zoning Ordinances.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.

Dated this 8th day of May 2024
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$14.41 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23285



NOTICE OF HEARING Application has been made to the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission for a VARIANCE PETITION. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex, on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner / Owner: Peru LLC-Russ Beadle
Description of property: Yeoman's Outlot 2 and 3 and the South 700' of 50' immediately to the East of and abutting on said Outlots 2 and 3 which is designed as an Access Road in the NE1/4 of Section 27-T124N-R64W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (12849 386th Avenue; Lincoln Twp.).
Reason: A Variance for Building Setbacks in a Highway Commercial District (HC) to be 10'-0" from the Side Yard property line rather than 25'-0" required by Brown County Ordinance for a new office addition.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed variance request.
Dated this 8th day of May, 2024
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$13.80 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23286

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$13.80 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23286



NOTICE OF HEARING A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex, on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Morgan & Jackie Beving
Description of property: Proposed Lot 1, "Beving Addition" in the W1/2 of the NE1/4 of Section 35-T123N-R65W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (37865 135th Street; Mercier Twp.).
Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezoning petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of May 2024.
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$15.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23287



NOTICE OF HEARING A PETITION to REZONE has been submitted to Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission. A hearing will be held in the Basement Community Room of the Brown County Courthouse Annex on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Petitioner: Julie Lillis
Description of property: Proposed Lot 2A, "Jackson and Karlen's Third Subdivision" in the NW1/4 & the N1/2 of the SW1/4 of Section 33-T125N-R62W of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota (12342 396th Avenue; Columbia Twp.).
Reason: Rezone parcel from Agriculture Preservation District (AG-P) to Mini-Agriculture District (M-AG) to bring this parcel into compliance for its current use.

The public is invited to attend the hearing and to present comments and testimony regarding the proposed rezoning petition. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Brown County Planning/Zoning Commission will forward a recommendation to the Board of Brown County Commissioner's with a future meeting date in the Commission Chambers. Verify the meeting dates with the Brown County Auditor.

Dated this 8th day of May 2024.
Planning/Zoning Commission and
Scott Bader - P&Z Director
25 Market Street
Aberdeen, SD 57401
Office: (605) 626-7144
Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$15.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23288

Published May 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$15.02 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23288



NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR VOTER REGISTRATION

Voter registration for the Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024, will close on Monday, May 20, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal at www.sdsos.gov or call the Brown County Auditor's Office at 605-626-7110.

Registration may be completed during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in registration form at www.sdsos.gov.

Any voter who needs assistance, pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, may contact the county auditor for information and special assistance in voter registration.

Lynn Heupel, County Auditor
Brown County, SD
Published May 1 and 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$23.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23230

Published May 1 and 8, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$23.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23230

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19186

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

ALLIANCE INSURANCE COMPANY, INC.

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
1122 NORTH MAIN STREET
MCPHERSON, KS 67460
MAIL ADDRESS:
PO BOX 1401
MCPHERSON, KS 67460

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Alliance Insurance Company, Inc., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Kansas, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19194

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

FARMERS ALLIANCE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
1122 NORTH MAIN STREET
MCPHERSON, KS 67460
MAIL ADDRESS:
PO BOX 1401
MCPHERSON, KS 67460

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Farmers Alliance Mutual Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Kansas, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19224

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

ST. PAUL PROTECTIVE INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the St. Paul Protective Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19038

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19046

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Travelers Casualty Insurance Company of America, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 27 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19062

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

THE AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the The Automobile Insurance Company of Hartford, Connecticut, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 27 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19070

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

THE STANDARD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE TOWER SQUARE
HARTFORD, CT 06183

ASSETS: Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS, LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS, Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards, Policyholders, TOTAL, DIRECT PREMIUMS WRITTEN, DIRECT PREMIUMS EARNED, DIRECT LOSSES PAID, DIRECT LOSSES INCURRED

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Standard Fire Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 26, 27 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER
Director of Insurance

19100

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
AMCO INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
1100 LOCUST STREET
DES MOINES, IA 50391-1100
MAIL ADDRESS:
ONE WEST NATIONALWIDE BLDG 1-99-FIN7
COLUMBUS, OH 43215-2220

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the AMCO Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Iowa, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17, 26, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19222

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201
NORTHBROOK, IL 60062
MAIL ADDRESS:
3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201
NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Allstate Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19240

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
ALLSTATE INDEPENDENT COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201
NORTHBROOK, IL 60062
MAIL ADDRESS:
3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201
NORTHBROOK, IL 60062

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Allstate Indemnity Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19275

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
AMERICAN FAMILY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, S.I.
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY
MADISON, WI 53783
MAIL ADDRESS:
6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY
MADISON, WI 53783

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the American Family Mutual Insurance Company, S.I., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Wisconsin, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 26, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19283

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
AMERICAN STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY OF WISCONSIN
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY
MADISON, WI 53783
MAIL ADDRESS:
6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY
MADISON, WI 53783

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the American Standard Insurance Company of Wisconsin, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Wisconsin, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18, 26, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19399

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
AIU INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
1271 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 37TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304
MAIL ADDRESS:
1271 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 37TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the AIU Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of New York, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23A
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

19429

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
500 WEST MADISON STREET, SUITE 3000
CHICAGO, IL 60661
MAIL ADDRESS:
1271 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 37TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304

ASSETS:

Table with 2 columns: Asset Category, Amount. Rows include Bonds, Stocks, Mortgage Loans on Real Estate, Real Estate Owned, Cash and Bank Deposits, Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums, Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income, Due and Accrued, Other Assets, TOTAL ASSETS.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

Table with 2 columns: Liability Category, Amount. Rows include Reserve for Losses, Reserve for Loss, Adjustment Expenses, Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees), Taxes, Licenses and Fees, (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes), Federal and Foreign Income Taxes, Unearned Premiums, All Other Liabilities, TOTAL LIABILITIES, Special Surplus Funds, Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit, Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus, Unassigned Surplus, Surplus as Regards Policyholders, TOTAL.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE: STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota.

