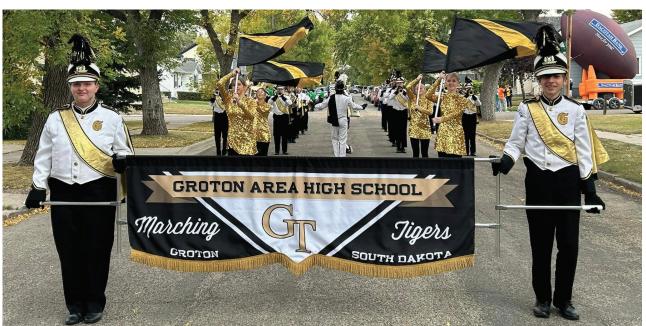
# The Groton Independent Vol. 142 No. 03 & Groton SD & Wester Land Broken SD &

Vol. 142 No. 03 ♦ Groton, SD ♦ Wednesday, Oct. 9, 2024 ♦ Established in 1889



# GHS Marching Band brings home the gold

Senior band members Jeslyn Kosel, Corbin Weismantel, Axel Warrington and Rebecca Poor show off the Gold Award from the Gypsy Day Parade, The GHS Marching Band is pictured below. (Photos from Desiree Yeigh's FB page)



# **Groton Hosts the Annual Lake Region Marching Band Festival**

On Friday, October 11th the Groton Area High School Band, the Groton Middle School Band, and 16 school bands will converge in Groton for the Lake Region Marching Band Festival. The parade of bands will travel from south to north on Groton's Main Street from Railroad Avenue to 9th Avenue, beginning at 10 a.m.

This festival originated in Milbank then moved to Waubay for 11 years. Since 2013 Groton has hosted the festival and it plans to remain there for the foreseeable future. Bands will be evaluated on their performance by a panel of three judges. The bands will be judged by: Mr. John Patzlaff, Mr. Al Stewart, and Mr. Mike Likness. Awards will be given to the top two bands in the high school and middle school band division, and the top three bands in the combined division. Other awards include Best Color Guard, Best Winds, Best Drum Major, and Best Percussion. A Grand Champion Award will also be awarded to the band with the highest score overall.

The festival has become a premier marching event in Northeast South Dakota, attracting bands and spectators from towns across the region. The public is invited to watch the parade of bands on Main Street as well as awards at the GHS Arena Gym. Students from the MS/ HS Drumline will perform before the awards ceremony.

Attending the festival are bands from Aberdeen Roncalli, Redfield, Langford Area, Leola, Ipswich, Frederick Area, Great Plains Lutheran, Northwestern, Pierre, Sully Buttes, Hoven, Lake Preston, Warner, Britton-Hecla, Milbank Middle School, and Aberdeen Simmons and Holgate Middle School.

The event will be livestreamed, free of charge, at GDILIVE.COM. Anyone at the event can also listen to the announcer at 89.3 FM.

Primary sponsors of the festival are the Groton Dairy Queen, The Groton Daily Independent, Professional Management Services of Groton, Groton HS PAC, and the City of Groton.

### See Lineup on Page 10



**Gazetters presented to Groton Area third graders** 

Groton Unit #39 of the American Legion Auxiliary recently presented Gazetteers to the Groton Area School third grade students. These books are a gift that become each student's personal dictionary and more. The teachers and students will be using them in the classroom throughout the year, and the book is theirs to keep at the end of the school year. Groton Unit #39 with the help of the third grade teachers participate in The Dictionary Project, whose mission is to ensure that everyone will be able to enjoy the benefits of owning a dictionary. Pictured with the students are auxiliary members Tami **Zimney and Laila Roberts.** (Courtesy photo)

# Pete Rose, the enigma

Among the carnage and epitaphs of old heroes we've seen fall in recent weeks, one stood out. Because Pete Rose died with a question mark. Should this itinerate gambler be in the Hall of Fame? By the numbers, without a doubt. By the rules, not a chance.

He was the heartbeat of the Big Red Machine,

a Cincinnati Reds team managed by South Dakota-born Sparky Anderson, one of the juggernauts of that golden era.

I latched onto the Baltimore Orioles in grade school, Brooks and Boog and four 20-game winners one year. When the Orioles couldn't get out of that hallowed bloody shin Eastern division, I developed a soft spot for the Red Sox. Ted Williams and the Big Green Monster. Willie Stargell and the Pittsburgh Pirates had some special teams, too.

Today's players are physically better. We bear witness to Shohei Ohtani and his 50 home runs and his 50 stolen bases. He's got a bad wing, otherwise he'd be pitching this year, too. Aaron Judge should be holding up the buttresses in coal mines on his off days.

