The Groton Independent Vol. 141 No. 34 & Groton SD & Wednesday 1879 Wednesday 1879 Wednesday 1879 SD & Wednesday 1879 Wednesday 1879 SD & Wednesday 1879 Wednesday 1879 SD & Wednesday 1879 S

Vol. 141 No. 34 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, May 15, 2024 ♦ Established in 1889



Groton Pool opening next week

The Groton Municipal Swimming Pool is nearly ready for business already! The pool is filled and the boiler to the pool should be operational by Thursday, May 16th. Sign-up for swimming lessons and the selling of season passes will be done on Sunday, May 19th from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and on Monday, May 20th, from 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. The pool is schedule to be open on Wednesday May 22nd. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Preliminary budget, assistant coach resignations

The Groton Area School District Board got a first look at the 2025 fiscal year budget during a more-than-five-hour meeting.

The board met Monday evening, though they didn't adjourn until Tuesday. That came after four hours of executive session discussion related to personnel and contract negotiations.

Within the first hour, though, board members took a look through next year's preliminary budget.

The district will see an increase in its biggest expenses: salary, benefits and health insurance. The preliminary budget shows a four percent increase in those areas, said Business Manager Becky Hubsch.

Elementary salaries totaled \$878,992 in the district's 2023-2024 budget. The preliminary 2024-2025 budget total increases to \$912,962. Elementary employee benefits also rose from \$257,556 (2023-2024) budget) to an estimated \$266,459 (2024-2025 proposed budget).

Middle school salaries totaled \$428,542 in the district's 2023-2024 budget. The preliminary 2024-2025 budget total increases to \$445,324. Middle school employee benefits also rose from \$109,162 (2023-2024 budget) to an estimated \$112,843 (2024-2025 proposed budget).

High School salaries totaled \$718,024 in the district's 2023-2024 budget. The preliminary 2024-2025 budget total increases to \$744,170. High school employee benefits also rose from \$204,279 (2023-2024 budget) to an estimated \$211,076 (2024-2025 proposed budget).

Some adjustments have been made to cut expenses, including reviewing nontechnical supplies, Hubsch said. Morning monitoring and ICU at the middle/high school were also eliminated from the upcoming budget as those services are underutilized.

Upcoming capital outlay expenses include updating the elementary school science curriculum, repair some sidewalks by the high school, middle school room flooring and some computer purchases.

Some increased prices are expected, according to the presented preliminary budget. The cost for having seconds during breakfast and/ or lunch needs to increase. GRASP-OST may also see a rise in cost.

The district is still looking to transfer some money from the capital outlay fund to the general fund. That is because the opt-out of tax limitations that was approved by a vote in April won't be available until the end of the 2024-2025 school year, Hubsch told the board.

More discussion is set to take place through the next few months, but, for now, Hubsch told the board, "you've got your homework."

Two assistant coaches have resigned. The board accepted resignations from assistant basketball coach Kyle Gerlach and assistant volleyball coach Jenna Strom for the 2024-2025 school year. Gerlach, who is also K-12 physical education and health teacher, earned the Boys

Anna Bisbee to Compete for Miss South Dakota Outstanding Teen Title in Brookings

Anna Bisbee will compete in the 77th Annual Miss South Dakota Scholarship Competition May 30th through June 1st at the Oscar Larson Performing Arts Center in Brookings, SD. Bisbee is from Columbia and will graduate from Groton High School this spring. She currently holds the title of Miss Wolf Pack's Outstanding Teen. Bisbee is one of 12 delegates hoping to be crowned the next Miss South Dakota Outstanding Teen and compete in the Miss America's Teen competition in early 2025.

The theme of this year's program is Swingin' Glam with delegates judged on interviews, talent, and red carpet. As part of the competition, each candidate champions a social impact



project. Bisbee's initiative is Support for Children of Law Enforcement Officers which focuses on giving support to the younger children of Law Enforcement Officers. Bisbee's personal impact of being a child of a law enforcement officer helps further her mission to support children to understand their feelings are normal and they are not alone.

Throughout its 77-year history, the Miss South Dakota program has impacted 18,000 young women. Last year, over \$56,000 in scholarships were awarded during the three-day event. The Miss South Dakota Scholarship Program is a means for statewide awareness of the Miss America and Miss America's Teen programs. Their mission is to uphold the four points of the crown: Service, Scholarship, Success, and Style. The Miss South Dakota Outstanding Teen Competition is an official preliminary of the Miss America's Teen Competition, the nation's leading achievement program and the world's largest provider of scholarship assistance to young women.

Participation in this program provides young women with the opportunity to promote a platform of community service and share their talents, intelligence, and positive values while serving as role models in their communities. The program is run entirely by volunteers and is supported by private donations which help the delegates in their pursuit of academic excellence, service, and lifelong success.

Queen of Hearts

The tenth week of the Queen of Hearts drawing was held Thursday night. The jackpot was \$14,765. Ticket sales for the week were \$1,740 with 10 percent of that as a consolation prize. June Thompson got the consolation prize of \$174. Her number was 29 with the eight of spades. The jackpot for the next drawing on May 16th should be around \$17,000.

Graduation advice

For about as long as I've been writing this column, I've been dispensing advice to graduates. I dunno, after taking a look around at the state of the world, I sorta feel responsible. So I hereby rescind my previous advice to fight for your right to party or party like it's 1999.



That's Life by Tony Bender

Something I was right about is anyone can grow up to be president. So there's hope. Sorta.

One thing I don't think I've ever advised graduates to do, is really important. Vote. Vote in every election, every time. And make sure you understand what you're voting for or against. Do your homework—and homework isn't 30-second campaign commercials. Trust me, the guy wearing a flannel shirt standing in a billowing field of wheat probably doesn't know an air seeder from a manure spreader, and in the case of the later, it's ironic.

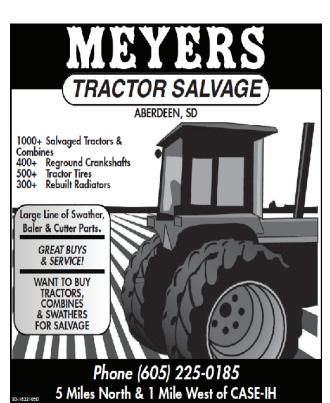
The bottom line is, nothing happens in this country without the expressed will of the people. And when the people are silent, bad things happen. After love, voting is the greatest form of expression ever invented. Followed by music, prose, art and baseball. Vote. Even if you're on the losing side of an issue, that vote sends a signal. Change is a process. Life involves compromise. None of us is so right in our convictions that they can't be improved upon.

I had a brief conversation the other day with a nice young man—he might have been 16—and during a bit of friendly verbal jousting, he said that he was a member of a particular political party. No you're not, kid. You're too busy trying to figure out how you're going to lose your virginity, and if she tells you she's a member of the Green Party, you're going to start dressing like a leprechaun.

Live a little. Experience has a way of hardening or softening our beliefs. Even changing them. Trust the evidence life offers.

Anyway, political parties are a bad idea because both sides always try to define who everyone in the other party is. Lazy socialists. Heartless conservatives. But people are more nuanced than that. Life is more nuanced than that. You can be a fiscal conservative and a social liberal. You can be an atheist and spend your life doing good works. You can be a zealot and leverage your beliefs to justify just about anything.

Be an independent. In doing so, your generation may have a shot at fixing things my generation screwed up. The irony of a Baby Boomer offering this advice is not lost on me. But in my defense, you'll find that the marginal players are sometimes the best coaches.



They've learned from their own mistakes and abuzz. However, before we judge too harshly, shortcomings. We're graduates of the School of Hard Knocks. What you learn is, just about anything can be overcome. You can grow from adversity. Or you can be embittered.

graduates has created, I'm sticking with some of it. It's like trickle-down economics. It'll work if you wait long enough or if you click your ruby slippers three times. One of those.

Here goes... The most important thing is to do something you love. You see, our society has become so materialistic, the goal has become wealth. Shouldn't the goal be happiness? Misguided people spend their lives for decades, with the idea that when they've turnover at the bottom, we already have a amassed enough money, they'll do the things that'll them happy.

what you do, it's not work. If you can, work huge question marks. for yourself. It's about freedom. But before then, when you're working for someone else, do the job so well that when you leave, they really miss you.

Let debt be a tool, not your master. Things have a way of owning you.

Recognize opportunity when it presents itself. Seek out beauty in museums, at concerts, or in your back yard. Plant a tree.

It's an incredible epoch with incredible challenges. Sometimes it may seem overwhelming. Bad news and uncertainty. Then, if you can, and breathe. You'll find things are just fine where you are. In fact, it's glorious.

Believe. Negative thoughts manifest negative outcomes. Think positive. It works.

Now, go get 'em.

© Tony Bender, 2019

Weekly Vikings Roundup By Jordan Wright

The Minnesota Vikings began their rookie minicamp this past week, offering fans their first glimpse of two players who could potentially become cornerstones of the franchise J.J. McCarthy and Dallas Turner.

There is not a ton of information about how well Turner was looking during minicamp. The Vikings released a fancy video that showed him putting his helmet on, stretching, and going through some drills. That was about it. The biggest reason for the lack of information? The media had their sights set on number nine, the highest-drafted quarterback in Vikings' history.

Playing quarterback in the National Football League comes with a lot of scrutiny. Every moment that player is on the field, he will have cameras trained on him. Every step he takes, every pass he throws, and every word he says, will be evaluated and dissected. So it comes as no surprise that when McCarthy threw an interception on his first day, social media was



it's important to understand the context.

Head coach Kevin O'Connell spoke to the media after the practice and offered us a glimpse into what goes on behind closed doors in the Despite the chaos my previous advice to NFL. O'Connell told reporters that he encourages his players, especially young players, to be a little reckless in practice. He said it's important for rookies to take risks because it's the fastest way for them to learn how much different it is to play as a professional versus playing at the collegiate level. So when Mc-Carthy threw an interception, it was all part of the process.

The Vikings' roster currently sits at 90 playchasing wealth, doing something they hate ers, and while there will undoubtedly be some good idea of what that roster will eventually look like when it is whittled down to 53. Taking Live a rich life along the way. When you love a look, it's clear there are a few positions with

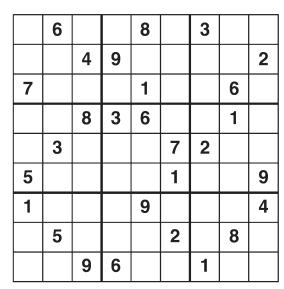
> Left guard might be the biggest area of need for the Vikings heading into the 2024 season, especially since a rookie will more than likely be taking snaps at some point during the season. Understandably, the Vikings couldn't address every need in the draft due to the lack of premium picks, but what baffles me is why the team hasn't re-signed Dalton Risner. While he may not be an elite offensive lineman, he was more than serviceable after he signed mid-season last year.

Defensive tackle is another area that will step out under the stars or into the sunshine need to be addressed before the season starts. The Vikings spent a lot of money to upgrade the defense this offseason, but very little attention was paid to the defensive line. Unfortunately for the Vikings, most of the starting-quality defensive linemen are already off the market. Maybe the Vikings can make a trade. Maybe one of the cheap offseason signings will take a huge step forward this year. Either way, as it sits now, it's a clear weakness.

> Wide receiver might not seem like a huge need, considering the Vikings have the best WR in the NFL, a very good receiver who is entering his second season, and a top-five tight end. However, T.J. Hockenson is coming off a serious injury that could keep him out of the lineup to begin the season. The Vikings need to find a reliable third receiver who can pick up some slack until Hockenson gets back (and in case Jefferson or Addison miss any time). Luckily, unlike defensive line, there are some quality receivers still available in free agency, including Michael Thomas, Hutner Renfrow, Mecole Hardman, and Marquez Valdes-Scantling.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

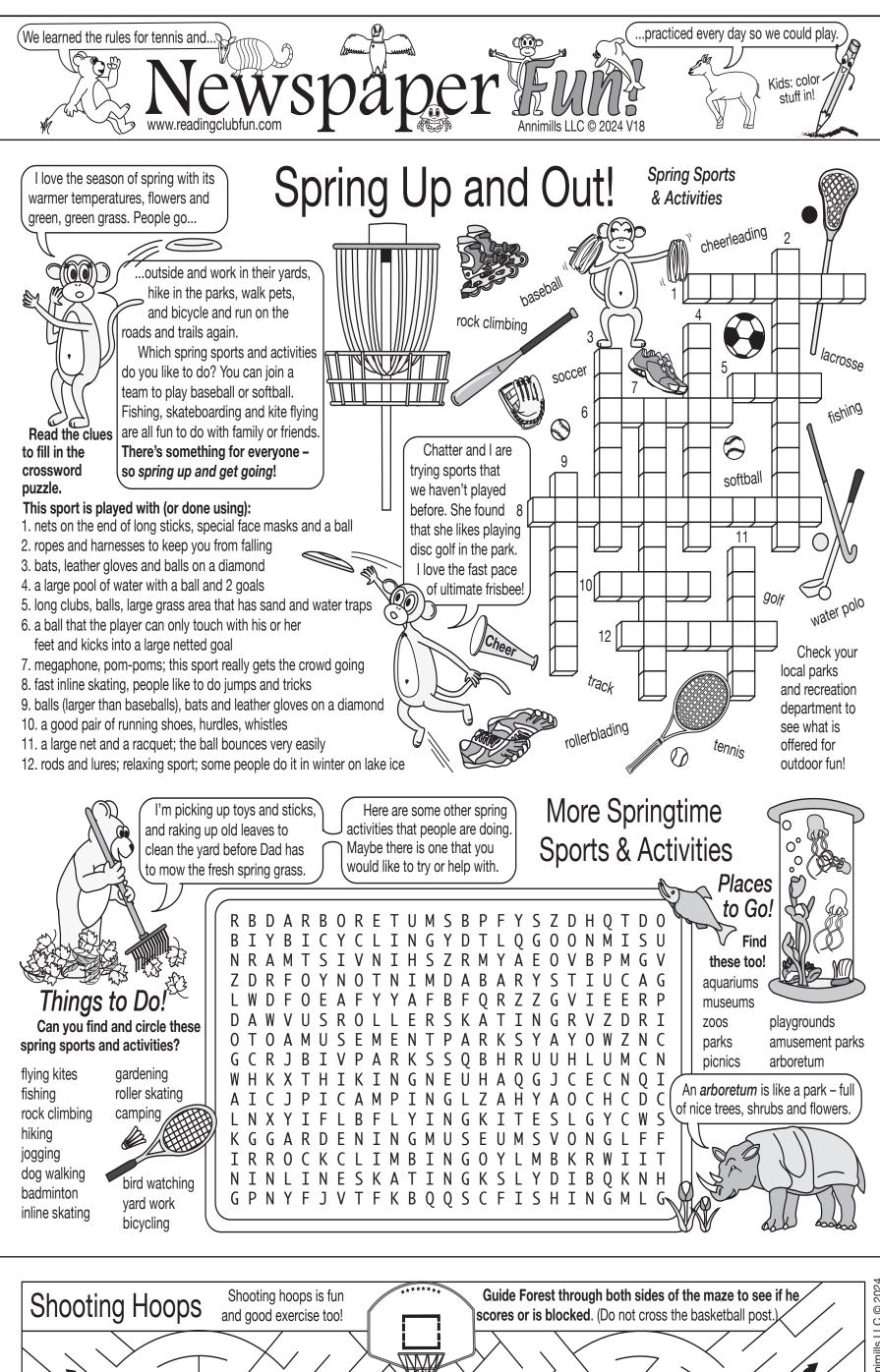


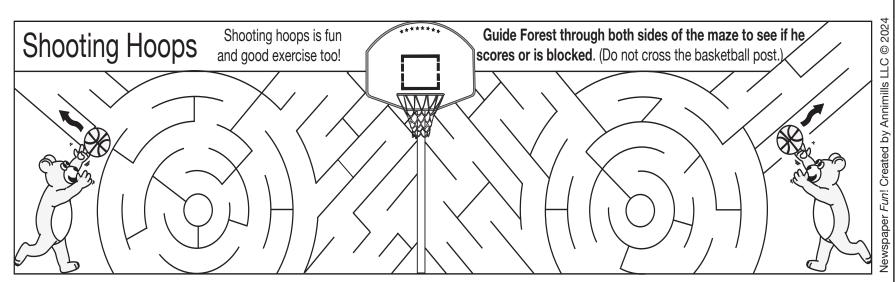
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆ ◆



© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.