NOW HEREOF, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:

- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

In this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

65242	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT	19445	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
THE LAFAYETTE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	GUARANTY INCOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY	HOMESTEADERS LIFE COMPANY	ILLINOIS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 301 EAST 4TH STREET CINCINNATI, OH 45202 MAIL ADDRESS: 400 BROADWAY CINCINNATI, OH 45202	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 2638 S. SHERWOOD FOREST BLVD., SUITE 200 BATON ROUGE, LA 70816 MAIL ADDRESS: 2638 S. SHERWOOD FOREST BLVD., SUITE 200 BATON ROUGE, LA 70816	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 MAIL ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634 MAIL ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634
ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:
Bonds\$4,406,346,943.00	Bonds\$4,923,688,834.00	Bonds\$3,352,601,454.00	Bonds\$1,197,768,259.00
Stocks\$271,532,710.00	Stocks\$92,241,989.00	Stocks\$7,760,000.00	Stocks\$65,138,270.00
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$791,474,619.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$604,012,598.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$282,285,088.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$97,170,263.00
Real Estate Owned\$4,257,622.00	Real Estate Owned\$4,257,622.00	Real Estate Owned\$9,068,008.00	Real Estate Owned\$4,061,528.00
Policy Loans\$949,131,000.00	Policy Loans\$868,988.00	Policy Loans\$79,587,908.00	Policy Loans\$16,374,207.00
Cash and Bank Deposits\$29,278,254.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$563,894,544.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$5,106,311,602.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$14,198,884.00
Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$62,918,919.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$794,873.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$1,190,671,569.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$25,356,819.00
Investment Income\$68,376,379.00	Investment Income\$57,000,594.00	Investment Income\$35,730,455.00	Investment Income\$13,354,779.00
Due and Accrued Other Assets\$507,835,727.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$495,802,782.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$110,229,371.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$63,935,630.32
TOTAL ASSETS\$7,026,894,551.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$6,742,562,825.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$3,862,379,799.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$1,566,750,858.00
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS
Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$5,543,595,035.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$3,565,935,959.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$3,440,458,689.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$700,877,308.00
Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$206,185.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$0.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$0.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$0.00
Policy and Contract Claims Life\$18,070,029.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$770,889.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$411,699.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$4,659,187.00
Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$647,040.00
Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$579,784.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$1,990,684.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$10,164,588.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$3,682,063.00
Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$3,174,228.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$37,800.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$2,274,032.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$394,693.00
Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES\$1,006,015,753.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$2,774,760,632.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$271,370,580.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$230,940,976.00
Special Surplus Funds\$6,571,641,074.00	Special Surplus Funds\$6,346,495,964.00	Special Surplus Funds\$11,193,824,441.00	Special Surplus Funds\$645,082,757.42
Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$2,500,000.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$64,500,000.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$1,504,813,004.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$3,400,000.00
Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$455,253,537.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$396,066,861.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$193,700,211.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$296,979,518.00
TOTAL\$7,026,894,551.00	TOTAL\$6,742,562,825.00	TOTAL\$3,862,379,799.00	TOTAL\$1,566,750,858.00
BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023
Direct Premiums Received\$1,282,397.00	Direct Premiums Received\$5,170,662.00	Direct Premiums Received\$9,456,632.00	Direct Premiums Received\$4,020,500.04
Direct Losses Paid\$1,505,856.00	Direct Losses Paid\$146,729.00	Direct Losses Paid\$4,782,534.00	Direct Losses Paid\$2,170,034.00
Losses Incurred\$705,157.00	Losses Incurred\$0.00	Losses Incurred\$4,766,201.00	Losses Incurred\$2,204,265.00
Life Insurance in Force\$68,772,289.00	Life Insurance in Force\$8,317,618.00	Life Insurance in Force\$82,116,337.00	Life Insurance in Force\$27,275,306.00
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Lafayette Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Ohio has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Guaranty Income Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Iowa has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Homesteaders Life Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Iowa has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Illinois Mutual Life Insurance Co., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:
NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:
1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal
Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.
LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