Charlie Hustle, they called him, and it was well-earned. Search Pete Rose's images and you're likely to see his thick-body airborne. Pete Rose played hard at picnics. In the 1970 All Star Game, Rose mowed down Cleveland's Ray Fosse at the plate to win the game. He played the way you'd want your Little League his greatness.



That's Life by Tony Bender

team to play. They way you'd want Jesus to

His story goes back to the 1919 Black Sox Scandal when eight Chicago White Sox, including the great Shoeless Joe Jackson, received a lifetime ban from baseball for throwing the series to a mob gambler. Team owners understood that their considerable investment would be lost if fans couldn't trust the integrity of the game.

When he was ousted, Rose lied, and lied, and lied for years before finally coming clean in the hopes of forgiveness. Yet, at the door of every major league locker room a warning is posted. The consequences are dear, indeed. It's hypocritical, though. Major league sports are up to their elbows promoting gambling to fans. All sorts of Rose memorabilia resides in Cooperstown but not that coveted plague Rose so desired.

Rose and his supporters tried to soft-peddle his actions by noting that as a manager he only bet (daily) on his own team. There's a lot of wiggle room there. Did he bet the same amount? Or more or less dependent upon inside information, including injuries? It doesn't

Pete Rose's greatness on the field cannot be denied. Formal induction into Cooperstown is but a punctuation mark. If he was a pariah, it was in his own head. It didn't seem like he was disparaged by his old teammates. Several of them were getting together for an autography show the weekend he died. They found him signing alone. He didn't look good. An acquaintance of mine saw him recently in Las Vegas, too. He looked sad, he said. The Hit King was sad because he hadn't accomplished what no one thought he needed to to prove

© Tony Bender, 2024

### The Life of Loretta Abeln

Loretta K. Abeln, 91, of Aberdeen, SD, passed away Sunday, September 22, 2024, at Avera Mother Joseph Manor.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at St. Mary's Catholic Church, with Father Greg Tschakert officiating.

A time of fellowship and luncheon will follow Mass at the parish hall.

Interment will be at the Groton Union Cemetery.

Visitation will be 6-7 p.m., Friday, Oct 11, at Schriver's Memorial Chapel with a 7:00 p.m. liturgical wake service.

In lieu of flowers please consider donating to the PEO Chapter fense to start the fourth quarter, but thanks to AC to help young ladies receiving scholarships for their education as requested by Loretta. Please make checks directly to Chapter AC and give to the family or the PEO Chapter.

Schriver's Memorial Mortuary and Crematory, 414 5th Avenue NW, Aberdeen, is in charge of arrangements. Family and friends may sign the online guestbook at www.schriversmemorial.com. Services will be recorded and uploaded to our website following

the service.

Loretta K. Abeln was born on November 12, 1932 to Andrew and Magdalena (Ehnes) Meier in Roscoe, South Dakota. She attended Glover rural school and took High School by mail at American School. She attended for one year at Northern State Teachers' College.

She then taught school in Ordway, South Dakota, for one year and then managed Fanny Farmers Candy Shop in Aberdeen for one year. She married Alvin Abeln in Aberdeen on June 27, 1953. They lived in Brookings, Fort Benning, Junction City, Kansas, and Germany while Alvin was in the service for one year. They returned to the farm in Groton.

Loretta was a successful Avon representative for 55 years and used Avon products until the day she passed away. She was a Jaycette District VP for 2 years, PEO, Alter Society, and several bridge clubs, marathons and duplicate. She was very competitive playing cards and loved to win! She belonged to Olive Grove and Moccasin Creek golf clubs. Alvin and she spent several winters in Arizona. Alvin passed away in 1997 and she moved from the farm to a home she built in Aberdeen in 2001.

She belonged to the Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church in Groton and now Saint Mary's Catholic Church in Aberdeen. Alvin and Loretta were big believers in education and hard work. They supported all their grandchildren with college expenses. Her fondest memories with the family were making some of her favorite dishes: egg and noodles, rhubarb crisp, chocolate fudge topping toffee, and poppy seed rolls.

Grateful for having shared her life are her five children, grandchildren, and spouses, Doug (Della) Abeln and children, Bethany and Mark (Kelly) and child Kaden Kampa; Don (Vonne) Abeln and children, Isaac (Nikki), and children Dillon and Alex, Philip (Lindsey), and children Kali and Aubrey, Tony (Kayla) and children Selah, Shema and Lily; Dale (Dianne) Abeln and children, Lisa (Mitch) Thompson and children Kate and Anna, Adam (Katherine); and Rob (Lisa) Abeln and children, Zachary, Taylor and Brady, and Denice (Doug) Dunker; she is also survived by her sister Shirley Gellhaus and brother Andy Meier.