The Groton Independent

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

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

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

Deadline to submit items: Noon Monday1 Yearly Subscription Rates are listed below. The Groton Independent (USPS# 230-440) is published weekly with its periodicals postage paid at Groton, SD.

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

© 2024 The Groton Independent



ACCESS TO MANY MORE COMPANIES!

The Groton Independent | Printed & Mailed Weekly Edition | **Subscription Form** All prices listed include 6.5% Sales Tax

☐ Black & White......\$48.99/year ■ Colored \$79.88/year ■ Colored\$42.60/6 months not grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

Mailing Addres: City ____ State, Zip Code

E-mail Phone Number_

> Groton Daily Independent www.397news.com

Subscription Form This option will grant you access to the GDI/Video Archives.

☐ I MOHUH	·ato:ao
□ 3 Months	\$26.63
□ 6 Months	
□ 9 Months	
□ 12 Months	
Name:	Ψ55125

Mailing Addres: State, Zip Code

Phone Number The following will be used for your log-in information.

Pay with Paypal. Type the following into your browser window:

paypal.me/paperpaul



Mail Completed Form to: Groton Independent P.O. Box 34

Groton, SD 57445-0034

or scan and email to paperpaul@grotonsd.net



MAY 7, 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 Wiese led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent wanted to inform the Commission that they are doing milling on Co. Hwy. 14 for Maintenance purposes and will be doing on Co. Hwy. 5, also. Dirk also gave a few more department updates including the process for Bridge Inspections.

District 3 Representative, Carl Perry commented that he recently held an event at the Clubhouse at the Fairgrounds and wanted to Thank Rachel Kippley and her staff on a job well done for them.

QUOTES FOR MOWER - FAIR-GROUNDS: Rachel Kippley, Fair, Fairgrounds and Parks Manager met with the Commission to request purchasing a new mower. Rachel presented the Commission with the following quotes along with what trade value would be for a 2011 Ferris IS3100:

MODEL

Clipper

Boss XL

MyRide

Gravely

Lazer Z

31 HP

Lazer Z

38 HP

35 HP

Kubota

ZD1211L

(Diesel)

Dixie

X-Series -

JD Z970R -

X-Series -

672

Pro-Turn

Toro

WARRANTY

1200 hrs.

5 yrs. or

1500 hrs.

3 yrs. or

1500 hrs

4 yrs.

3 yrs.

DECK

72"

72"

72"

72"

72"

72"

72"

COMPANY

Biegler

Motors

Gary's

Sales

JGE

JGE

RDO

East Side

Equipment

Equipment

Auditor \$335.17; Northern Plains Psychological Associates, LLC \$225.00; Sanford Health Occupational Medicine \$435.00; Schriver's Memorial Mortuary, Inc \$1,800.00; Tyler Technologies, Inc \$1,255.00; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$50.00. Publishing: McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$2,583.40. Rentals: Dakota Electronics \$1,962.80: Linde Gas & Equipment Inc 51.19. Repairs & Maintenance: Åberdeen Åsphalt, Inc \$287.50; Burdette Security & Technologies, LLC \$170.00; Butler Machinery Company \$2,948.41; Crawford M S & F Inc \$209.75 Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$20.43; Dakota Doors Inc \$301.02; Dakota Electronics \$135.00: Diesel Machinery, Inc 1,275.07; Gary's Auto Body & Accessories \$2,511.49; Graham ire Inc \$740.73; Hub City Roofng Inc \$150.00; Ken's Alignment \$105.88: Leidholt Flectric, LLC \$1,571.40; Napa Central \$71.38; North Central Steel Systems, Inc 297,618.00; Precision Kiosk Technologies \$2,700.00; Quality Welding, Inc \$454.12; RDO Equipment Co \$6,885.08; Titan Machinery \$801.02. Supplies: A-1 Locksmithing \$40.00; Agtegra Cooperative \$71,440.95; Amazon Capital Services, Inc \$251.64; Auto Value Aberdeen \$879.55; Bakken Building Maintenance \$500.00; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc \$572.88; Burdette Security & Technologies, LLC \$118.00; Butler Machinery Combany \$2,370.63; Cartney Bearing \$18.06; Century Business Products \$293.31; Cole Paper Inc \$1,770.90; Cook's Correctional \$447.96; Crawford M S & Inc \$727.72; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$2,947.54; Dakota Doors Inc \$150.00: Dakota Fluid

Power, Inc \$1,827.65; Dakota

MSRP

\$17,899

\$16,666

\$16,249

\$19,399

\$20,999

\$20, 569

\$20,999

\$21,000

Supply Group \$76.41; East Side

FINAL

PRICE

\$13,245

\$11,999

\$13,249

\$15,769

\$17,049

\$15,838

\$16,767

\$17,000

LLC \$20,282.72; Lincoln County

\$4,753.89; Elections \$3,993.15; Auditor \$9,850.83; Treasurer

Wiese to approve the following Human Resource Report submitted by Human Resources Director, Allison Tunheim:

Brown County Jail/JDC Nurse, PRN; PT -Temporary - effective

May 3, 2024.

• Hiring of Jackson Marnette as Brown County State's Attorney Intern; wage \$600/week – effective May 6, 2024.

• Transfer of Jeff Seiler from Brown County Highway Truck Driver to Brown County Roads & Bridges Crew Leader; starting wage \$23.50/hr. – effective May 12, 2024.

 Extension of Jennifer Powell as Brown County Jail/JDC Nurse; PRN; PT-Temporary for an additional approximate two-week

his lease agreement.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to go into Execu-

Resignation of Brenda Lyke,

period assignment – effective

TRADE

\$3000

\$3000

response

response

\$2000

No

All members present voting

ALCOHOL USE PERMISSION FORM FOR LEASE: Moved by

Commissioner Fieldheim, sec-

onded by Wiese to approve and

authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Alcohol Use Permission

Form for Carl Perry lease of the

Clubhouse on May 4, 2024. All

members present voting aye.

Commissioner Wiese, seconded

by Gage to approve the following Travel Requests: Marianne

Marttila-Klipfel & Brandon Dux-

bury, Dacotah Prairie Museum

to attend SD Humanities Council

Installation Workshop for the

SPARK! Exhibition Tour on May

14-15, 2024 in Eagle Butte, SD;

Wes Graff, Sheriff's Office to

May 1-3, 2024 in Deadwood, SD.

All members present voting aye.

by Commissioner Dennert, sec-

onded by Wiese to approve and

authorize the Chairman to sign

the following Lease Agreements:

Brown County Sheriff's Office

for lease of the Richmond Lake Youth Camp on June 11, 2024

for Home Detention Field Trip;

Jeff Wolff for lease of the Hog

& Sheep Barn plus Panels & Showring on May 31, 2024 for

a Showmanship Camp; Joel &

Becky Dockter for lease of the Club House on July 13, 2024 for a Wedding. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

CLAIM ASSIGNMENTS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim,

seconded by Wiese to authorize

LEASE AGREEMENTS: Moved

TRAVEL REQUESTS: Moved by

response

No

AVAII ARII ITY

6 weeks

Now

Now

2 weeks

2 weeks

Now

Now

aye. Motion carried.

May 3, 2024.

Motion carried.

Motion carried.

4 weeks

Auditor \$9,850.83; Treasurer
\$17,193.97; SA \$34,663.75;
Maintenance \$11,544.59; As-
sessor \$15,416.25; Register
of Deeds \$10,406.85; VSO
\$4,478.90; GIS \$2,790.90; IT
94,470.30, GIS \$2,730.30, II
9,172.67; HR \$4,960.64; Sheriff
51,791.29; Jail \$68,393.16;
Coroner \$1,107.05; Court Secu-
ity \$8,942.49; JDC \$31,882.43;
Welfare \$2,466.75; Museum
\$13,288.47; Parks/Fairgrounds
6,360.07; Fair Board \$4,336.33;
4-H \$830.80: Weed \$5.217.60:
Planning & Zoning \$7,716.91;
Highway \$51,282.70; Dis-
patch \$34,366.55; Emergen-
cy \$5,208.67; 24/7 Sobriety
\$4,898.02; Landfill \$20,382.18;
Mileage Benefits \$1,149.85;
FICA \$26,683.96; Medicare
6,240.63; Discovery (HSA)
1,739.78; Health Insurance
(Wellmark BCBS) \$125,276.15;
Dental Insurance (Delta)
\$8,343.60; Life Insurance (Dear-
oorn) \$1,055.70. All members
present voting aye. Motion car-
ried.
HR REPORT: Moved by Com-
missioner Dennert, seconded by

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 9:56 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County Auditor

FIREWORKS DISPLAY PER-

MIT: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to

approve and authorize Chairman

Sutton to sign the Fireworks Dis-play Permit for Richmond Lake Association for July 3-4, 2024,

to be held at Edwards Preserve Richmond Lake. Alternate date

due to inclement weather is July

20, 2024. All members present

voting aye. Motion carried. OTHER BUSINESS: District 3 Representative, Carl Perry

commented that Auditor Lynn

Heupel, Dave and the rest of her staff also did an outstanding job with handling the paperwork for

tive 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.

Published May 15, 2024, at ne total approximate cost of \$137.75 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-tices.com. 23290



UNOFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF BOARD OF EDUCATION GROTON AREA SCHOOL DIS-

TRICT NO. 06-6 SPECIAL MEETING

May 7, 2024

President Gengerke called the meeting to order at 6:21p.m. at the Ğroton Area High School Library Conference Room. Members present: Gengerke, Harder, Rix, and Weismantel. Absent: Fliehs, Ler-seth-Fliehs, and Pharis. Others present were Supt. J. Schwan, and Business Manager Hubsch.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to approve the agenda as proposed. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Rix, second by Harder to enter into executive session pursuant SDCL 1-25-2(4) for nego-tiations at 6:21 pm. Motion carried.

The Board came out of executive session at 6:50 pm.

Moved by Weismantel, second Rix to adjourn at 6:50 pm. Motion carried.

Becky Hubsch, Business Manorah Gengerke, President

The addition of signatures to this page verifies these minutes

Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$12.61 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno-tices.com. 23291



NOTICE OF 67th ANNUAL **MEETING**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN. that the 67th Annual Meeting of the members of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company will be held at the Groton High School Arena in Groton, South Dakota on Thursday, May 30, 2024, at 12:30pm, with registration and lunch beginning at 11:30am.

The meeting is called pursuant to the cooperative's bylaws for the following purposes: 1. To receive and act upon

reports of the officers and management of the cooperative for ne previous year's operations.

2. To elect two directors for terms of three years.
3. To act upon any other busi-

ness that may properly come efore the meeting.

By order of the Board of Directors. Dated: 1/29/2024

tices.com. 23292

Roger Zastrow, Secretary Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$10.75 and may be viewed free

of charge at www.sdpublicno-

605/397-2311 www.grotonford.com

Equipment Excaliber After some discussion, Rachel recommended either going with Gary's Engine or Nelson Sales, preference being Nelson Sales. Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, if funds are available to approve purchasing the mower from Nelson Sales for \$13,249.00, seconded by Dennert. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CDBG) - DRAW-DOWN REQUEST #6: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Gage to approve and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the Drawdown Request #6 for a total of \$204,450.96. All members present voting aye. Motion

Commissioner Wiese commented that the YDC will be hosting an Open House this Thursday (May 9th) from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. so people can see the new and updated facility.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Wiese, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the April 30, 2024 General Meeting Minutes. All members present voting ave. Motion carried.

CLAIMS/PAYROLL: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Wiese to approve the following claims/payroll: CLAIMS: Professional Fees: Blackburn & Stevens, Prof. LLC \$161.00; Brick's TV and Appliance \$2,880.00; Certified Languages International LLC \$826.65; Helms & Associates \$12,509.22; Horizon Health Caré, Inc \$134.32; LexisNexis Risk Data Mgt, LLC \$200.00; Liberty Tire Recycling,

Jersey Dairy Inc \$779.53; Fastenal Company \$518.27; Gary's Auto Body & Accessories \$39.00; Hanlon Brothers, LLC \$9,685.93; House of Glass \$38.00; Interstate Battery System of South Dakota \$292.90; Intoximeters \$650.00; Jasper Weller LLC \$3,078.94; Jill Crosby 51.55; Karen Swank \$40.00; Ken's Alignment \$18.00; L. G. Everist, Inc \$9,635.42; Leidholdt Tool Sales, LLC \$222.40; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$254.68; Makendra Ochsner \$100.00; Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc \$439.66; Matthew Bender & Co., Inc \$98.08; Menards \$309.30; Napa Central \$85.05: Nelson Sales & Service, LLC \$19.12: Pantorium Cleaners \$92.00; Pauer Sound, LLC 00.00; Performance Oil \$60.10; Pro Ag Supply, Inc \$65.32; RDO Equipment Co \$2,607.97; Runnings \$689.06; Safe Life Defense \$651.60; South Dakota Law Review \$35.00; Terri Hagman \$3,000.00; Thomson Reuters-West Payment Center \$3,846.08; Totally Tubular Mfg., Inc \$15.31; Tri-State Water \$35.00; TrueNorth Steel \$3,294.60; US Foods \$9,408.19. Trável & Conference: Pat Wolberg \$696.15; SDAAO-SD Assoc of Assessing Officers \$1,620.00. Utilities: AT&T Mobility \$43.23; CenturyLink \$304.63; City of Aberdeen Treasurer \$1,326.78; Midcontinent Communications \$327.44; Northwestern Energy \$10,372.16; Town of Frederick \$77.00; WEB Water Develop-

ment Association, Inc \$172.26. PAYROLL: Commission

and approve the Auditor sign the Claim Assignment against an in-dividual to Credit Collections Bureau for the purpose of collecting liens. All members present voting aye. Motion carried. LANDFILL TONNAGE REPORT:

Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Dennert to acknowledge the Landfill Tonnage Report for April 2024. All members present voting aye. Motion



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

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT The Groton City Council on the 21st day of May, 2024 at 7:00pm at the Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street, Groton, South Dakota will meet in regular session to consider a special event alcoholic beverage license for Amateur Baseball Games at 411 W 3rd Avenue in the City of Groton, South Dakota on the following dates: 6/9/24, 6/23/24, 7/7/24, & 7/24/24.