64246	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT	64580	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
THE GUARDIAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA	HOMESTEADERS LIFE COMPANY	ILLINOIS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.	UNITED HERITAGE LIFE INSURANCE
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 10 HUDSON YARDS NEW YORK, NY 10001 MAIL ADDRESS: 10 HUDSON YARDS NEW YORK, NY 10001	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 MAIL ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634 MAIL ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 707 EAST UNITED HERITAGE COURT MERIDIAN, ID 83642 MAIL ADDRESS: PO BOX 7777 MERIDIAN, ID 83680
ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:
Bonds\$4,923,688,834.00	Bonds\$3,352,601,454.00	Bonds\$1,197,768,259.00	Bonds\$608,250,447.92
Stocks\$92,241,989.00	Stocks\$7,760,000.00	Stocks\$7,760,000.00	Stocks\$27,811,231.62
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$604,012,598.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$282,285,088.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$97,170,263.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$3,283,423.45
Real Estate Owned\$4,257,622.00	Real Estate Owned\$9,068,008.00	Real Estate Owned\$4,061,528.00	Real Estate Owned\$4,963,006.23
Policy Loans\$949,131,000.00	Policy Loans\$79,587,908.00	Policy Loans\$16,374,207.00	Policy Loans\$4,963,006.23
Cash and Bank Deposits\$29,278,254.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$5,106,311,602.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$14,198,884.00	Cash and Bank Deposits\$1,591,799.65
Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$62,918,919.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$794,873.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$1,190,671,569.00	Deferred and Uncollected Premiums\$435,758.69
Investment Income\$68,376,379.00	Investment Income\$57,000,594.00	Investment Income\$35,730,455.00	Investment Income\$1,488,691.71
Due and Accrued Other Assets\$507,835,727.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$495,802,782.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$110,229,371.00	Due and Accrued Other Assets\$4,218,142,215.00
TOTAL ASSETS\$7,026,894,551.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$6,742,562,825.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$3,862,379,799.00	TOTAL ASSETS\$21,420,677,496.00
LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS	LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS
Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$5,543,595,035.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$3,565,935,959.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$3,440,458,689.00	Reserve for Life Policies & Contracts\$584,659,386.03
Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$206,185.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$0.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$0.00	Reserve for Accident & Health Policies\$2,557,486.46
Policy and Contract Claims Life\$18,070,029.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$770,889.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$411,699.00	Policy and Contract Claims Life\$2,394,770.41
Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$0.00	Accident & Health General Expenses\$308,273.00
Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$579,784.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$1,990,684.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$10,164,588.00	Due or Accrued Taxes, Licenses & Fees\$1,460,697.72
Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$3,174,228.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$37,800.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$2,274,032.00	Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes\$292,626.55
Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00	Due or Accrued All Other Liabilities\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES\$1,006,015,753.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$2,774,760,632.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$271,370,580.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$230,940,976.00
Special Surplus Funds\$6,571,641,074.00	Special Surplus Funds\$6,346,495,964.00	Special Surplus Funds\$11,193,824,441.00	Special Surplus Funds\$645,082,757.42
Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$2,500,000.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$64,500,000.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$1,504,813,004.00	Capital Paid Up Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus\$3,400,000.00
Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$455,253,537.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$396,066,861.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$193,700,211.00	Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Policyholders\$296,979,518.00
TOTAL\$7,026,894,551.00	TOTAL\$6,742,562,825.00	TOTAL\$3,862,379,799.00	TOTAL\$1,566,750,858.00
BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023
Direct Premiums Received\$1,282,397.00	Direct Premiums Received\$5,170,662.00	Direct Premiums Received\$9,456,632.00	Direct Premiums Received\$4,020,500.04
Direct Losses Paid\$1,505,856.00	Direct Losses Paid\$146,729.00	Direct Losses Paid\$4,782,534.00	Direct Losses Paid\$2,170,034.00
Losses Incurred\$705,157.00	Losses Incurred\$0.00	Losses Incurred\$4,766,201.00	Losses Incurred\$2,204,265.00
Life Insurance in Force\$68,772,289.00	Life Insurance in Force\$8,317,618.00	Life Insurance in Force\$82,116,337.00	Life Insurance in Force\$27,275,306.00
STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE	DIVISION OF INSURANCE I STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE
COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Lafayette Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Ohio has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Guaranty Income Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Iowa has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Homesteaders Life Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Iowa has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:	COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Illinois Mutual Life Insurance Co., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:
NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:	NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below:
1, 2	1, 2	1, 2	1, 2
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal	1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property Damage; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal
Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.	Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or withdrawn.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.	IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.
LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance	LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

64246	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT	64580	FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023	YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
THE GUARDIAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA	HOMESTEADERS LIFE COMPANY	ILLINOIS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.	UNITED HERITAGE LIFE INSURANCE
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 10 HUDSON YARDS NEW YORK, NY 10001 MAIL ADDRESS: 10 HUDSON YARDS NEW YORK, NY 10001	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 MAIL ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634 MAIL ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634	HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 707 EAST UNITED HERITAGE COURT MERIDIAN, ID 83642 MAIL ADDRESS: PO BOX 7777 MERIDIAN, ID 83680
ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:	ASSETS:
Bonds\$4,923,688,834.00	Bonds\$3,352,601,454.00	Bonds\$1,197,768,259.00	Bonds\$608,250,447.92
Stocks\$92,241,989.00	Stocks\$7,760,000.00	Stocks\$7,760,000.00	Stocks\$27,811,231.62
Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$604,012,598.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$282,285,088.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$97,170,263.00	Mortgage Loans on Real Estate\$3,283,423.45
Real Estate Owned\$4,257,622.00	Real Estate Owned\$9,068,008.00	Real Estate Owned\$4,061,	

Colby Dunker Drives In 6 To Lead Groton Area Tigers Varsity Past Rebels

Colby Dunker drove in six runs on two hits to lead Groton Area Tigers Varsity past Rebels 34-1 on Sunday. Dunker hit a home run to left field on the first inning, scoring three runs, and doubled in the first inning, scoring two.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity scored 21 runs in the first inning on the way to victory. an error scored one run, Dunker homered to left field, scoring three runs, Karsten Flies drew a walk, scoring one run, Braxton Imrie drew a walk, scoring one run, Brevin Fliehs singled, scoring two runs, an error scored one run, Dunker was struck by a pitch, driving in a run, Logan Ringgenberg singled, scoring one run, Gavin Englund hit a grand slam to center field, Dillon Abeln doubled, scoring three runs, Dunker doubled, scoring two runs, and Englund singled, scoring one run.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity scored nine runs on five hits in the top of the second inning. Lincoln Krause drew a walk, scoring one run, Jarrett Erdmann drew a walk, scoring one run, Englund singled, scoring one run, Nick Groeblichhoff was struck by a pitch, driving in a run, Kellen Antonsen singled, scoring one run, Fliehs was struck by a pitch, driving in a run, Bradin Althoff singled, scoring two runs, and Krause singled, scoring one run.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity added to their early lead in the top of the third inning after Fliehs singled, Rebels committed an error, Althoff hit into a fielder's choice, and Erdmann singled, each scoring one run.