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

Dated at Groton, South Dakota this 13th day of May, 2024. Douglas Heinrich, Groton City Finance Officer

Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$8.89 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 23293



May 7, 2024

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

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Bahr to approve the agenda with no changes or additions. All members present voted ave. Public comments were wel-

comed pursuant to SDCL 1-25-1, but none were received. The minutes from the previous

meeting were approved on a motion by Wells and seconded by Wambach. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and seconded by Cutler to adjourn the 136th City Council. All members present voted aye.

The 137th City Council was convened on a motion by Wells and seconded by Babcock. All members present voted aye. Mayor Hanlon appointed Kevin Nehls as Ward 1 Councilperson for a term of one (1) year. Mayor Hanlon administered the Oath of Office to Jason Wambach, Brian Bahr, Kevin Nehls, and Jonathan

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Nehls to elect Brian Bahr as City Council President. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wells to elect Jason Wambach as City Council Vice President. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Cutler and seconded by Wambach to retain the same committee representative list and officers as 2023, with the exception of Bahr replacing Cutler as Planning and Zoning Representative. All members present voted aye. The committee representative list is as tollows

2024 Committee Representa-NECOG Representative: Bab-

cock Planning & Zoning Represen-

tative: Bahr Committees: Chairman, Co-Chairman

Electric, Transit, Insect & Weed Control, Airport: Cutler, Wells

Water, Swimming Pool, Skating, Economic Development: Babcock, Nehls

Streets, Baseball, Storm Drainage, Other Rec (Tennis, Basketball, Golf): Wambach,

Wastewater, Cemetery, Civil Defense, Community Center: Wells, Nehls

Finance Office, Legal, Library, Insurance, General Admin, Elections, Code Enforcement: Wamback, Babcock

Solid Waste, Rubble Site, Parks, Forestry, Liquor: Bahr, Cutler

Police: Cutler, Nehls

Drew Johnson was appointed as the City Attorney on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Wells.

All members present voted aye. Moved by Nehls and seconded by Wambach to approve bills at each meeting and authorize the Finance Officer to pay payroll and all monthly bills in a timely manner to avoid penalties and take advantage of discounts. All members present voted aye. Department reports were

reviewed and discussed. Gay exited the meeting

Discussion took place regarding the rubble site.

Discussion took place regarding the upcoming wastewater project and the upcoming rate increase. Discussion also took place regarding drainage in the alley west of Main Street behind the American Legion.

Herron and Zerr exited the

meeting.
The 2023 Annual Report was approved on a motion by Cutler and seconded by Nehls. All members present voted ave.

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

Payroll, \$46,309.19, Employe salaries; Executive, \$17,343.87, ; Administrative, \$4,743.83, ; Public Safety, \$9,897.85, ; Public Works, \$12,525.16, ; Culture & Recreation, \$1,798.48, ; Kellie Locke, \$173.50, Med flex; SD Department of Revenue. \$300.00, 2024-25 Malt Bever age License renewal fees; SD DANR, \$60.00, Water Distribution Level 1 exam fee; Dacotah Bank, \$6,077.43, Withholding/ SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCŰ \$730.00, Employee savings; Dacotah Bank, \$647.90, HSA contributions; Verizon Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - Rubble Site; Douglas Heinrich, \$65.00, Med flev; Sherri Profeta \$65.00. Med flex: Sherri Profeta \$500.00, Family crisis assistance; Dacotah Bank, \$6,106.37, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; AFLAC, \$314.98, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance; Allied Benefit Systems, \$13,438.95, Employee insurance; Reliance Standard Life Insurance, \$82.70, Employee insurance; SD Retirement System, \$11,239.88, Employee retirement: Aberdeen Women's Softball Assoc., \$1,100.00, Women's softball league entry fee; Eco-_ab Pest Elimination, \$112.36 Rubble site rodent control; Cole Papers, Inc., \$242.38, Garbage bags and toilet paper - Baseball Complex; Pipe Detectives, Inc., \$28,095.00, Manhole scanning Wastewater Dept.; Dakota Pump & Control, \$5,451.93, Repairs to RR lift station; SD Department of Health, \$301.00, Water, wastewater testing; SD Federal Property Agency, \$59.00, Boots,

tools, allen wrench set - Mul tiple Depts.; Irby, Inc., \$341.00, Fuses - Electric Dept.; Sanitation Products, Inc., \$657.89, Broom for street sweeper; Douglas Heinrich, \$247.60, Mileage/ Meal reimbursement - Heartland Energy Annual Meeting on 4/18/2024; Employee cell phone reimbursement - Mar/Apr 2024; Metering & Technology Solutions, \$1,092.78, Cellular endpoints - Water Dept.; Farmers Union Co-op Assoc., \$757.71 Fuel for cemetery and ballpark; Anderson Garage Doors, \$350.00, Replacement of spring system w/ chain hoist on hoop barn; Fliehs Sales & Service, \$161.76, New blades for Bobcat mowers - Baseball Complex: SD Supplemental Retirement, \$290.00, Supplemental retire ment; Kromer Company, \$96.81, Line strainer parts - Baseball Complex; Dakota Resources, \$96.48, Mileage reimbursement Groton Development Corp. (3 core meetings); Eide Bailly, LLP, \$16,000.00, Progress billing for 2022 single year audit; NW Energy, \$12.38, Natural gas) dene sure Washer Central, \$24.97, New washer wand and cou-- City Shop; S&S Lumber, \$497.12, Roller covers, painters tape, paint tray, tray liners, brushes, socket adapter, clear silicone, PVC cement, antifreeze, marking paint, batteries, duct tape, rubber gloves, wire brush, female cord end, cable ties, treated lumber - Multiple Depts. Daves Marine, Inc., \$729.00, 6' bench in memory of Doug Ehrenberg (#2); City of Gro-ton, \$1,610.00, 2024 summer recreation change bags - Swimming Pool/Baseball; J's Superior Cleaning, \$200.00, Commercial cleaning services - April 2024; Titan Machinery, \$1,500.00,

Hooks and coupler for pay

loader - Streets; A&B Business Solutions, \$370.62, Printer lease

- City Hall; WAPA, \$21,192.94, Power services - April 2024; WEB Water, \$19,739.39, Water

services - April 2024; Badger Meter, \$2.88, Metering services

Safety, Inc., \$2,571.84, Repairs

to park storm siren; Dennis

"Mike" Olson, \$1,928.63, Code

enforcement services; A-1 Sani-

tation, \$4,078.02, Groton Citywide cleanup; VESTIS (formerly Aramark), \$67.26, Rug rent - City

April 2024; Blue Valley Public

Hall; Darrel's Sinclair, \$45.90, Oil filters for mowers - Cemetery; Drew Johnson, \$1,000.00, Legal services - April 2024; April Abeln, \$40.00, Employee cell phone reimbursement - Mar/Apr 2024; Kellie Locke, \$40.00, Employee cell phone reimbursement -Mar/Apr 2024; Branden Abeln, \$40.00, Employee cell phone reimbursement - Mar/Apr 2024; Paul Kosel, \$40.00, Employee cell phone reimbursement - Mar/Apr . 2024; Landon Johnson, \$40.00, Employee cell phone reimbursement - Mar/Apr 2024; Geffdog Designs, LLC., \$934.00. Hats for baseball - U8/U10/U12/T-Ball/Jr. Teeners; Groton Daily Independent, \$50.22, Publishing fees; SD VFW Baseball, \$60.00, Jr. Teener uniform patches: AutoZone, Inc. \$578.60, Oil, oil filters, diesel exhaust fluid - Multiple Depts. ; Groton Ford, LLC., \$658.55, Mount and balance new tires, new battery - Multiple Depts. Ken's Fair Foods, \$390.71, Fuel purchases, lemonade mix, creamer - Multiple Depts. Heartland Energy, \$40,964.76, Power services - April 2024 Varin exited the meeting.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Cutler to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:31pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 9:35pm.

Moved by Nehls and seconded by Cutler to hire Jesse Anderson as Public Works Laborer at a wage of \$30 per hour. Wells abstained from voting. All remaining members present voted ave.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Babcock to hire Kyleigh Kroll as Gatekeeper. All members present voted ave.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Bahr to adjourn the meeting at 9:40pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor Douglas Heinrich, Finance Officer

Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$82.23 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23294



Town of Westport General

Meeting May 6, 2024

The Town of Westport met on May 6, 2024 with Mitch Wilson, Shane Storm, Larry Schmit, Lyle Podoll, and Deb Schlosser present.

The following bills were presented:

City General

NWPS (\$613.41), Groton Independent (\$14.07), Elan Financial Services (\$634.24), B & B Contracting (\$170.00), Computer CPR (\$99.99), Menards 52,559.88), Eddie's (\$102.50), Runnings Supply, Inc (\$497.91), Menards (\$596.17)

Sewer NWPS (\$65.51), Schmidt Construction, Inc (\$440.00)

Water Public Health Laboratory (\$15.00), WEB (2,009.10), SD Association of Rural Water Systems (\$275.00)

Shane Storm made motion to pay all bills, second by Larry

The following deposits were presented:

City General

State of SD (\$2,337.37), Brown County Collections '08.97), interest (186.98) Sewer

Resident Payments (2,396.62) Water

Resident payments (3,594.93) Old Business:

Larry Schmit motioned, second by Shane Storm to put bids for Town Hall back on the table. Motioned by Shane Storm, second by Larry Schmit to accept bid from Mike Mardian to remodel front of Town Hall to include replacing missing siding. Motioned by Larry Schmit, second by Shane Storm to accept concrete bid from Josh Risty.

New Business:

Lyle Podoll with the North Brown Community Foundation shared with the Board that they have grants available to non=profit organizations in Westport, Barnard and Frederick. The mosquito grant has been submitted to the State

Meeting dismissed 7:30 p.m. Deb Schlosser, Finance Officer Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$18.76 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23295



TOWN OF WARNER MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 8TH, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Terry Evans, Dave Fair, Gaylon Townsend, Stewart Nelson and Nichol Townsend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Townsend and seconded by Evans to approve the minutes from the April 10th, 2024 meeting. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: MSC Fair/Townsend. Checking: Town \$403,857.32; Water \$97,101.14; Sewer \$175,019.31. CDs: Town \$32,287; Water \$49,533.78; Sewer \$27,952.02.

BILLS APPROVED FOR PAY-MENT: MSC: Fair/Evans.

AGTEGRA (fuel) \$147.36, Amazon (supplies) \$29.72, Gas & Goodies (gas) \$81.13, McDonald's (supplies) \$3.23, Office Max (office supplies credit) -\$26.37, Warner Post Office (lab test postage) \$179.25, USDA (water & sewer loans) \$2083, WEB Water (city water) \$5088.64, Badger Meter (April readings & annual license) \$401.10, Dakota Fluid Power (repairs) \$120.58, Dakota Playground (swing set) \$4762, Dakota Supply Group (supplies) \$74.28, Dependable Sanitation \$2625, Électrical Engineering and Equipment (repairs) \$655.50, Frontier Precision (annual license) \$445, Groton Independent (advertising) \$36.98, Lang's (supplies) \$169.99, Lynn Aman (janitorial) \$75, Midcontinent (phone & internet) \$281.05, Northwestern Energy (electricity) \$2044.32, SD Dept of Rev (Sales Tax) \$200.89, SD Public Health Lab (water test) \$15, Stern (supplies) \$580.51, Town of Warner (Water/Sewer) \$484.27, SD Retirement Fund \$524.04, Payroll Taxes \$1125.31, PAYROLL: Stewart Nelson \$3479.84, Terry Evans \$196.70, Dave Fair \$62.79 Gaylon Townsend \$53.56, Nichol Townsend \$661.25

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NEW BUSINESS:

West Nile Virus Application has been received. To be completed and submitted prior to

Shop repair quote was discussed. Work will be completed as soon as possible.

The City of Warner was awarded the Secretary's Award for Drinking Water Excellence. This is the 22nd consecutive year that the City of Warner public water system and the operations specialists have been recognized for meeting the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act and the state of SD regulations.

Delinguencies: 8 were noted and notices will be posted on doors. Two are already shut off. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

June 12th, 2024 at 7 PM at the Warner Community Center. ADJOURNMENT: There being

no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35PM.

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

Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$25.94 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23296



FASD Building Project Proposal

As the Winter of 2023 drew to a close, the Frederick Area School District embarked on a journey of self-assessment and community engagement. A district-wide survey was conducted, and the feedback provided by the community was resoundingly clear: there was a pressing need for facility improvements within the district.

The cornerstone of this plan revolves around addressing the numerous issues plaquing the original 1908 high school building. Over the years, the historic structure has weathered many storms, both literal and metaphorical. Today, it stands as a testament to the resilience of the community it serves. However, its age is beginning to show, with issues ranging from an uneven floor surface to exterior repairs, drainage slope issues, and essential building components nearing the end of their useful lifespan. Additionally, ADA accessibility needs have become increasingly pressing concerns.

With a keen eye on the future, the School Board has assessed various pathways forward. Among the options considered was the cost of remodeling the existing high school building, which stood at 85% of the expense associated with demolishing it and constructing a new high school addition. Another option was a facility at the Barnard corner on Highway 281 that came with an estimated price tag of \$40 million. However, after careful deliberation, the Board has championed a different vision—one that embraces innovation and progress. The preferred course of action involves demolishing the original high school building and constructing a new addition, while also undertaking significant remodeling efforts to address the existing issues. This ambitious undertaking is estimated to cost approximately \$9,788,561, a figure that reflects the scale and complexity of the project.

Central to the Board's proposal is the idea of creating a modern, functional space that meets the evolving needs of both students and staff. This includes not only addressing the structural deficiencies of the existing building but also implementing upgrades to key amenities such as the kitchen and administrative office areas. By doing so, the district aims to create an environment conducive to learning and growth for generations to come.

One of the key decisions facing the School Board is the inclusion of additional gymnasium space. Recognizing the importance of athletic and extracurricular activities in the holistic development of students, two options have been presented: an

auxiliary size gym and a larger 1000-seat gymnasium. The former would add \$2,960,100 to the project cost, while the latter would come with a price tag of \$5,070,810. These options underscore the Board's commitment to providing students with access to top-tier facilities that support their physical and emotional well-being.

Throughout this process, the School Board has remained steadfast in its commitment to prioritizing the needs and best interests of the students. Every decision, from the selection of building materials to the layout of classroom spaces, has been made with the goal of creating an environment where students can thrive. Moreover, the Board recognizes the importance of transparency and accountability in its decision-making process, inviting questions and feedback from the community.

For those seeking more information or wishing to voice their concerns, Jeff Kosters, the point person for the building project, can be reached at 605-329-2145. Additionally, the topic is slated to be a regular item on the agenda for upcoming meetings. providing further opportunities for discussion and collaboration.

As the Frederick Area School District looks toward the future, it does so with optimism and determination. The proposed building project represents not only a physical transformation but also a symbol of the community's enduring commitment to providing its students with the resources they need to succeed. With careful planning and unwavering dedication, the district is poised to embark on a

new chapter in its storied history. Published May 15, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$42.62 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com, 23297

GIVE US A CALL TODAY!



HARMLESS BAT REMOVAL

BAT-PROOF & CLEAN UP

FULL ATTIC RESTORATION

10-YEAR WARRANTY

thebatguysbatremoval.com 605-736-0904

SPECIALIZING IN QUALITY POST FRAME BUILDINGS



Equestrian Hobby Shops Agricultural Garages And More!

Eastern CO 719-822-3052

402-426-5022 712-600-2410

920-889-0960 **Western Wisconsin** 608-988-6338

Kansas & Missouri 816-858-7040

Commercial

GINGERICH STRUCTURES

www.GingerichStructures.com

Lethargic Light Gray

South Dakota has thousands of homes with aging lead-based paint, older plumbing, and a host of other things that cause lead poisoning in children.

Symptoms include: lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea, irritability and nausea.

If you have kids under the age of 6, get them tested for lead with their pediatrician. Together we'll make SD Lead-Free!







Groton Independent ♦ Wed., May 15, 2024 ♦ 5

1122 NORTH MAIN STREET HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: MCPHERSON, KS 67460 MCPHERSON, KS 67460 MAIL ADDRESS: P0 B0X 1401

\$0.00 .\$29,826,158.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 Cash and Bank Deposits Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned Agents Balances or

....\$204,693.00 ...\$3,404,482.00 .\$34,748,774.00 \$0.00 Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Due and Accrued TOTAL ASSETS

Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income

Due and Accrued

Other Assets TOTAL ASSETS

Cash and Bank Deposits Uncollected Premiums

Real Estate Owned

Mortgage Loans on

Real Estate

\$7,686,245.00 \$797,761.00 \$45,689.00 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees Taxes, Licenses and Fees Adjustment Expenses Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss

\$0.00 \$211,660.00 (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes) Federal and Foreign Income Taxes

..\$12,645,676.00\$498,444.00 ..\$21,885,475.00 \$0.00 \$1,516,466.00 Special Surplus Funds Unearned Premiums Statutory Deposit All Other Liabilities Capital Paid Up or TOTAL LIABILITIES

..\$1,697,380.00 ..\$1,573,358.00 ..\$1,468,083.00 ..\$1,550,933.00 . \$12,863,303.00 .. \$34,748,778.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned. Direct Losses Incurred Direct Losses Paid.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Inc., a has NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the Corporation organized under the Laws of Kansas, Company, WHEREAS, the Alliance Insurance State of South Dakota:

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:

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 & Thett; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 234) Travel Accident Baggage; 238) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines;

Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

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

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

Director of Insurance

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 FARMERS ALLIANCE MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS. 1122 NORTH MAIN STREET MCPHERSON, KS 67460 MAIL ADDRESS:

P0 B0X 1401 MCPHERSON, KS 67460

\$0.00 \$0.00 \$10,390,230.00 nterest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Cash and Bank Deposits. Uncollected Premiums Aortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. **Due and Accrued** Real Estate Other Assets .. \$236,169,239.00 ... \$76,001,052.00 \$0.00 ...\$6,108,365.00 .\$27,421,762.00 \$1,409,134.00\$25,916,215.00 ...\$422,648,811.00 . \$49,623,044.00

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss **FOTAL ASSETS**

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OT

Reserve for Losses.

Reserve for Loss

taxes, licenses and fees) Other Expenses (excluding faxes, Licenses and Fees excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes). Adjustment Expenses Federal and Foreign Income Taxes THER FUNDS\$69,142,320.00 \$0.00 \$110,649,648.00 \$22,276,406.00 \$211,273,918.00 \$1,852,036.00 \$6,980,405.00 \$373,103.00

> taxes, licenses and fees) Other Expenses (excluding Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes).

Adjustment Expenses

\$1,884,178.00 \$97,512,211.00 \$41,462,250.00 \$426,799,485.00 \$250,610.00 Special Surplus Funds Unearned Premiums All Other Liabilities TOTAL LIABILITIES. Capital Paid Up or

\$220,424,858.00 .\$647,224,343.00 Contributed Surplus **Unassigned Surplus** urplus as Regards Statutory Deposit **Gross Paid In and** Policyholders. TOTAL

> \$210,874,891.00 \$211,374,891.00 \$422,648,809.00

Contributed Surplus

Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards

Policyholders.

TOTAL.

BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023 Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned **Direct Losses Incurred Direct Losses Paid**

...\$12,774,234.00 ...\$11,737,421.00 ...\$5,267,803.00 ...\$5,866,146.00

BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023

Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned. **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE**

ual Insurance Company, e Laws of Kansas, has

nsurance Laws of the

complied with all requirements of the I

a Corporation organized under the

State of South Dakota:

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

State of South Dakota: NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of

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-Halt; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annutites; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 238) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than

Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or

PAUL PROTECTIVE INSURANCE COMPANY FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Ŋ.

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

..\$535,099,843.00 \$0.00

.... \$4,992,751.00 \$82,871,471.00 .\$647,224,343.00 \$13,870,048.00

\$230,841,645.00 \$49,174,256.00

\$3,650,363.00 \$2,274,584.00

\$201,201,337.00 ...\$14,772,911.00 \$4,200,000.00

> \$0.00 \$0.00

\$500,000.00

Special Surplus Funds

Capital Paid Up or **FOTAL LIABILITIES**

Statutory Deposit

Gross Paid In and

Unearned Premiums

Income Taxes

All Other Liabilities

Federal and Foreign

\$102,073.00 \$18,683.00 \$0.00 \$3,690.00

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

CAPITOL, PIERRE

STATE OF SOUTH DAI **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE**

Direct Losses Incurred

Direct Losses Paid.

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, the Farmers Alliance Mutual

WHEREAS, the St. Paul Protective Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said

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

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

4) Inland & ation; 6) Bodily Injury

1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensa

Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property

the numbered lines of business listed be

2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 18

Damage (Other than

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

oked, suspended or

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this

Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

Certificate of Authority is otherwise rev

withdrawn.

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

. \$12,767,495,576.00 ...\$4,486,510,169.00

Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Cash and Bank Deposits **Uncollected Premiums** Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. Agents Balances or Due and Accrued Real Estate

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Reserve for Losses. TOTAL ASSETS.

Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees) Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes) Adjustment Expenses Reserve for Loss

Federal and Foreign Unearned Premiums All Other Liabilities Income Taxes

Special Surplus Funds.. Capital Paid Up or Statutory Deposit Gross Paid In and

\$22,327,643,925.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023 Unassigned Surplus** Surplus as Regards Policyholders.

Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY

\$103,323,601.00 \$2,091,712,082.00 \$22,327,643,925.00 \$0.00 \$2,256,024,474.00

\$8,103,337,745.00

\$1,726,185,928.00 \$128,794,836.00

\$79,845,734.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES.

\$8,797,261.00 \$25,000,000.00 Contributed Surplus

Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, the Travelers Casualty and Surety Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

of America, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of the

Company

Insurance

WHEREAS, the Travelers Casualty

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Direct Losses Incurred

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of

Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:

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, 18, 26, 27
1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines;
Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury

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

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:

HARTFORD, CT 06183 ONE TOWER SQUARE MAIL ADDRESS:

ONE TOWER SQUARE HARTFORD, CT 06183

. \$2,033,532,543.00 \$0.00

\$0.00 \$0.00 \$20,363,674.00

\$246,952,997.00

\$18,021,011.00 \tag{116,902,754.00} \tag{22,435,772,978.00} \$1,086,547,742.00 **LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS** Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Uncollected Premiums Real Estate

\$10,706,230.00 \$17,134,087.00 taxes, licenses and fees) Taxes, Licenses and Fees Other Expenses (excluding (excluding Federal and Adjustment Expenses. Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss

Foreign Income Taxes).

\$3,423,014,817.00 \$550,409,016.00 \$14,185,706,553.00

Direct Losses Paid

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is State of South Dakota:

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

Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

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.

Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this

Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

LARRY DEITER

Director of Insurance

BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023 Cash and Bank Deposits. Direct Premiums Written Gross Paid In and Contributed Surplus.. Unearned Premiums .. All Other Liabilities..... Special Surplus Funds. Capital Paid Up or Due and Accrued...
Other Assets...... Federal and Foreign Mortgage Loans on Agents Balances or Statutory Deposit Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Real Estate Owned TOTAL LIABILITIES Income Taxes **Policyholders**. ..\$2,660,159,287.00 .\$5,447,980,825.00

\$958,540.00 ..\$884,519.00 \$229,435.00 \$308,268.00 Direct Losses Incurred

Direct Premiums Earned.

Direct Losses Paid

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; Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Auto): 8 Auro Bodily Iliny; 9) Auro Property and Property Murb Porgery (1) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglay & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable .iability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than the numbered lines of business listed below:

Director of Insurance

LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

TRAVELERS CASUALTY INSURANCE COMPANY OF AMERICA YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 THE AUTOMO BILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

THE STANDARD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: HARTFORD, CT 06183

ONE TOWER SQUARE

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

HARTFORD, CT 06183

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

.. \$1,057,136,018.00

\$3,340,735,957.00 \$516,372,811.00

HARTFORD, CT 06183

ONE TOWER SQUARE MAIL ADDRESS:

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS nterest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Cash and Bank Deposits Uncollected Premiums Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned Agents Balances or Due and Accrued **FOTAL ASSETS** Other Assets \$10,302,204.00 \$73,132,953.00 \$1,279,272,973.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$14,773,004.00 \$123.928.793.00

\$0.00

\$26,248,981.00 \$562,446,990.00

\$5,002,220,455.00 \$1,926,333,727.00 \$30,427,515.00

Adjustment Expenses

\$18,981,009.00 \$14,750,093.00

Foreign Income Taxes)

Federal and Foreign Unearned Premiums

Income Taxes

\$437,821,430.00

Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees) Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Reserve for Losses... Reserve for Loss \$545,263,886.00 \$116,152,983.00 **LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS** Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Other Expenses (excluding Cash and Bank Deposits. Uncollected Premiums Adjustment Expenses Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. Reserve for Losses. Due and Accrued Reserve for Loss TOTAL ASSETS

\$3,306,388.00 \$230,330,565.00 \$65,464,839.00 \$974,484,691.00 \$591,957.00 .. \$98,351,325.00 .\$199,845,000.00 \$6,000,000.00 \$8,593,306.00 \$5,372,724.00 (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes)... taxes, licenses and fees) Taxes, Licenses and Fees Special Surplus Funds Contributed Surplus Federal and Foreign Unearned Premiums All Other Liabilities. Statutory Deposit Capital Paid Up or TOTAL LIABILITIES **Gross Paid In and** Income Taxes \$8,750,274.00 \$458,979,885.00 \$88,982,116.00 \$1,902,558,467.00 \$1,179,593.00 . \$125,632,050.00 . \$400,402,868.00 \$6,000,000.00

. \$813,722,579.00 . \$378,404,251.00

\$3,592,969,857.00 \$2,091,294.00 \$5,000,000.00 \$623,472,070.00 \$778,687,234.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES........ Special Surplus Funds... Capital Paid Up or

All Other Liabilities.

Contributed Surplus

Gross Paid In and

Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards

Unassigned Surplus

Statutory Deposit

...\$304,788,282.00 .\$1,279,272,973.00 \$20,753.00 .. \$11,274.00\$6,329.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Direct Premiums Earned. Direct Premiums Written Direct Losses Incurred Surplus as Regards Direct Losses Paid. **Policyholders**\$533,214,511.00 . \$2,435,772,978.00 ..\$2,322,735.00 ...\$2,553,621.00 ...\$1,972,763.00\$58,014.00

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

of the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is Hartford, Connecticut, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut, has complied with all requirements of NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact WHEREAS, the The Automobile Insurance Company the Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:

4) Inland & 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-Hali; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than Annuities, 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

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-Hali; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable

Annuities, 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 234) Travel Accident Baggage; 238) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024. Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this

, A.D., 2024. LARRY DEITER Director of Insurance

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and LARRY DEITER Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 234) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Director of Insurance Sertificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

6 ♦ Groton Independent ♦ Wed., May 15, 2024

\$758,660.00 \$10,588,177.00 Contributed Surplus Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards **Gross Paid In and** Policyholders.

\$3,652,514.00 \$1,409,250,598.00 \$5,002,220,455.00 \$2,769,719.00 \$877,550.00 \$2,448,640.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned. Direct Losses Incurred Direct Losses Paid... Policyholders...

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

WHEREAS, the The Standard Fire Insurance Company,

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 complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact Corporation organized under the Laws of Connecticut,

Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Thett, 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable 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) 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 26, 27 the numbered lines of business listed below 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

official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

ONE WEST NATIONWIDE BLVD, 1-99-FIN7 FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 20 AMCO INSURANCE COMPANY HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: COLUMBUS, OH 43215-2220 DES MOINES, IA 50391-1100 1100 LOCUST STREET MAIL ADDRESS: , 2023

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS .\$659,647,977.00 \$253,131,325.00 \$195,335,189.00 . \$191,319,431.00 \$18,139,469.00 \$1,722,563.00 .\$0.00 \$0.00

#1,007,002.00	שוו פרו בעסטפט וווגמוופט
₹1 864 052 00	Direct Losses Incurred
\$2,776,244.00	Direct Losses Paid\$2,776,244.00
\$5,355,403.00	Direct Premiums Earned\$5,355,403.00
\$6,628,343.00	Direct Premiums Written\$6,628,343.00
2023	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023
\$659,647,977.00	TOTAL\$659,647,977.00
199,404,376.00	Policyholders\$199,404,376.00
	Surplus as Regards
\$18,917,702.00	Unassigned Surplus\$18,917,702.00
\$177,486,674.00	Contributed Surplus\$177,486,674.00
	Gross Paid In and
\$3,000,000.00	Statutory Deposit\$3,000,000.00
	Capital Paid Up or
\$0.00	Special Surplus Funds
\$460,243,601.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$
452,324,307.00	All Other Liabilities\$452,324,307.00
\$0.00	Unearned Premiums
\$7,919,294.00	Income Taxes\$7,919,294.00
	Federal and Foreign
\$0.00	(es)
	(excluding Federal and
	Taxes, Licenses and Fees
\$0.00	taxes, licenses and fees)
	Other Expenses (excluding
\$0.00	Adjustment Expenses
	Reserve for Loss
\$0.00	Reserve for Losses

\$3,882,000.00

\$0.00

Surplus as Regards Unassigned Surplus Gross Paid In and

Contributed Surplus

..\$96,559,468.00\$520,190.00

\$8,266,481.00

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 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South

laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said ully 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

Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds 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-Hali; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable 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 Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

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

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

Due and Accrued
Other Assets Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Agents Balances or Uncollected Premiums Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Cash and Bank Deposits.. Real Estate Owned. **TOTAL ASSETS**

Direct Premiums Earned. Other Expenses (excluding Other Assets Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Direct Premiums Written Surplus as Regards Unassigned Surplus Gross Paid In and Capital Paid Up or Special Surplus Funds . All Other Liabilities. Unearned Premiums Federal and Foreign Taxes, Licenses and Fees Reserve for Loss Cash and Bank Deposits. Real Estate Owned. Mortgage Loans on TOTAL LIABILITIES. taxes, licenses and fees) Contributed Surplus Statutory Deposit (excluding Federal and Income Taxes Foreign Income Taxes). Adjustment Expenses Due and Accrued Uncollected Premiums. **LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** \$386,859,130.00 ...\$12,907,460,286.00 ...\$8,000,940,500.00 .. \$50,242,732,466.00 ...\$34,222,722,698.00\$2,423,093,821.00 \$0.00 ...\$16,404,795,113.00 .\$62,230,990,455.00 \$62,230,990,455.00 \$11,988,257,289.00 \$23,746,401,080.00 \$3,284,769,264.00 \$2,528,365,790.00 . \$1,536,707,661.00 \$8,786,287,339.00 ...\$10,492,732.00\$7,903,173.00

Direct Losses Incurred. Direct Losses Paid..