Fliehs earned the win for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. The right-handed pitcher gave up zero hits and zero runs over one inning, striking out three and walking none. Caden Hojer took the loss for Rebels. They went one inning, allowing 21 runs (six earned) on 10 hits, striking out none and walking eight. Antonsen appeared in relief for Groton Area Tigers Varsity.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity piled up 18 hits in the game. Fliehs, Englund, and Ringgenberg each collected three hits for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. Althoff collected two hits for Groton Area Tigers Varsity in four at bats. Fliehs paced Groton Area Tigers Varsity with three walks.

Overall, the team had patience at the plate, tallying 12 walks for the game. Groton Area Tigers Varsity didn't commit a single error in the field. Nicholas Morris had the most chances in the field with five.

Brennon Bickett went 1-for-1 at the plate as the first baseman led the team with one run batted in.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity Trounce Hamlin Area Varsity

Groton Area Tigers Varsity easily dispatched Hamlin Area Varsity (Castlewood, De Smet, Hamlin) on Sunday, 8-1. Groton Area Tigers Varsity got on the board in the top of the first inning after Bradin Althoff grounded out, and Colby Dunker singled, each scoring one run.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity added to their early lead in the top of the second inning after Dunker hit into a fielder's choice, and Groton Area Tigers Varsity scored on a wild pitch, each scoring one run.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity scored one run in the top of the third on a solo home run to left field by Carter Simon on an 0-2 count.

Gavin Englund stepped on the mound first for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. The righty surrendered six hits and one run over seven innings, striking out nine and walking three. Gavin Maag started on the hill for Hamlin Area Varsity (Castlewood, De Smet, Hamlin). The righty allowed two hits and four runs over two innings, striking out three and walking six.

Dunker provided pop in the middle of the lineup, and led Groton Area Tigers Varsity with two runs batted in. The right-handed hitter went 1-for-3 on the day. Brevin Fliehs, Dunker, Simon, and Englund each collected one hit for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. Fliehs led Groton Area Tigers Varsity with three walks. Overall, the team had a strong eye at the plate, tallying 1 walks for the game. Fliehs stole two bases.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity ran wild on the base paths, accumulating four stolen bases for the game.

Jyler Tharaldsen and Watson Grantham each collected two hits for Hamlin Area Varsity (Castlewood, De Smet, Hamlin). Kelby Hauck led Hamlin Area Varsity (Castlewood, De Smet, Hamlin) with one run batted in. Hamlin Area Varsity (Castlewood, De Smet, Hamlin) were sure-handed in the field and didn't commit a single error. Maag had the most chances in the field with six.

GHS Girls Golf

Guthmiller takes second at Roncalli Golf Meet

Carly Guthmiller took second place at the Aberdeen Roncalli Golf invitational held Thursday in Aberdeen. She was just two strokes behind Roncalli's Claire Crawford. Guthmiller shot an 84 on the day.

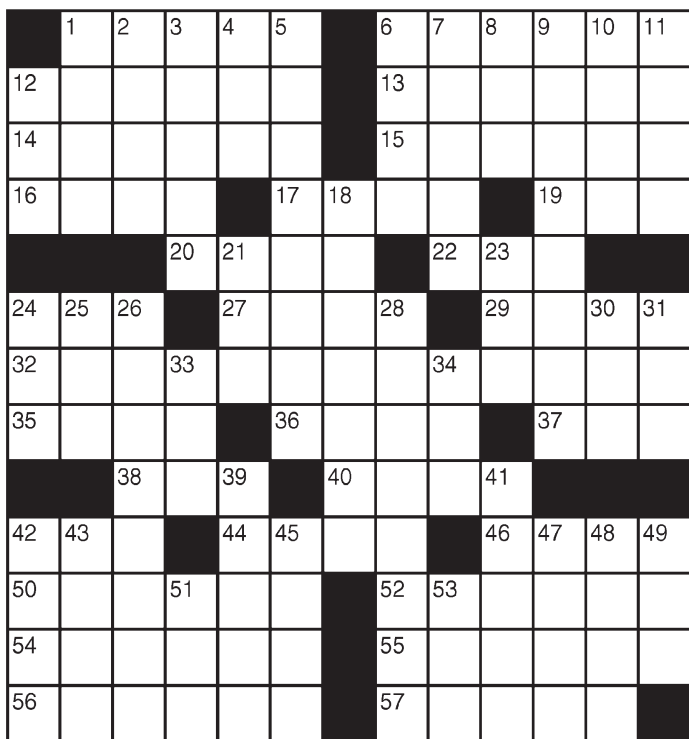
Carlee Johnson placed ninth with a 100, Mia Crank was 12th with a 101, Carly Gilbert was 20th with a 108 and Halle Harder was 23rd with a 113.