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of 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

the numbered lines of business listed below: fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said 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 Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable 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) Liability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than

Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this

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

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

ALLSTATE INDEMNITY COMPANY YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201 HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:

ALLSTATE INSURANCE COMPANY FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201

NORTHBROOK, IL 60062 HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:

3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201

NORTHBROOK, IL 60062 MAIL ADDRESS:

3100 SANDERS ROAD, SUITE 201 NORTHBROOK, IL 60062 NORTHBROOK, IL 60062 MAIL ADDRESS:

\$714,614,240.00

\$261,587,151.00

LINDICITICS, SONT FOS & OTHER TONDS
IUIALASSEISSTIZ,/US,UST.UU
Other Assets\$10,341,702.00
Due and Accrued\$894,195.00
Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income
Uncollected Premiums\$0.00
Agents Balances or
Cash and Bank Deposits\$8,595,564.00
Real Estate Owned\$0.00
Real Estate\$0.00
Mortgage Loans on
Stocks\$0.00
Bonds\$92,876,570.00
ASSEIS:

Agents Balances or Cash and Bank Deposits... Real Estate Owned. Mortgage Loans on

\$332,318,955.00

\$133,386,766. \$876,189,411.00

Statutory Deposit\$4,200,000.00
Capital Paid Up or
Special Surplus Funds\$0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES\$11,428,373.00
All Other Liabilities\$11,086,448.00
Unearned Premiums\$0.00
Income Taxes\$341,925.00
Federal and Foreign
Foreign Income Taxes)\$0.00
(excluding Federal and
Taxes, Licenses and Fees
taxes, licenses and fees)\$0.00
Other Expenses (excluding
Adjustment Expenses\$0.00
Reserve for Loss
Reserve for Losses\$0.00
בואטובווונים, שטתו בטט מ טווובת ו טוועט

\$178,893,951.00

\$374,994,161.00

	Direct Losses Incurred\$257,880.00	Direct Losses Paid\$1,253,820.00	Direct Premiums Earned\$456,928.00	Direct Premiums Written\$703,178.00	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	TOTAL\$112,708,031.00	Policyholders\$101,279,658.00
--	------------------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------	-------------------------------

\$10,696,014.00

. \$5,901,372.00

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

organized under the Laws of Illinois, has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South WHEREAS, the Allstate Indemnity Company, a Corporation **COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY**

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

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

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

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

AMERICAN FAMILY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, S.I.
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY MADISON, WI 53783 MAIL ADDRESS:

6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY MADISON, WI 53783 \$15,739,977,683.00 \$4,944,809,116.00

Reserve for Loss Reserve for Losses... Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income TOTAL ASSETS Due and Accrued ... **Uncollected Premiums** LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS \$29,790,842,754.00 \$4,266,853,124.00 .\$3,366,573,017.00 \$8,348,690,081.00 \$130,734,682.00

\$7,021,546,106.00	Policyholders\$7,021,546,106.00
	Surplus as Regards
\$5,134,896,775.00	Unassigned Surplus
\$1,879,738,092.00	Contributed Surplus \$1,879,738,092.00
	Gross Paid In and
\$3,000,000.00	Statutory Deposit\$3,000,000.00
	Capital Paid Up or
\$3,911,239.00	Special Surplus Funds
22,769,296,648.00	TOTAL LIABILITIES\$22,769,296,648.00
3,950,563,376.00	All Other Liabilities\$3,950,563,376.00
\$7,433,277,099.00	Unearned Premiums\$7,433,277,099.00
\$2,344,367.00	Income Taxes\$2,344,367.00
	Federal and Foreign
\$13,992,530.00	Foreign Income Taxes)\$13,992,530.00
	(excluding Federal and
	Taxes, Licenses and Fees
\$1,453,715,622.00	taxes, licenses and fees)
	Other Expenses (excluding
\$1,566,/13,5/3.00	Adjustment Expenses\$1,566,713,573.00

Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and

Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and

Foreign Income Taxes).

Other Expenses (excluding

Adjustment Expenses

taxes, licenses and fees)

.\$0.00 .\$0.00 .\$0.00

Reserve for Loss Reserve for

taxes, licenses and fees]

Direct Losses Incurred\$34,150,423.00 STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA	Direct Losses Paid\$44,258,082.00	Direct Premiums Earned\$66,890,654.00	Direct Premiums Written	BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023	TOTAL\$29,790,842,754.00
--	-----------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------------	--------------------------

the State of South Dakota: has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of S.I., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Wisconsin WHEREAS, the American Family Mutual Insurance Company, **COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY**

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

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

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

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

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

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

Adjustment Expenses
Other Expenses (excluding Reserve for Losses Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income **TOTAL ASSETS** Reserve for Loss Due and Accrued LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS ..\$135,866,990.00 ..\$403,122,344.00 .\$1,995,055.00 ..\$0.00 \$0.00

Due and Accrued ...
Other Assets
TOTAL ASSETS

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS

\$27,118,006.00 \$128,988,911.00

\$649,034.00

. \$0.00

nterest, Dividends and Real Estate Income

Uncollected Premiums.

Unassigned Surplus . Surplus as Regards Statutory Deposit .. Gross Paid In and TOTAL.. Capital Paid Up or Unearned Premiums Federal and Foreign special Surplus Funds. TOTAL LIABILITIES. All Other Liabilities. Contributed Surplus Income laxes Foreign Income Taxes). \$323,471,370.00 ..\$79,650,974.00 403,122,344.00 \$317,471,370.00 \$3,000,000.00 \$3,000,000.00 \$78,801,250.00 ...\$836,337.00

Direct Losses Incurred Direct Premiums Earned. Direct Premiums Written Direct Losses Paid..... **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA \$947,617.00\$378,501.00 . \$157,077.00 \$847,247.00

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 nsurance Laws of the State of South Dakota:

the numbered lines of business listed below: laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 26, 27

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 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); 7) Property Damage (Other than Auto); 7) Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds

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

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

AMERICAN STANDARD INSURANCE COMPANY OF YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

WISCONSIN

6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY MADISON, WI 53783 6000 AMERICAN PARKWAY HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: MADISON, WI 53783 MAIL ADDRESS:

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Cash and Bank Deposits. Real Estate Owned. **Uncollected Premiums** .\$3,307,837.00 \$3,444,540.00 ..\$0.00

\$13,387.00 ..\$0.00 Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees)....
Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes)..... Unassigned Surplus . Surplus as Regards Policyholders..... Statutory Deposit. Gross Paid In and All Other Liabilities. Unearned Premium Federal and Foreign Capital Paid Up or Special Surplus Funds TOTAL LIABILITIES... Income Taxes Contributed Surplus

Direct Premiums Written
Direct Premiums Earned....
Direct Losses Paid
Direct Losses Incurred STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA ...\$453,520.00\$122.00 ..\$104,747.00 \$506,992.00

> Direct Premiums Earned. Direct Premiums Written

Direct Losses Incurred . Direct Losses Paid.

..\$1,936,528.00 ..\$1,264,767.00\$933,571.00

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Unassigned Surplus . Surplus as Regards

TOTAL.

BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023

Policyholders.

40,088,500.00

128,988,911.00

1,305,353.00

Statutory Deposit . Gross Paid In and

Contributed Surplus

.. \$17,320,615.00 .. \$17,762,385.00

\$5,005,500.00

Capital Paid Up or

special Surplus Funds TOTAL LIABILITIES.

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: fully empowered through its authorized ager the numbered lines of business listed below: 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 23A the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of rough its authorized agents to transact

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-Hali; 18] Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Accident Baggage; 2 Surety; 26) Commerci 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel ing to the Laws thereof, unless this 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds

Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or

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

Director of Insurance

Director of Insurance

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

THE INSURANCE COMPANY OF THE STATE OF

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

\$258,507,922. NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304 ASSETS:

1271 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 37TH FLOOR

MAIL ADDRESS:

NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304

500 WEST MADISON STREET, SUITE 3000 CHICAGO, IL 60661

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: PENNSYLVANIA

Other Assets...... Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Real Estate Owned...... Cash and Bank Deposits.. Mortgage Loans on Agents Balances or Real Estate . Due and Accrued Uncollected Prem ...\$91,558,365.00 .. \$2,675,519.00 ..\$96,727,377.00 \$2,081,249.00 \$412,244.00 .\$0.00

> Cash and Bank Deposits... Real Estate Owned

\$4,580,176.00

.\$0.00

Reserve for Losses
Reserve for Loss
Adjustment Expenses ... LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** \$19,319,383.00 \$77,407,994.00 \$57,795,135.00 \$13,985,059.00 \$96,727,377.00 \$5,627,800.00 \$18,939,151.00 \$274,716.00 \$105,516.00 .\$0.00 .\$0.00 \$0.00

> All Other Liabilities. Unearned Premiums .. Federal and Foreign

...\$88,182,118.00 ..\$88,900,411.00

Income Taxes

..\$718,293.00

\$0.00

. \$0.00

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE** COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

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

the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of

Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds 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) fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact the numbered lines of business listed below: laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Injury 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; _iability (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage (Other than 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18 4) Inland &

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

surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

Director of Insurance LARRY DEITER

\$96,641,695.00

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 301 EAST 4TH STREET CINCINNATI, 0H 45202 , 0H 45202 400 BROADWAY MAIL ADDRESS: CINCINNATI

\$949,131,000.00 ..\$68,376,379.00 .\$507,835,727.00 77,026,894,551.00 .\$4,406,346,943.00\$211,532,710.00 \$791,474,619.00 \$29,278,254.00 \$62,918,919.00 Uncollected Premiums. Cash and Bank Deposits Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. Investment Income Due and Accrued **Deferred and** Real Estate Other Assets TOTAL ASSET

\$5,543,595,035.00 .\$206,185.00 . \$18,070,029.00 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Policy and Contract Claims Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident & Health Policies Reserve for Life Life

\$579,784.00 Accident & Health. General Expenses Due or Accrued

\$0.00 \$1,006,015,753.00 \$6,571,641,014.00 \$2,500,000.00 \$3,174,228.00 Taxes, Licenses & Fees Due or Accrued Special Surplus Funds Federal Income Taxes All Other Liabilities. TOTAL LIABILITIES. Due or Accrued Capital Paid Up

...\$1,282,397.00 ...\$1,505,856.00 \$7,026,894,551.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023 Direct Premiums Received** Direct Losses Paid. Policyholders. Losses Incurred TOTAL

\$705,157.00 STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA **DIVISION OF INSURANCE** Life Insurance in Force

WHEREAS, the The Lafayette Life Insurance Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of Ohio has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

the State of South Dakota:

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 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance

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) Bolie & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Amurities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal 4) Inland & 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines;

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, 1 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

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 GUARANTY INCOME LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT HOME OFFICE ADDRES

2638 S. SHERWOOD FOREST BLVD., SUITE 200

BATON ROUGE, LA 70816

MAIL ADDRESS:

... \$495,802,782.00 \$6,742,562,825.00 \$794,873.00 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Uncollected Premiums Investment Income Due and Accrued Other Assets TOTAL ASSETS

\$0.00 3,565,935,959.00 \$770,889.00 Policy and Contract Claims Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident Accident & Health & Health Policies Reserve for Life

\$2,774,760,632.00 \$6,346,495,964.00 \$0.00 \$1,990,684.00 \$37,800.00 \$64,500,000.00 Special Surplus Funds... Capital Paid Up Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes Licenses & Fees **General Expenses** Due or Accrued TOTAL LIABILITIES Due or Accrued Taxes,

\$5,170,662.00 \$146,729.00 \$8,317,618.00 \$396,066,861.00 742,562,825.00 TA 2023 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKO** Direct Premiums Received. Life Insurance in Force Direct Losses Paid. Policyholders.

APITOL, PIERRE AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE**

WHEREAS, the Guaranty Income Life Insurance Company, Corporation organized under the Laws of lowa has complied with all requirements of the COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF a Corporation organized under the the State of South Dakota:

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

Damage; 10 Auto Physical Damage; 11 Fidelity & Surety; 12 Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hali; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Amulties; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercia; 27) Personal in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended s; 4) Inland & ensation; 6) Bodily) Property Damage ry; 9) Auto Property Ocean Marine; 5) Workmen's Comper Injury Liability (Other than Auto); 7) (Other than Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines;

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

THE GUARDIAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY OF FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: **10 HUDSON YARDS** AMERICA

NEW YORK, NY 10001 MAIL ADDRESS: 10 HUDSON YARDS NEW YORK, NY 10001

..\$7,030,043,204.00\$279,587,908.00\$5,106,311,602.00 ...\$1,190,671,569.00\$546,216,873.00 \$11,605,133,285.00 \$80,266,182,988.00 \$52,093,049,631.00 ..\$1,202,054,095.00 \$1,213,114,821.00 Cash and Bank Deposits. Uncollected Premiums. Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. Investment Income **Due and Accrued** Policy Loans Other Assets

\$4,257,622.00 \$868,988.00 \$563,894,544.00

Cash and Bank Deposits Deferred and

4,923,688,834.00 \$92,241,989.00 \$604,012,599.00

> Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned.

SUITE 200

BATON ROUGE, LA 70816 2638 S. SHERWOOD FOREST BLVD.

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Reserve for Life TOTAL ASSETS.

\$437,504,185.00 \$5,194,793,836.00 \$52,797,789,876.00 Policy and Contract Claims Life Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident Accident & Health & Health Policies

\$11,208,622,373.00 \$71,193,824,441.00 \$1,504,813,004.00 \$0.00 \$1,186,861,240.00 \$33,497,419.00 Due or Accrued
Taxes, Licenses & Fees
Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes Due or Accrued General Expenses TOTAL LIABILITIES.

\$0.00 \$9,072,358,547.00 Special Surplus Funds. Capital Paid Up Contributed Surplus Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards Gross Paid In and **Policyholders**

> \$241,354,451.00 \$90,212,410.00

Contributed Surplus

. \$325,072,668.00 .. \$127,680,869.00

Contributed Surplus

Gross Paid In and

Unassigned Surplus Surplus as Regards

\$455,253,537.00

Unassigned Surplus

Surplus as Regards

\$6,621,122.00 \$6,348,877.00 \$3,087,369.00 \$623,448,506.00 \$80,266,182,988.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Direct Premiums Received. Life Insurance in Force Direct Losses Paid...

Losses Incurred.

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
WHEREAS, the THE GUARDIAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

OF AMERICA, 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 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 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) Bolier & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Cedit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19; Title; 20) Variable Amunities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 234) Travel Accident Baggage; 238) 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.,

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 HOMESTEADERS LIFE COMPANY 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY WEST DES MOINES, 1A 50266 MAIL ADDRESS: 5700 WESTOWN PARKWAY HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:

\$110,229,371.00 \$3,862,379,799.00 \$35,730,455.00 \$19,141,648.00 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Policy Loans Uncollected Premiu Due and Accrued .. Other Assets Investment Income Mortgage Loans or Real Estate Real Estate Own Deferred and TOTAL ASSETS

\$0.00 \$3,440,458,689.00 .\$4,411,699.00

\$10,164,588.00 \$211,370,580.00 \$2,274,032.00 \$3,668,679,588.00 Due or Accrued
Taxes, Licenses & Fees
Due or Accrued Federal Income Taxes Special Surplus Funds Accident & Health All Other Liabilities General Expenses TOTAL LIABILITIES Due or Accrued

\$0.00 \$0.00 \$193,700,211.00 Contributed Surplus **Unassigned Surplus** Surplus as Regards Capital Paid Up

\$3,862,379,799.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Policyholders. TOTAL.

. \$4,782,534.00 \$4,766,201.00 \$82,116,337.00 Direct Losses Paid..

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA Life Insurance in Force

NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions

LARRY DEITER

Director of Insurance

LARRY DEITER

Director of Insurance

WEST DES MOINES, IA 50266 ASSETS:

Reserve for Life

Policy and Contract Claims Life Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident & Health Policies

\$193,700,211.00

Direct Premiums Received.

(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-Hait; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Annutites; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 234) Travel Accident Baggage; 238) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Ball 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

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended

	\$3,352,601,454.00
00.000,092,760,000.00	\$7,760,000.00
3 on	
\$282,285,088.00	\$282,285,088.00
led\$9,068,008.00	\$9,068,008.00
\$1,315,922.00	\$1,315,922.00
71,000	\$44 247 0E2 00

\$9,456,632.00

requirements of the Insurance Laws of the State of South WHEREAS, the Homesteaders Life Company, a Corporation organized under the Laws of lowa has complied with all **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE** Dakota:

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

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

..\$1,197,768,259.00 HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS PEORIA, IL 61634 PEORIA, IL 61634 **ASSETS:** MAIL ADDRESS: 300 SW ADAMS

... \$133,327,849.00 .\$1,566,750,858.00 \$4,061,528.00 \$65,138,270.00 \$97,170,263.00 \$13,354,779.00 \$14,198,884.00 \$25,356,819.00

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Cash and Bank Deposits Uncollected Premiums Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Due and Accrued ...
Other Assets Real Estate Owned. nvestment Income Reserve for Life Deferred and TOTAL ASSETS Policy Loans

Deferred and Real Estate

Mortgage Loans on Real Estate Owned. Investment Income Due and Accrued

Policy Loans Uncollected Premiums

LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS **FOTAL ASSETS**

Reserve for Life

Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident \$700,877,308.00

.\$4,659,187.00 ...\$647,040.00 \$328,570,073.00 \$3,682,063.00 \$394,693.00

Policy and Contract Claims Taxes, Licenses & Fees Federal Income Taxes Special Surplus Funds Accident & Health All Other Liabilities. & Health Policies **FOTAL LIABILITIES** Due or Accrued Due or Accrued Due or Accrued Capital Paid Up ... \$230,940,976.00 .. \$1,269,771,340.00 8 \$0.00 Policy and Contract Claims Life faxes, Licenses & Fees Policies & Contracts Reserve for Accident Accident & Health & Health Policies General Expenses Due or Accrued Due or Accrued

Unassigned Surplus Federal Income Taxes Special Surplus Funds Contributed Surplus All Other Liabilities...
TOTAL LIABILITIES.... Due or Accrued Gross Paid In and Capital Paid Up

Surplus as Regards \$296,979,518.00 \$296.979.518.00 \$1,566,750,858.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Surplus as Regards Unassigned Surplus Policyholders..

\$919,323.00 \$171,686,387.00 **DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE** STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA Life Insurance in Force Direct Losses Paid. osses Incurred.

Corporation organized under the Laws of Illinois has complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of 3 COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY WHEREAS, the Illinois Mutual Life 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 NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance

below:

Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hali; 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 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 & Theff; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) 4) Inland & I) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines;

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.,

in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended

Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

20) Variable Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C)

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023 ILLINOIS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE CO.

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
UNITED HERITAGE LIFE INSURANCE HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 707 EAST UNITED HERITAGE COURT MERIDIAN, ID 83642 MERIDIAN, ID 83680 MAIL ADDRESS: P0 B0X 7777

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
NATIONAL UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF

FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT

1271 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS, 37TH FLOOR NEW YORK, NY 10020-1304

2595 INTERSTATE DRIVE, SUITE

HARRISBURG, PA 17110 HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: PITTSBURGH, PA.

MAIL ADDRESS:

...\$12,405,878,454.00 ..\$2,246,487,481.00\$0.00 Interest, Dividends and Real Estate Income Cash and Bank Deposits Uncollected Premiums Mortgage Loans on Due and Accrued. Real Estate Owned Agents Balances or Reserve for Losses Reserve for Loss TOTAL ASSETS .\$4,963,006.23 ..\$1,591,799.65\$7,488,691.71 .\$63,935,630.32 .\$608,250,447.92\$27,811,231.62 \$726,936,827.42 .\$435,758.69 \$584,659,386.03

\$723,690,635.00 \$1,500,147,944.00 \$130,310,729.00 ... \$4,218,142,215.00 ..\$21,420,677,496.00 \$786,335,929.00 \$15,292,830.00 LIABILITIES, SURPLUS & OTHER FUNDS Adjustment Expenses

...\$4,762,849,451.00 . \$15,912,146,233.00\$452,200,822.00 \$42,728,690.00 \$2,637,859,015.00 \$110,171,211.00 \$4,478,750.00 Other Expenses (excluding taxes, licenses and fees) Taxes, Licenses and Fees (excluding Federal and Foreign Income Taxes) Special Surplus Funds. Capital Paid Up or Federal and Foreign **Unearned Premiums** Statutory Deposit All Other Liabilities Gross Paid In and TOTAL LIABILITIES Income Taxes \$53,409,517.25 ...\$645,082,757.42 ...\$3,400,000.00 ...\$5,000,000.00 \$308,273.00 \$1,460,697.72 \$292,626.55

\$11,330,443.00 \$5,709,351.00 \$10,840,655.00 \$21,420,677,496.00 \$5,508,531,263.00 \$11,451,464.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023** Direct Premiums Written Direct Premiums Earned Direct Losses Incurred Surplus as Regards Policyholders...... Direct Losses Paid ...\$2,170,034.00 \$2,204,265.00 \$27,275,306.00 \$726,936,828.24 .\$4,020,500.04 DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE

\$3,909,878,052.00

Contributed Surplus

\$4,000,000.00

Contributed Surplus

Gross Paid In and

\$81,854,070.82

Policyholders

BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023

Direct Premiums Received

. \$1,790,200.00

Direct Premiums Received.

Direct Losses Paid...

Unassigned Surplus

\$1,141,973,639.00

DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

the State of South Dakota:

the State of South Dakota:

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Life Insurance in Force

the State of South Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named Company is WHEREAS, the NATIONAL UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF PITTSBURGH, Pa., a Corporation organized under the Laws of Pennsylvania, has complied with all requirements of the NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance of fully empowered through its authorized agents to transact COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY Insurance Laws of the State of South Dakota: the numbered lines of business listed below: 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; has 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 complied with all requirements of the Insurance Laws of NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance WHEREAS, the United Heritage Life Insurance, Corporation organized under the Laws of Idaho

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-Half; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Inland & Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds 4 1) Life; 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and Certificate of Authority is otherwise revoked, suspended or in this State according to the Laws thereof, unless this

official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D., 2024.

LARRY DEITER

Director of Insurance

Director of Insurance

LARRY DEITER

and official seal at Pierre, S.D., this 1st day of May, A.D.,

or withdrawn.
IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set

Director of Insurance

(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; ither than Auto); 8) Auto Rodiliv Internation; 4) Inland & ither than Auto); 7) Property Damage STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
KKANSAS CITY LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
3520 BROADWAY
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111-2565
MAIL ADDRESS:
3520 BROADWAY
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111-2565 COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY REAS, the Kansas City Life Insurance Comp \$3,250,491,030.00 BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023 rs, do hereby certify that the s fully empowered through is ansact the numbered lines of the series the this 1st \$11,759,844.00\$781,121,159.00 .\$2,972,866,190.00 \$518,607.00 \$679,453.00 \$154,346,955.00 (\$218,180,528.00) .\$552,684,727.00 ..\$86,625,402.00 ..\$58,041,058.00 \$41,025,001.00 \$454,780,367.00 \$277,624,840.00 .\$21,815,698.00 ..\$4,481,091.00 \$6,266,095.00 o set my hand y of May, A.D., \$3,819,875.00 .\$5,151,862.00 \$895,255.00 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) Fridelity & Surety; 12) Glass; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) Aircraft; 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; 20) Variable Amutities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; 23A) Travel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) Bail Bonds Surety; 26) Commercial; 27) Personal of said laws, do hereby certify that the Company is fully empowered through agents to transact the numbered lines of Policy and Contract Claims
Life FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023

JACKSON NATIONAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS:
1 CORPORATE WAY
LANSING, MI 48951
MAIL ADDRESS:
1 CORPORATE WAY
LANSING, MI 48951
ASSETS: OTAL LIABILITIES. axes, Licenses & Fees Reserve for Accident Reserve for Life STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA
DIVISION OF INSURANCE | STATE CAPITOL, PIERRE NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance , 16, 20, 21 holders \$4,652,621,647.00 \$269,577,110,900.00 \$269,577,110,900.00 **BUSINESS IN SOUTH DAKOTA 2023**Premiums Received \$30,949,683.00 osses Paid \$39,050,419.00 Incurred \$14,769,651.00 urance in Force \$287,411,935.00 COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY Lite insurance Company, le Laws of Michigan has \$720,888.00 \$238,702,347,490.00 \$264,924,489,253.00 \$502,793,870.00 \$13,800,000.00\$585,905,472.00 .\$212,441,042,064.00 ...\$269,577,110,900.00 ant to the provisions at the above named ough its authorized es of business listed ...\$4,631,054,966.00(\$495,027,189.00) ..\$10,278,311,557.00\$226,591,548.00\$4,241,715,886.00 ...\$2,064,327,463.00 .\$760,037,227.00 \$203,084,449.00 \$2,506,082.00 Inland & Damage; 10) , 12) Glass; 13) I Policy and Contract Claims
Life COMPANY'S CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY
WHEREAS, the RiverSource Life Insurance Company reporation organized made. NOW THEREFORE, the undersigned, Director of Insurance 65005
FROM ANNUAL STATEMENT
YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2023
RIVERSOURCE LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
HOME OFFICE ADDRESS: 2) Health; 3) Fire & Allied Lines; 4) Inland & Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Marine; 5) Workmen's Compensation; 6) Bodily Inality (Other than Auto); 7) Property Damage han Auto); 8) Auto Bodily Injury; 9) Auto Property; 10) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 13) Auto Physical Damage; 11) Fidelity & Surety; 13) Burglary & Theft; 14) Boiler & Machinery; 15) 16) Credit; 17) Crop-Hail; 18) Livestock; 19) Title; able Annuities; 21) Variable Life; 22) Reinsurance; bel Accident Baggage; 23B) Pre-Paid Legal; 23C) de Surviva Cat Commence; 11, 71) Borozati 227 AMERIPRISE FINANCIAL CENTER MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55474 \$0.00 \$7,455,265,510.00 \$102,060,314,735.00 \$2,585,017,230.00 \$3,000,000.00 ..\$1,050,731,922.00 ...(\$581,623,039.00) ..\$1,314,850,716.00\$72,173,765.00\$857,623,810.00 ...\$2,121,399,403.00 \$3,064,920,146.00 . \$53,813,934.00 .. \$18,759,801.00 \$31,115,592.00 \$5,636,761.00

Girls are winners in three relay events at Hamlin Track

The Groton Area girls 400m relay team, 800m relay team, 1600m relay team and Sprint Medley Relay Team were all winners at the Hamiln Invitational Track Meet held Monday in Hayti.

Those taking second were Keegen Tracy in the 200m and 400m dash, Blake Pauli in the 800m run, Colby Dunker in the Javelin and Taryn Traphagen in the 400m dash.