Roncalli won the team title with 360 points while Groton Area was second with 393, Mobridge-Pollock was third with 413 followed by Milbank with 446 and Redfield with 533.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Volume-based
- 6 Outcome
- 12 Spud
- 13 Key in again
- 14 Chalkboard accessory
- 15 Vineyard harvest
- 16 Classic soda brand
- 17 "Excuse me ..."
- 19 Tolkien creature
- 20 First lady of scat
- 22 Lith., once
- 24 Six-pack muscles
- 27 "Carmen" solo
- 29 Staffer
- 32 Employer's directive
- 35 Hideaway
- 36 Couturier Christian
- 37 Science guru Bill
- 38 Small tablet
- 40 Iowa city
- 42 Top card
- 44 Hotel chain
- 46 "Casablanca" role
- 50 Tomorrow, in Tijuana
- 52 Witty retort
- 54 Billie Eilish hit song



- 55 Allow
- 56 Small maps
- 57 Indian yogurt dish
- 10 Serving customers
- 11 Try out
- 12 Stock holder
- 18 Hispaniola resident
- 21 Trail the pack
- 23 Cutting tool
- 24 100%
- 25 "Don't — stranger!"
- 26 Allowances
- 28 Perfume dispenser
- 30 Parched
- 31 Scrape (out)
- 33 Span. lady
- 34 Raw mineral
- 39 Dunkable treat
- 41 Egyptian peninsula
- 42 Both (Pref.)
- 43 "Misery" star James
- 45 Baseball legend Willie
- 47 Pride parade initialism
- 48 Actress Ward
- 49 "How — you?"
- 51 Mature
- 53 — jiffy

DOWN

- 1 Apple center
- 2 Beehive State
- 3 Count with an orchestra
- 4 Mineral suffix
- 5 Lipstick shade
- 6 Incite
- 7 Salon jobs
- 8 Depot (Abbr.)
- 9 Father of Helios

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Multimillion dollar waste water improvement project will mean high sewer rates are coming

Sewer utility rates could nearly double in the next year, according to a tentative proposal aimed at funding a multi-million dollar sewer system improvement project.

The council is set to review an initial increase at its next meeting later this month. That rate increase could take effect in June or July.

"Basically, we're doing this because we have to raise the rates," said Councilmember Brian Bahr.

The city can't currently keep up with sewer system demand, said Wastewater Supervisor Dwight Zerr. During Tuesday's meeting, the city was doing an emergency discharge, the second one that has taken place this year.

"We can't keep up right now," he said. "We're trying to find the best way to go about this, but it's not going to be cheap."

"It's been like this for years," he said. "We've been running on it. We definitely have to do something on this. And with talk of the town growing, you're going to need this."

Last week, city staff met with an engineer about what the city needs to improve and grow its waste water system. Though a firm price tag isn't yet available, it could be close to \$5 million, said City Finance Officer Douglas Heinrich.

"That was the number thrown out," Zerr said. "We're not completely sure, but ... you're looking at big numbers."

Heinrich reviewed sewer rates from other similar cities for comparison. Cities like Miller, Crooks and Lawrence charge \$65.20, \$58.55 and \$64.65 respectively per month for their average total bill with surcharges included. That's compared to a minimum total of \$20 that Groton charges.

In order for the South Dakota Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources to assist in funding a project like that, the city would have to charge about \$65 monthly for wastewater services, he said.

The first rate increase proposed would include a \$20 base rate with an additional \$5 per 1,000 gallons on top of the base rate. For a residence using 4,000 gallons, the rate would increase from \$26.50 to \$40.

City Council

Continued from previous page

Though not finalized, other phased-increases would bring the rate to \$50 per month for a residence using 4,000 gallons by June or July 2025.

"This would at least get us to \$50 and at least make that last jump more palatable to the community," Heinrich said.

"You're going to need to get there," he said. "Going there in a slow step is a better step than going there at a sprint."

"...We just know it's going to be big," Heinrich added.

Money made from the increase would be put into a capital outlay account to fund the future improvement project.

There isn't a concrete plan for improvements to the wastewater system, and the city won't have an idea about it until October, said Mayor Scott Hanlon. However, every possibility thus far has included a large price tag.

"We're looking at some substantial money being spent so we can flush our toilets," he said.

An ordinance spelling out the first phase of sewer rate increase is set to go back to the council for the first reading later this month.

Rubble site discussion

Issues were brought up about the city's rubble site.

Public Works Coordinator Terry Herron told the council that a resident from outside the city bought a residential rubble site permit and hauled in truckloads of items including wooden poles and tree trunks, covering the whole south side of the tree pile.

"It makes us get cramped for space with people hauling stuff out there," he said. "And he only pays for a \$30 permit, and he gets to bring that stuff in."

Groton residents or businesses can purchase permits for the rubble site, located south of town. Yearly residential permits are \$10 per load or \$35 per year, while commercial permits are \$20 per load or \$175 per year.

Only certain items are accepted, including trees and branches, wood that is not treated or painted, metal, grass, garden refuse and leaves, and also concrete for an additional charge. Other items may be taken to the Brown County Landfill.

Multiple large loads cause the city to run out of space, and there have been issues cropping up, Herron said.

"I've just seen more and more of it over the last few years," he said.

Council members discussed what could be done to curb the issue in the future.

"Unfortunately, I think the dump is just for the citizens of Groton," said Councilmember Brian Bahr. "It's kind of how it has to be."

The city may have to start limiting permits or start having people pay per load, said Mayor Scott Hanlon.

• Another person has joined the city of Groton staff list. The council approved hiring Jesse Anderson as a full-time public works laborer at \$30 per hour. Councilmember Shirley Wells abstained from the vote.

• The council approved hiring another summer employee. Kyleigh Kroll was hired as gatekeeper at \$11.20 per hour. It is Kroll's first year as gatekeeper.

• The City Council adjourned the 136th council session and convened the 137th session. At the start of the 137th session, councilmembers Brian Bahr (Ward 2), Jon Cutler (Ward 1) and Jason Wambach (Ward 3) recited their oaths of office. The three retained their seats after uncontested races. Kevin Nehls (Ward 1) also recited his oath of office after being appointed for a one-year term. Bahr was elected as president of the council, while Wambach was elected as vice president. The council also approved retaining the 2023 committee assignments, with the exception of one. Bahr will become the new planning and zoning representative.