Boy's Division

Team Scores: 1. Elkton-Lake Benton 137, 2. Hamlin 107, 3. Viborg-Hurley 93, 4. Ipswich 64, 5. Flandreau 62, 6. Sioux Valley 56, 7. Groton Area 49, 8. Clark/Willow Lake 38.5, 9. Estelline/Hendricks 36, 10. Sisseton 31, 10. Aberdeen Roncalli 31, 12. Florence/Henry 14, 13. Iroquois/Lake Preston 13.5, 14. Wilmot 8

200 Meters: 2. Keegen Tracy, 23.19; 16. Gage Sippel, 25.62 **400 Meters:** 2. Keegen Tracy, 51.93; 9. Gage Sippel, 57.69

800 Meters: 2. Blake Pauli, 2:04.83; 9. Jayden Schwan, 2:19.32; 13. Garrett Schultz, 2:35.33

300m Hurdles: 16. Tristin McGannon, 48.92

4x200 Relay: 5. Lane Tietz, Colby Dunker, Blake Pauli, Keegen Tracy,

4x800 Relay: 3. Jayden Schwan, Tristin McGannon, Gage Sippel, Logan Warrington, 9:30.69

Shot Put: 5. Logan Ringgenberg, 45' 2.25; 19. Karter Moody, 35' 7.5 Discus: 6. Logan Ringgenberg, 124' 1.5; 10. Holden Sippel, 112' 1; 28. Karter Moody, 88' 1

Javelin: 2. Colby Dunker, 148' 1; 14. Karter Moody, 108' 5; 25. Drew

Triple Jump: 11. Tristin McGannon, 31' 11

Girl's Division

Lake 69, 3. Groton Area 69, 5. Howard 61, 6. Estelline/Hendricks 56, 7. Flandreau 52.5, 8. Iroquois/Lake Preston 51, 9. Elkton-Lake Benton 50, 10. Florence/Henry 36, 11. Viborg-Hurley 30, 11. Hamlin 30, 13. Sisseton 26, 14. Aberdeen Roncalli 23, 15. Wilmot 5.5

100 Meters: 20. Elizabeth Fliehs, 14.46; 22. Kayla Lehr, 14.49

200 Meters: 4. Rylee Dunker, 27.88; 17. Elizabeth Fliehs, 30.20; 25. Kayla Lehr, 30.74

400 Meters: 2. Tarvn Traphagen, 1:02.89; 9. Ashlynn Warrington, 1:07.05; 15. Elizabeth Fliehs, 1:10.16

800 Meters: 7. Ashlynn Warrington, 2:39.41

100m Hurdles: 6. McKenna Tietz, 17.81; 13. Talli Wright, 19.36; 17. Emerlee Jones, 20.41

300m Hurdles: 4. McKenna Tietz, 51.08; 10. Talli Wright, 54.72

4x100 Relay: 1. Laila Roberts, Kella Tracy, McKenna Tietz, Rylee Dunker. 52.37

4x200 Relay: 1. Laila Roberts, Kella Tracy, Jerica Locke, Rylee Dunker, 1:49.44

4x400 Relay: 1. Jerica Locke, Taryn Traphagen, Kella Tracy, Laila Roberts, 4:11.79

SMR 1600m: 1. Laila Roberts, Rylee Dunker, Taryn Traphagen, Faith Traphagen, 4:28.47

Shot Put: 3. Emma Kutter, 33' 4; 15. Faith Fliehs, 26' 11.75; 20. Avery

Discus: 12. Faith Fliehs, 76' 6; 13. Avery Crank, 76' 0.5; 15. Emma Kutter, 71' 4.5

Javelin: 9. Emma Kutter, 79' 8; 11. Avery Crank, 74' 2; 17. Ashley

Johnson, 57' 3

High Jump: 14. Emerlee Jones, 4' 0 **Long Jump:** 24. Teagan Hanten, 12' 3

Triple Jump: 11. Emerlee Jones, 28' 1.5; 14. Teagan Hanten, 26' 8

Guthmiller takes second at **NEC Golf**

Carly Guthmiller took second place at the Northeast Conference Girls Golf Meet held Monday in Redfield. She finished the day with a 94. Carlee Johnson placed fourth with a 97, Mia Crank was 12th with a 115, Claire Schuelke was 13th with a 119, Carly Gibert was 14th with a 120 and Halee Harder was 20th with a 141.

Roncalli won the team title with 381 points followed by Groton Area with 425, Milbank with 495 and Redfield with 564.

Aberdeen Central Field **Event Meet**

The Aberdeen Central Field Event Meet was held Tuesday. Logan Team Scores: 1. Sioux Valley 90.5, 2. Ipswich 73.5, 3. Clark/Willow Ringgenberg placed fourth in the boys shot put and Emma Kutter was eighth in the girls shot put.

Boy's Division

Shot Put: 4. Logan Ringgenberg, 46' 7.25; 7. Holden Sippel, 43' 8.25; 14. Karter Moody, 38' 11; 32. Ashton Holmes, 31' 7

Discus: 9. Holden Sippel, 121' 7; 12. Logan Ringgenberg, 115' 10; 22. Karter Moody, 93' 11; 41. Ashton Holmes, 79' 2

Javelin: 12. Colby Dunker, 120' 11; 18. Karter Moody, 101' 0; 29. Ashton Holmes, 83' 3

Girl's Division

Shot Put: 8. Emma Kutter, 32' 4; 19. Faith Fliehs, 26' 1; 26. Avery Crank, 22' 4.25; 27. Ashley Johnson, 22' 1.5

Discus: 17. Faith Fliehs, 79' 4; 20. Avery Crank, 75' 0; 24. Ashley Johnson, 63' 9

Javelin: 11. Emma Kutter, 77' 7; 12. Avery Crank, 72' 11; 14. Ashley Johnson, 61' 3

Groton Area takes first in three events at NEC Track Meet

The North Eastern Conference (NEC) varsity track meet was held beth Fliehs, 54.97. Thursday in Sisseton SD. The girls battled Milbank with Groton Area finishing a close second in the overall team NEC Championship. The beth Fliehs, 1:52.55. boys tied with Clark/Willow Lake for 6th.

- Bruce Babcock

Emma Kutter took first in the Javelin, McKenna Tietz took first in the 300m hurdles and the boys sprint medley relay team took first place.

Boy's Division

100 Meters: 2. Keegen Tracy, 11.59

200 Meters: 10. Lane Tietz, 25.09; 18. Gage Sippel, 26.43 **400 Meters:** 2. Keegen Tracy, 52.22; 12. Gage Sippel, 57.82

800 Meters: 7. Jayden Schwan, 2:18.58 1600 Meters: 17. Garrett Schultz, 5:59.12

300m Hurdles: 11. Tristin McGannon, 49.47 4x200 Relay: 5. Lane Tietz, Colby Dunker, Blake Pauli, Gage Sippel, 1:41.85

4x800 Relay: 6. Tristin McGannon, Logan Warrington, Jayden Schwan, Garrett Schultz, 9:52.90.

SMR 1600m: 1. Lane Tietz, Colby Dunker, Keegen Tracy, Blake

Shot Put: 6. Logan Ringgenberg, 42' 11; 10. Karter Moody, 36' 11.25; 11. Holden Sippel, 36' 8

Discus: 4. Logan Ringgenberg, 123' 7; 7. Holden Sippel, 116' 5; 21. Karter Moody, 88' 2

Javelin: 11. Karter Moody, 101' 1; 28. Drew Thurston, 80' 1.

Triple Jump: 12. Tristin McGannon, 32' 8.5SR

Girl's Division

100 Meters: 3. Laila Roberts, 13.24; 4. Rylee Dunker, 13.44; 21. Hannah Sandness, 14.93

200 Meters: 2. Laila Roberts, 28.61; 3. Rylee Dunker, 29.39; 13. Elizabeth Fliehs, 31.02

400 Meters: 2. Taryn Traphagen, 1:02.18; 4. Laila Roberts, 1:02.83; 5. Kella Tracy, 1:03.66

800 Meters: 3. Faith Traphagen, 2:35.34; 4. Taryn Traphagen, 2:38.95

1600 Meters: 4. Ryelle Gilbert, 5:42.97 **3200 Meters:** 5. Ryelle Gilbert, 13:08.50

100m Hurdles: 2. McKenna Tietz, 18.07; 10. Talli Wright, 18.93;

15. Emerlee Jones, 20.16

King Crossword

ACROSS 10 11 1 Reddish brown 13 14 12 5 \$ dispenser 8 Cries of aver-15 16 17 sion 18 19 20 12 Spiced tea 13 Goat's plaint 22 23 14 Entreaty 15 Mystique 25 26 30 16 Blue Angels 32 33 events 18 Australian red 35 36 37 38 wine 20 Fedora fea-39 40 41 ture 43 45 46 47 48 21 Medicinal plant 49 50 51 23 PC key 52 54 24 Schubert 53 compositions 28 "Monopoly" cubes 53 Lucy's TV pal 7 Painter 29 Tax pro 31 Misery 54 Forearm bone 30 Mess up Chagall 32 Barbs 8 Supported 33 Bygone jets 34 "Science

55 Minus

56 Season opener?

57 Some July babies

39 Rocker **DOWN** Nugent 1 Early TVs

41 Minnesota – 42 Penniless one 2 "Nope!" 45 Fearsome fly

52 "Understood" 6 - chi

Friday" net-

work

35 Adjoining

37 Sweeten

3 Rani's dress 49 Relaxing time 4 Royal crowns 25 Caviar base on the slopes 5 Vast rainfor-

est region 51 Equitable

lines

9 Acting smug 10 Hacks with an axe

38 Of service 40 - Moines 11 Postpaid enc. 42 Beach bucket 17 Mexican Mrs. 43 Church area 19 Sleep like -44 Invitation 22 Treble clef notation 46 Story 47 China (Pref.)

36 Prairie homes

24 Bristle 48 Historic peri-26 Fabric feaods 50 White wine tures 27 Calming drug cocktail

© 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.

300m Hurdles: 1. McKenna Tietz, 51.98; 5. Emerlee Jones, 54.03; Talli Wright, 54.53

4x100 Relay: 5. McKenna Tietz, Rylee Dunker, Jerica Locke, Eliza-4x200 Relay: 2. Rylee Dunker, McKenna Tietz, Jerica Locke, Eliza-

4x400 Relay: 2. Jerica Locke, Kella Tracy, Taryn Traphagen, Ashlynn

Warrington, 4:17.94.

4x800 Relay: 2. Faith Traphagen, Kella Tracy, Taryn Traphagen, Ashlynn Warrington, 10:01.47.

SMR 1600m: 6. Elizabeth Fliehs, Ashlynn Warrington, Jerica Locke, Kella Tracy, 4:58.15.

Shot Put: 2. Emma Kutter, 34' 4; 15. Avery Crank, 27' 3.5; 21. Faith Fliehs, 26' 0

Discus: 11. Avery Crank, 78' 7; 13. Faith Fliehs, 78' 5; 16. Emma Kutter, 74' 1

Javelin: 1. Emma Kutter, 87' 10; 18. Avery Crank, 64' 5; 23. Ashley Johnson, 58' 10

Long Jump: 8. Laila Roberts, 13' 11.75; 18. Teagan Hanten, 13' 3 Triple Jump: 18. Emerlee Jones, 27' 7.75; 20. Teagan Hanten, 27' 5

Groton Area Tigers Varsity Raly Defeats Redfield Area Muskrats

Groton Area Tigers Varsity trailed by as many as four, but came back to best Redfield Area Muskrats on Wednesday, 8-4.

Redfield Area Muskrats opened the scoring in the first after Elijah Morrissette doubled, scoring two runs.

A double by Morrissette extended the Redfield Area Muskrats lead to 4-0 in the top of the second inning.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity tied the game in the bottom of the second thanks to a single by Braxton Imrie, a walk by Dillon Abeln, and a single by Bradin Althoff.

In the bottom of the sixth, Groton Area Tigers Varsity broke up the tie when Colby Dunker tripled, scoring three runs. Then a ground out by Logan Ringgenberg followed to extend the lead to 8-4.

Abeln led things off on the bump for Groton Area Tigers Varsity. The right-handed pitcher surrendered six hits and four runs (two earned) over five innings, striking out seven and walking four. Kevin Weller led things off on the mound for Redfield Area Muskrats. The starting pitcher allowed nine hits and eight runs over six innings, striking out none and walking seven. Jarrett Erdmann tossed two innings of zerorun ball for Groton Area Tigers Varsity in relief.

The reliever allowed zero hits, striking out six and walking three.

Groton Area Tigers Varsity collected nine hits in the game. Dunker drove the middle of the lineup, leading Groton Area Tigers Varsity with three runs batted in. The left fielder went 1-for-3 on the day. Number nine hitter, Imrie, showed the depth of Groton Area Tigers Varsity's lineup, by leading them with three hits in three at bats. Althoff collected two hits for Groton Area Tigers Varsity in three at bats. Karsten Fliehs paced Groton Area Tigers

Varsity with two walks. Overall, the team had patience at game.

Area Muskrats with with a 47. four runs batted in. The right-handed hitter went 3-for-3 on the day. Redfield Area Muskrats had patience at the plate, amassing seven walks for the game. Weller, Conner Zens, and Hunter Binger led the team with two free passes each.

Redfield Area Muskrats turned one double play in the game.

Third Week Trap Shoot The third week of the Trap Shoot League

the plate, amassing scores have been released with two Groton seven walks for the Area shooters having perfect scores. Turner Thompson returned to the top and was joined Morrissette drove by Payton Mitchell with perfect scores to lead the middle of the line- the group. Cadence Feist was one behind with up, leading Redfield a 49 while Faith Fliehs had a 48 and five more

Name	Rd1	Rd2	Total
THOMPSON, TURNER	25	25	
MITCHELL, PAYTON	25		
FEIST, CADENCE	24	25	49
FLIEHS, FAITH	25	23	48
KAMPA, JAEGER	23	24	47
KAMPA, TRISTAN	25	22	47
HOLMES, ASHTON	23	24	47
MITCHELL, PAISLEY	23	24	47
MOREHOUSE, WESLEY	23	24	47
HANSON, LAYNE	24	22	46
POWERS-DINGER, MICHAE	L 21	25	46
SMITH, TREY	22	24	46
WAMBACH, BRYSON	22	23	_
SCEPANIAK, ISAIAH	23	22	45
STANGE, TYTON	21	23	
SPERRY, OWEN	23	19	42
THOMPSON, TARYN	22	20	42
FROST, CHARLIE	20	21	41
PIGORS, GENTRY	18	21	39
SCEPANIAK, NOAH	19	20	39
SPERRY, ASHLYN	16	18	
KOTZER, ADELINE	16		33
KUTTER, IAN	18		
LEICHT, TUCKER	17	13	
HOLMES, SYDNEY	16	10	26

10

14

RUDEBUSCH, JACLYN

Weekly SUDOKU _ Answer

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

Donley's Construction Class Builds Small House

Two years ago, Joe Foertsch was the first area businessman to help Donley's construction class with the building of their small house by helping to level the floor. He was also the last one to volunteer this spring by assisting students in hanging the front door.

Several area businessmen volunteered to help teach the students in various areas involved in the construction process. These men include Jim Lane, Austin Blocker, Locke Electric who assisted with wiring, John Sippel who helped with the cabinets, and Ryan Scepaniak who helped with the plumbing.

A huge thank you also goes to S&S Lumber as most of the materials were purchased from this business. Everything was provided by local contractors and businesses except for the rare occasion when a few items were not available in Groton.

of keeping it local!

The small house is just under 500 square feet with 2x6 walls, insulated floor, energy heel on the rafters with 18" of insulation in the attic, LED lighting, and LE windows.

It is hoped that \$44,000.00 can be raised with the sale of this small house to pay for the materials. Any extra funds received beyond the cost of the materials will be placed in the school's shop department account. The house can easily be moved with a stack mover.

This project gave the students an excellent opportunity to sample different aspects of the various construction trades.

A sincere thank you goes out to all the area contractors, businesses, and individuals who donated their time in teaching the students all of the various mechanics that go into building a house.