- Elizabeth Varin

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	U	B	I	C	U	P	S	H	O	T		
P	O	T	A	T	O	R	E	T	T	P	E	
E	R	A	S	E	R	G	R	A	P	E	S	
N	E	H	I	A	H	E	M	E	N	T		
E	L	L	A	S	S	R						
A	B	S	A	R	I	A	A	I	D	E		
L	E	T	S	G	E	T	T	O	W	O	R	K
L	A	I	R	D	I	O	R	N	Y	E		
P	A	D	A	M	E	S						
A	C	E	O	M	N	I	I	L	S	A		
M	A	N	A	N	A	Z	I	N	G	E	R	
B	A	D	G	U	Y	E	N	A	B	L	E	
I	N	S	E	T	S	R	A	I	T	A		

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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



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3. friends
4. pride
5. ill
6. talk

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So smart!

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C A G R Z B J B U Z I C A N D Y P
E (FANCY P E W) O B I K Y D T O
B R A C E L E T T O N I C M M A H
A F K A X J E P F J S A G C H E
P H O N E C A L L S I S A G C H E
D M I X H O W Z W Z J H L V C
N L W O Z W P A S T I L L K Y P T L L O
W B C A R D S F T I G I L L K Y P T L L O
K C Q M W T D C I F T S I L L H E G G O R

The Life of Richard Anderson



Funeral services for Richard Anderson, 88, of Claremont will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at First Presbyterian Church in Groton. Rev. Terry Kenny will officiate. Burial will follow in Union Cemetery, Groton, under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton.

Visitation will be held at the funeral chapel on Monday, May 13th from 5-7 p.m., with a prayer service at 7:00 p.m.

Richard passed away on April 30, 2024, at Bethesda Home of Aberdeen.

Richard was born on June 28, 1935, in Britton, SD, to Raymond and Bessie (Peterson) Anderson. He attended country grade school

and graduated from Claremont High School in 1953. Richie was a farmer from birth and followed his passion for his entire lifetime. He was united in marriage with Dona Mae Cooper on August 1, 1954, in Groton, and together, they were blessed with a daughter, Vickie.

Rich was a member of First Presbyterian Church in Groton. He was a collector of many things, including farm equipment, John Deere tractors, and farm toys. Rich was active in the James Valley Tractor Club and the James Valley Thrashing Association. In his earlier years, he was an avid bowler in both Claremont and Groton. Rich and Dona enjoyed traveling; they took their niece and nephew on two trips each year, creating many wonderful, lasting memories.

Celebrating his life is his daughter, Vickie (Charles) Windham of Belle Fourche, SD; his brother-in-law, Dale (Helen) Cooper of Sun City West, AZ, and their children: Mike Cooper and Bill (Ruth) Cooper, and their grandchildren: Sarah (Brian) Wiles, Kyle (Diana) Duncan, Jenny (Alex) Koons, and Michael (Carly) Cooper; brother-in-law, Glenn (Wendy) Cooper of Groton, SD, and their children: Bonnie Cooper and Charlie (Kelly) Cooper, and their grandchildren: MacKenzie (Matt) Gable and Ava Cooper. Rich is also survived by his extended family, Ricky, Bonnie, Jacob, and Mindy VanderVorst.

Preceding him in death were his parents; his wife in 2008; and his siblings, Miles, Alan, and Loretta.

Casketbearers will be Mike Cooper, Bill Cooper, Charlie Cooper, John Anderson, Mike Frey, and Larry Peterson.

Casual dress/John Deere attire is requested for the services.

Condolences may be directed to Vickie Windham, 11067 Wagon Box Dr., Belle Fourche, SD 57717.

GHS Commencement is Sunday

Groton Area will be having its graduation ceremony on Sunday, May 12, 2 p.m. Next year's commencement ceremony will be held on a Saturday, May 17. D.A.R.E. graduation is set for Tuesday, May 14, 2 p.m.

Seniors graduating this year are: Dillon Abeln, Austin Aberle, Bradin Althoff, Anna Bisbee, Emily Clark, Colby Dunker, Kyleigh Englund, Cadence Feist, Anna Fjeldheim, Faith Flihs, Jackson Garstecki, Carly Guthmiller, Layne Hanson, Claire Heinrich, Braxton Imrie, Shea Jandel, Karsyn Jangula, Abigail Jensen, Jayla Jones, Tristan Kampa, Camryn Kurtz, Sydney Leicht, Elijah Lich, Shaela McGannon, Lydia Meier, Hannah Monson, Lexi Osterman, Michael Powers-Dinger, Kate Profeta, Logan Ringgenberg, Emma Schinkel, Holden Sippel, Ashlyn Sperry, Tyton Stange, Lane Tietz, Bryson Wambach, Ava Wienk, Jacob Zak



Poet is planting trees are the ballfield

Two elm trees provided by Poet-Groton were planted at the Groton Baseball Park for Earth Day. Kelly Schneider, Mary Carrico and Jess Freeland helped get tree # 1 in the ground. Many thanks to Weber Landscaping crew for "actually" digging the holes and planting!!

(Courtesy Photo)

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Primary Election - June 4
Absentee Voting Begins April 19

General Election - Nov 5
Absentee Voting Begins September 20



Poem and Essay Winners

Three local students placed in the District Four Poem and Essay contest sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.