- Dorene Nelson



Standing in back Joe Foertsch Students in front Blake The greatest lesson learned was how willing these businesses and **Dennert, Nick Morris, Kaden Kampa, Jaeger Kampa, Carson** contractors were with their support and help as well as the importance Herrick, Christian Ehresmannm, Riley Carman, absent Tristan Kampa. (Photo by Dorene Nelson)



King Crossword -Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

R	U	S	Т		Α	Т	М		U	G	Η	S
С	Н	Α	Τ		М	Α	Α		Р	L	Е	Α
Α	U	R	Α		Α	Τ	R	S	Н	0	W	S
S	Н	1	R	Α	Ζ		С	R	Ε	Α	S	Ε
			Α	L	0	Ε		Α	L	Т		
Α	R	Т	S	0	Ν	G	S		D	Τ	С	Ε
W	0	Ε		G	П	В	Ε	S		Ν	Р	R
Ν	Ε	Χ	Т		Α	D	D	S	U	G	Α	R
		Т	Ε	D		F	Α	Т	S			
Р	Α	U	Ρ	Ε	R		Τ	S	Ε	Т	S	Ε
Α	Ρ	R	Ε	S	S	Κ	1		F	Α	_	R
Ι	S	Ε	Ε		٧	Τ	٧		U	L	N	Α
L	Ε	S	S		Р	R	Ε		L	Ε	0	S

Donley's Construction Class Builds Small House

(Photos by Dorene Nelson)















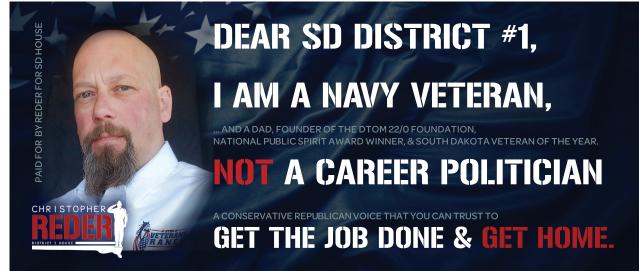




Dairy Queen in Groton is hiring! If you're looking for a fun job with lots of variety, look no further! We're looking for energetic, smiling people we provide free meals, uniforms, competitive wages, fun atmosphere and flexible scheduling. Part-time day, evening, week-end shifts available. We will work with your schedule. Stop in today and pick up an application.







School Board **Continued from front**

Region 1 Assistant Coach of the Year title after the 2023-2024 basketball season. The board accepted Gerlach's resignation from the assistant coaching position if a suitable replacement can be found. Strom, who has been assistant volleyball coach since 2017, also submitted her resignation. Because Strom is not a full-time employee of the district, her resignation was accepted without qualifiers.

- The board also accepted the resignation of Robin Bitz, special education paraprofessional. Bitz was hired in September.
- Superintendent Joe Schwan discussed recently-released Title IX rules. The U.S. Department of Education released new regulations in April to "promptly and efficiently address all forms of sex discrimination," according to federal government officials. Those regulations are scheduled to go into effect on August 1, but those rules are facing legal challenges from states, including South Dakota. Earlier this month, school districts received a letter from the South Dakota Secretary of Education requesting districts refrain from changing policies yet. Districts are in "limbo" about upcoming policy changes, but new policies likely won't go into place until the legal battles play out, Schwan told the board.
- The board hired Brittany Hubbart, science/health science teacher and oral interp adviser, as HOSA-Future Health Professionals advisor for the 2024-2025 school year at 5 percent of base salary.
- The board approved summer employment agreements for Connect 4Ed Summer School, special education extended school year and summer custodial work. Emily Dinger and Julie Erdmann will work for the Connect 4Ed Summer School program at 50 hours each in June at \$31.25 per hour and 50 hours each in July at \$32.50 per hour. Anne Zoellner was hired for both extended school year services and Connect 4Ed Summer School. She will work 100 hours in June at \$31.25 per hour and 75 hours in July at \$32.50 per hour. Ann Gibbs, Todd Peterson and Reilly Fuhrman were hired for the extended school year program. Gibbs will work 50 hours in June at \$31.25 per hour and 25 hours in July at \$32.50 per hour. Fuhrman will work 20 hours in June at \$31.25 per hour. Peterson will work 28 hours in June at \$31.25 per hour and 24 hours after July 1 at \$32.50 per hour. Summer custodial members work 40 hours per week. Those workers include Kristen Dolan (\$15.70-\$16.33 per hour), Delbert Hinkelman (\$14.74-\$15.33 per hour), JoAnn Donley (\$14.74-\$15.33 per hour) and Brandon Clocksene (\$15.69-\$16.32 per hour).

- Hub City Roofing will finish the last poring the northeast section of the elementary school. Hub City Roofing submitted a base bid of \$110,000 with a 20-year warranty. ARS, a bid of \$171,140 with a 15-year warranty.
- The board approved establishing custodial accounts for student groups fundraising. ing the budgets of their student groups and impacting their student-athlete status. allows for more transparency.
- The board cast three ballots for the tion of roofing work needed at Groton Area El- South Dakota High School Activities Associaementary School. The project was broken into tion. The Groton board voted for Lyman School multiple parts, with the final portion includ- District Superintendent Chris Long to serve as West River At-Large Representative on the SDHSAA Board of Districts. The board also supported Todd County High School Activities company out of Sioux Falls, submitted a base Director Chuck Wilson for the Native American At-Large Representative seat. Finally, the board voted to amend the SDHSAA By-Laws to include policy updates related to student-Those groups include girls basketball, boys athletes being paid for promotions. The basketball, boys soccer, girls soccer, football, move comes after the NCAA instituted policy volleyball and music. The move allows student changes to allow college student-athletes to leaders to have more responsibility in balanc- receive compensation from sponsors without



There were a lot of people using the pickleball/tennis/basketball courts on a beautiful Sunday afternoon.



The 131st Annual Commencement Ceremony was held Sunday. The presentation of the scholarships and awards was announced with the diplomas being presented afterwards. The ceremony lasted 55 minutes.

subscription to the Groton **Independent** makes a great gift!







Classifieds and Card of Thanks

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

1 Week: \$9 for first 30 words, 20¢/word thereafter 2 Wks: \$17 for first 30 words, 38¢/word thereafter 3 Wks: \$24 for first 30 words, 54¢/word thereafter

4th consecutive week is free **605/397-NEWS (6397)** PO Box 34, Groton SD 57445

CARD OF THANKS

Dear Friends:

Thank you for helping me to celebrate my birthday on April 17, 2024. The cards, gifts, and warm wishes made turning another year older exciting. You really are the best friends as we could ask for!

Thank you! Dick Kolker

EMPLOYMENT

HELP WANTED: FULL-TIME FINANCE OF-FICER, town of Kennebec: Benefits. Send resume to PO BOX 61 Kennebec, SD 57544 or call Kennebec Finance Office at 605-869-2263 or 605-730-2337. Deadline: May 31, 2024. Equal Opportunity Employer

FULL-TIME HEAD CUSTODIAN at Custer Elementary School needed immediately \$18.25/hr with paid benefits, apply online csd.k12. sd.us; Custer School District, 527 Montgomery St., Custer, SD 57730 605-673-3154. Open until filled. EOE

MISCELLANEOUS

HUGHESNET SATELLITE INTERNET - 25mbps starting at \$49.99/mo! Get More Data FREE Off-Peak Data. FAST download speeds. WiFi built in! FREE Standard Installation for lease customers! Limited Time, Call 1-877-525-7379

PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR May Be Covered by Medicare! Reclaim independence and mobility with the compact design and long-lasting battery of Inogen One. Free information kit! Call 844-374-3458

WANT A GREENER LAWN? TruGreen's your go-to for a tailored lawn care plan. Act now and get 50% off your first service with a purchase of an annual plan. Call us at 1-833-926-0902 to learn more.

SAFE STEP. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-969-7179

NOTICES

ADVERTISE IN NEWSPAPERS statewide for only \$150.00. Put the South Dakota Statewide Classifieds Network to work for you today! (25 words for \$150. Each additional word \$5.) Call this newspaper or 800-658-3697 for details.

WANTED

FUELING SUCCESS! Seeking SD convenience stores: for sale, partnership, sale with lease-back, or refinancing. Connect with Western Partners: at www.westernpartners1@gmail.com. 701-877-1842, or call Dave: at 701-400-0180.





The DARE Essay winners are Grady Zeck, third place; Ayce Warrington, second place; Preston Hinkelman and Libby Johnson, first place, Andi Iverson, second place and Tori Schuster, third place. The DARE graduation was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM and the video is archived under Other Events. The audio of the presentations is very clear on the video. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



This group of Groton Area fifth graders graduated from D.A.R.E. on Tuesday. In front, left to right, are Lilly Davis Bentley Ehresmann, Quinton Flores, Hadley Heilman, Hank Hill, Brayson Hubbs, Jeremiah Hubben and Andi Iverson; in the second row from front, left to right, are Charli Jacobsen, Libby Johnson, Kendyll Kroll, Easton Larson, Mason Locke, Maycee Moody, Colton Morehouse and Hallie Perkins; in second row from back, left to right, are Caelynn Pullan, Carlos Rodriguez, Graham Rose, Gradyn Rowen, Tori Schuster, Ivan Schwan, Chase Slaight and Addison Steffes; in back are Janel Lone, Emmett Zoellner, Landon Thornton, Parker Zoellner and Groton Police Chief Stacy Mayou. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



This group of Groton Area fifth graders graduated from D.A.R.E. on Tuesday. In front, left to right, are Bella Barrera, Rylan Blackwood, Carter Boerger, Gracie Borg, Brynlee Dunker, Amara El-Salahy, Ambrielle Feist and Drew Fjeldheim; in

the second row from front, left to right, are Jaela Fliehs, Danielle Franken, Keith Furman, Preston Hinkelman, Rylee Hofer, Rayna Loeschke, Blake Malsam and Mya Moody; in the second row from back, left to right, are Knox Mulder, Zoe Olson, Cash Reif, Kinley Sandness, Charles Telkamp, Kinton Tracy, Taylynn Traphagen and Ayce Warrington; in back, left to right, are Shelby Hendrickson, Joslynn White Crane, Legend Whiteaker, Grady Zeck and Groton Police Chief Stacy Mayou. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

Brown County Deputy Joshua Lee had a presentation with his K-9 drug dog, Hari. Lee has had Hari for three years. (Photo lifted from GDILIVE.COM video)



ARTHTAL

Dear EarthTalk: Why are conventional toothpaste tubes not eco-friendly? What bet--- Jackie V., ter alternatives are out there? Pittsburgh, PA

The impact of conventional toothpaste tubes is significant and largely negative. Typically made from non-biodegradable plastic and aluminum, they present significant challenges in recycling processes. The mixed material composition requires complex, costly separation techniques, making recycling inefficient and often nonviable. According to Forbes, some 1.5 billion toothpastes tubes are discarded each year.

The production and disposal of these tubes involves substantial energy use and emissions. From the extraction and processing of raw materials to manufacturing and eventual disposal, the lifecycle of conventional toothpaste tubes is energy-intensive and ecologically damaging. After use, they are typically "discarded at a facility and will end up in the landfill" says Julie Smith of Aspire Colorado.

Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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

In response to these issues, there has been a rise in eco-friendly alternatives. Zero-waste toothpastes, which eschew traditional tubes, are becoming increasingly popular. These typically come in tablet or powder form and are packaged in biodegradable or recyclable materials. Toothpaste tablets are especially sustainable as they also reduce water usage, relying instead on saliva of water.

Other innovative solutions include toothpastes packaged in metal tubes, which are easier to recycle than plastic ones, and brands that use plant-based container materials. These efforts reflect growing consumer demand for sustainable products, reflecting a broader trend towards environmental responsibility.

Several brands have been leading the way in this shift towards sustainability. David's about their efficacy. Additionally, the initial cost Natural Toothpaste offer toothpaste is packaged in metal tubes, and The Humble Co. uses plant-based materials for their biodegradable tubes. Both options present a significant a crucial role in facilitating this transition. reduction in waste compared to traditional plastic tubes. These products not only help to reduce environmental impacts and also cater to health-conscious consumer by avoiding harmful chemicals often found in conventional toothpastes.

However, transitioning to these eco-friendly alternatives is not without its challenges. Makers face significant hurdles in altering established production lines, sourcing materials that meet quality and safety standards and potentially incurring higher costs. Consumers may also be hesitant to switch to new formats, such as tablets or powders, or may be skeptic



The production and disposal of toothpaste tubes involves substantial energy use and emissions. Credit: Pexels.com.

of these alternatives can be higher, which may deter widespread adoption.

Regulation and industry standards play Governments can promote the use of sustainable packaging by implementing policies that encourage recycling, reduce the use of non-recyclable materials or provide incentives for companies to develop greener products. Specific regulations that mandate the use of recyclable materials in packaging can drive innovation in the industry, leading to more sustainable options becoming available and economically viable.

• 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@



Telegraph, Telephone, **Telemedicine**

Technology has come a long way in the past 200 years. The telegraph was invented in 1837 and made rapid long range communication possible. Messages could be



sent around the world through a series of connected wires. The telegraph had medical applications in the Civil War. It was used to order medical supplies and report information about injuries and casualties to medical teams. This was cutting edge technology at the time, but it now is considered an obsolete method of communication.

Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone in 1876. By 1900 there were nearly 600,000 telephones in use. At the end of 1910 there were over 5.8 million active telephones. The telephone was seen as a tool to connect doctors and patients together over a distance. A report in The Lancet Journal from 1879 described how a doctor could use the telephone to listen to a baby's cough and diagnose croup.

In 1924 The Radio News Magazine predicted a two way video encounter with a "radio doctor" using a television-like device. In 1959 the University of Nebraska became the first place to use two-way video communications for telemedicine applications. This was done using closed circuit television to connect medical students at the main campus in Omaha with patients at the Norfolk State Hospital 112 miles away. However, Telemedicine as we know it today did not get its start until the 1970's.

Telemedicine can also be used to send radiology images remotely to radiologists who can be in a different state or even a different country. With the improvement of cellular technology, EKGs can be sent from the back of an ambulance to the hospital. So before a patient even sets foot inside the door of the hospital, the Emergency Room doctors and Cardiologists can be prepared. This can not only save time, but can save lives when someone is having a heart attack.

With the COVID 19 pandemic, there was an increased push to use telemedicine for virtual visits in the clinic setting. Telemedicine has also been used when patient transfer from smaller hospitals to larger tertiary care centers is not possible or when dangerous winter driving conditions make transfers unsafe. This technology helps bridge the gap in medical care between rural areas without specialists and urban medical centers.

The jump from telegraphs to telemedicine with virtual visits is a big one. I can only imagine what the next 200 years of technological advancements will bring to how we deliver health care. No matter how we interact, there will always be a doctor ready to connect and help you, stay healthy out there.

Jill Kruse, D.O. is part of The Prairie Doc® team of physicians and currently practices as a hospitalist in Brookings, South Dakota. Follow The Prairie Doc® at www.prairiedoc.org and on Facebook and Instagram featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show providing health information based on science, built on trust, on SDPB and streaming live on Facebook most Thursdays at 7 p.m. central.

Sun. Mon. Tues. Web. Thems. Fig. Sat. 12 13 14 15 16 17 18