From left to right, they are Arthur Eichler, representing Groton unit, took second place in the fourth grade poem division. Cara Dennert represents the Columbia American Legion Auxiliary. Kaylee Sippel, representing the Columbia unit, placed first in the fourth grade poem division. Hayden Hubbard, representing the Columbia unit, placed second in the Class I Essay division. (Courtesy Photo)

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Class of 2024's Best and Brightest Honored



Claire Heinrich is pictured with Lt. Governor Larry Rhoden at the Annual Academic Excellence Recognition luncheon. (Courtesy Photo)

The Class of 2024's best and brightest students were recognized recently at the 34th Annual Academic Excellence Recognition luncheon.

Governor Kristi Noem's office, Lieutenant Governor Larry Rhoden and the Associated School Boards of South Dakota (ASBSD) honored students who were identified as the top one percent of their senior class, from the state's Public, Private and Tribal/BIE schools on Monday (4/29).

Students designated as their high school's honoree(s) received a certificate, signed by the Governor, a commemorative South Dakota pin and the opportunity to meet and have their photo taken with Lieutenant Governor Rhoden.

"What a privilege it is for me to be here," Lieutenant Governor Rhoden told the seniors. "I want to congratulate each and every one of you."

"It's clear your futures are very bright and preparing for your future is our priority."

ASBSD President Louann Krogman shared the students "epitomize the value of hard work that is ingrained in South Dakotans" which deserved the recognition they were receiving.

"Students, today we celebrate your well-earned accomplishments," Krogman said. "You have worked so hard to reach the academic heights you have and we're thrilled to be able to recognize your achievement."

An achievement ASBSD Executive Director Dr. Douglas R. Wermedal urged students and their supporters to celebrate.

"Please, don't miss celebrating what you've accomplished," Dr. Wermedal told those in attendance. "Make sure you recognize and celebrate your academic excellence and the families who supported you."

High School Spring Concert



The Chamber Choir sang, "Set Me as a Seal" and "Prayer of the Children" at the high school spring concert held Thursday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



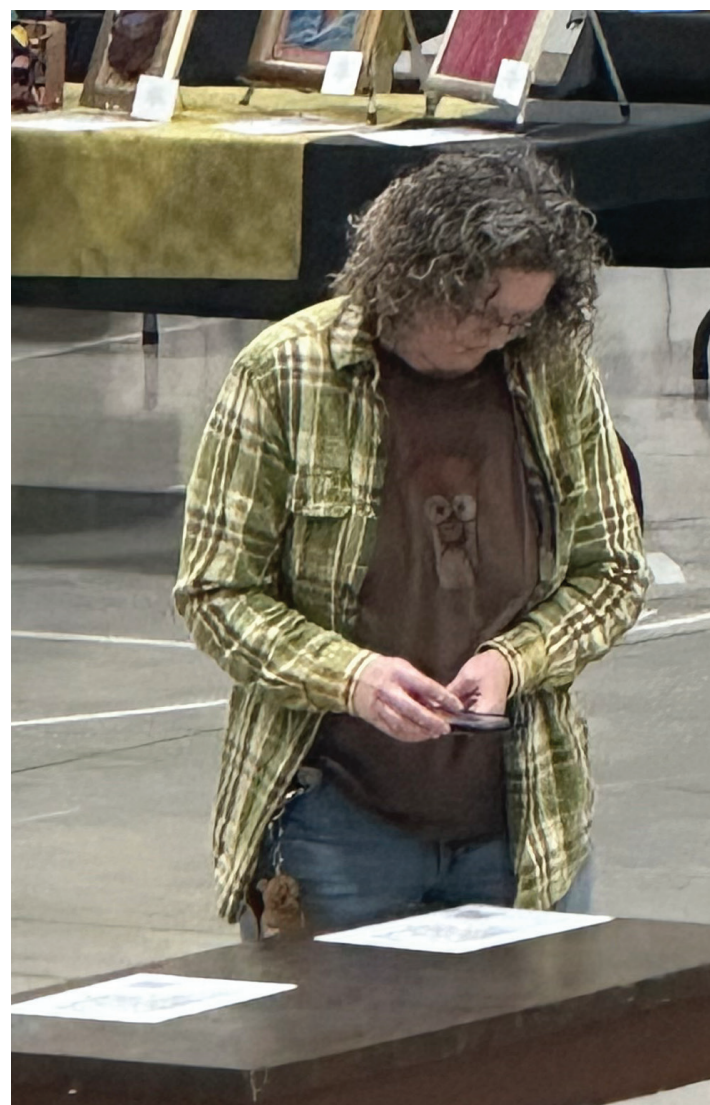
The high school band performed, "Chesford Portrait," "Jersey Boys (Highlights)" and "The Incredibles." (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The high school choir sang, "Bonse Aba," "Riversong," "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel," and "Requiem." (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Emily Clark earned the John Philip Sousa band award at the high school spring concert held Thursday. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Aynissa Poor scans the QR Code to get her program at the high school spring concert. It is a new way for the school to go "green" as fewer programs need to be printed. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Dear EarthTalk: What are the environmental/climate benefits (or drawbacks) of the Inflation Reduction Act?

-- David Montague, via email

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), a bill passed by the Biden Administration in 2022 to bolster the U.S. economy, was especially notable for its unprecedented investments in clean energy and climate health. Setting \$369 billion aside for climate investments, the IRA incentivizes citizens to implement and invest in renewable energy by increasing tax benefits to homes with installed solar panels and battery storage equipment, and by giving substantial funding to clean energy companies. The bill's efforts were predicted to bring \$3 trillion into renewable energy, open up 170,000 new jobs within the industry, and increase the sales of electric vehicles.

Climate analysts initially projected that America's greenhouse gas emissions would be cut roughly 40 percent below 2005 levels by 2030 due to the IRA's funding of clean energy, with an average of 46 to 79 gigawatts of carbon-free energy predicted to be added to America's electrical grid annually. The IRA puts additional priority on making clean energy more affordable for disadvantaged communities and lower-income households by increasing tax benefits for specific areas and families to start establishing clean energy within their communities. Implementing clean energy in disadvantaged communities may assist in mitigating the harmful air pollution in those

areas, and in reducing their carbon footprints. Despite its environmental benefits, the IRA has still allowed the fossil fuel industry to thrive and even expand. The bill was only approved by the U.S. Senate after the Biden Administration agreed to sell a \$200 million lease for oil and gas companies to develop a large plot of land in the Gulf of Mexico, as many senators are investing partners with those companies. In a recent USA Today article on the IRA, reporters Matthew Brown and Michael Phillis stated that "the bill prohibit[s] leasing of federal lands and waters for renewable energy unless the government has offered at least 2 million acres of public land and 60 million acres in federal waters for oil and gas leasing during the prior year." Clean energy improvements notwithstanding, fossil fuels will continue to burn and communities will continue to suffer from environmental hazards if specific legislation to discourage oil and gas development is not passed.

As of now, fossil fuels are reaching record levels of development and usage in the U.S., while only 32 gigawatts of carbon-free energy, a trifling amount in the scheme of things, have been added to the grid per year due to project delays, supply issues and the resistance of local communities. Many supporters of the bill argue that it was right to secure energy security for the American economy



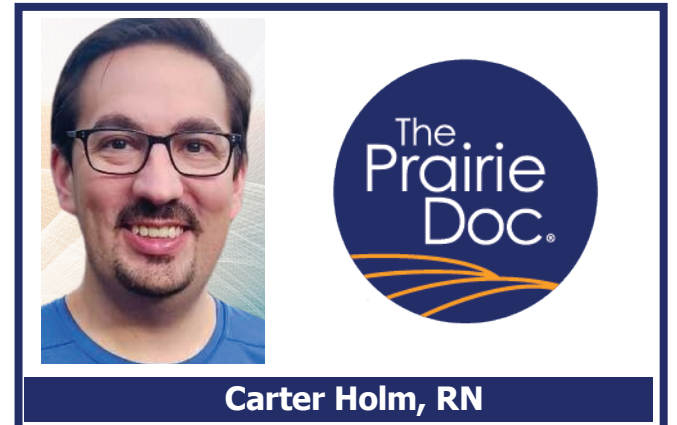
Homeowners can reap increasing tax benefits for installing solar panels thanks to the Inflation Reduction Act. Credit: Pexels.com.

and its citizens via fossil fuels, since the clean energy industry is still developing a greater capacity for energy output. However, it could just as easily be argued that discouraging the continued development of oil and gas could have accelerated the clean energy industry's projects and growth. The IRA is undeniably an economic bill first, and an environmental bill second. But while environmentalists may have their issues with the final outcome, let's remember that the IRA is still the single largest climate bill ever passed in U.S. history.

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>. To donate, visit <https://earthtalk.org>. Send questions to: question@earthtalk.org.

"Learning to Adapt after a stroke"

Working as an RN in inpatient rehab, I am often called upon to care for patients who have had a cerebrovascular accident, or more commonly called a



Carter Holm, RN

stroke. I have observed that every stroke patient experiences a unique combination of symptoms but the one of the most important tasks they accomplish in rehab is learning how to be adaptable.

According to the American Stroke Association, left sided strokes (which affect the right side of the body) cause patients to experience more difficulty with language, both in speech and understanding. Right sided strokes, can cause more behavioral changes that may lead to uncharacteristic impulsivity, and may affect the patient's vision. Based upon the type of stroke, each patient's experience is different and they will have their own set of challenges to overcome as they work towards recovery.

Identifying the challenges is a crucial aspect of stroke rehabilitation. A main focus of the rehab team, for example, is balance and gait. Physical therapy is crucial in recovering strength and coordination in the affected side. If a patient is experiencing weakness to the left or right side of their body, they may require the use of a walker to allow for safe ambulation. Some patients may instead require the use of a cane, quad cane, or hemi-walker. Finding the correct assistive devices is one way stroke patients work to return to some normalcy.

Stroke patients may regain their freedom of movement with the help of an adaptive foot brace, or the use of a specialized cane. They may adapt to using their non-dominant hand for eating or writing. They may learn tools to adapt their speech patterns, or use electrical stimulation of the facial muscles to increase strength, and improve oral function. What all of these things have in common is learning how to change, how to adapt. And while each stroke is different, and symptoms vary from patient to patient, one common thread is that all stroke patients, their families, and friends must learn to adapt. And it isn't just the physical recovery, people must adapt to the emotional and psychological changes as well.

Depression, anxiety, altered moods or sudden mood changes are all common symptoms following a stroke. Often, I have had patients who are so frustrated that they feel like giving up on therapy, even giving up on life. Patients and family members may experience grief: mourning the loss of the person that they were, or that they once knew. Author Delanie Stephenson wrote of her stroke, "While my body and mind were healing, I was learning to be a new person". Just as the body needs time and practice to adapt to the physical changes, the brain also needs time and practice.

Neuroplasticity does not return overnight, and may take months to return to normal. Regaining function requires setting goals, hard work, patience, and most important an acceptance of the need to adapt!

Carter Holm, RN is a Registered Nurse at Avera McKennan in Sioux Falls specializing in inpatient rehabilitation. Holm is a Certified Rehabilitation Registered Nurse and works with patients through their rehabilitation from strokes, brain injuries, spinal cord injuries, and trauma. 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, broadcast on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.



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