She was preceded in death by her mother and father, Magdalena and Andrew Meier; spouse, Alvin Abeln; and ten brothers and sisters, George Meier, Betty Daschle, Henry Meier, Bernie Meier, Larry Meier, Roy Meier, Margie Veith, Carolyn Heier, Adele Meier, and Frances Meier (died in infancy).

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**Weekly Vikings Roundup** By Jordan Wright

In the 9th century, Ragnar Lodbrook invaded England with a Viking army. It was an onslaught from the beginning, and although the English army regrouped towards the end, Ragnar left victoriously. On Sunday, the Minnesota Vikings invaded England. And, just like their namesake, they got out to an early lead before their opponent came back to make it a closer contest. Ultimately, the Vikings got the victory, defeating the New York Jets 23-17. They are 5-0 this season and head into their bye week with a chance to recover and hopefully get T.J. Hockenson (who actually looks like a Viking) back from injury.

Similar to last week, the Vikings came out of the gates hot. The Jets got the ball to start the game, and were forced to punt three plays later. The Vikings got the ball and drove down the field to score a field goal. The Jets went three-and-out on their next possession as well, and the Vikings were driving once again until a fumble ended the drive. On the third play of their third drive, Aaron Rodgers threw an interception to Andrew Van Ginkel who returned it for a touchdown, making the score 10-0. On the third play of their fourth drive, Rodgers once again threw an INT, this time to Cam Bynum.

Both teams turned the ball over on downs to start the second quarter. On their next drive, the Vikings went 74 yards on eight plays, culminating in a TD run up the middle by C.J. Ham. The Jets were forced to punt on their next drive, and with two minutes left in the first half, the Vikings got the ball back with a chance to put even more points on the board and widen their lead. Unfortunately, the Vikings went three-and-out and gave the ball back to Rodgers, who only needed 46 seconds to finally find the endzone. The Jets were still down by 10 points, but they had all the momentum going into halftime.

The Vikings got the ball to start the second half but were unable to get anything going on offense. On their second drive of the second half, the Jets had a nice drive going, running 17 plays that went for 83 yards. The Vikings' defense stiffened up in the red zone, however, and the Jets were forced to kick a field goal. The game was within one score heading into the fourth quarter, 17-10.

Neither team could get much going on ofexcellent field position, the Vikings managed to hit a field goal, making it a two-score game again. After a Jets drive that lost yardage, the Vikings could have put this game away with a long drive. Unfortunately, Sam Darnold threw an interception, and Rodgers walked right down the field for a TD. Once again, the Vikings had a chance to put the game away, and although they showed some signs of life, they could only manage a field goal. The score was 23-17, and the suddenly red-hot Rodgers had three minutes to work with. Nine plays and 44 yards later, Rogers was facing a 3rd & ten from the Vikings' 26-vard line. The Vikings' newest cornerback, and former Defensive Player of the Year Stephon Gilmore, had great coverage and was able to pick off Rodgers to clinch the game. All that was left to do was roll out the Vikings' victory formation and take a knee.

Fun fact: through the first five games of the season, the Vikings have outscored their opponents 114-37 through the first three quarters of the game.

Sam Darnold had the worst game of his Vikings' career, only completing 14 of 31 passes for 179 yards, no touchdowns, and one interception. Aaron Jones was very effective on the ground, but he was injured in the first guarter and the Vikings' run game was never able to get back on track. As a whole, the Vikings ran the ball 30 times for only 82 yards. Justin Jefferson had six catches for 92 yards, but it took 14 targets for him to reach those numbers.

Harrison Smith, Ivan Pace Jr., and Harrison Phillips each had a sack. Andrew Van Ginkel, Camryn Bynum, and Stephon Gilmore each had an interception.

Looking ahead, the Vikings have a bye-week coming up. Skol!

# 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

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### **FOR SALE**

NEW BOOK: Essays From The Fringe: My Life in and Out of Hollywood: Snapshots of Private Moments with Celebrities - Michael Calder – Barnes & Noble - Amazon

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

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# THE PENNINGTON COUNTY COURANT WEEKLY NEWSPAPER IS FOR SALE

Established business in Wall, SD since the early 1900s.

Contract for deed financing available to committed buyer. Seller owns the office building and would offer a very favorable rent structure with front access.

The Courant is an official newspaper for the City of Wall, Wall School District, and Pennington County. It is also the official newspaper for the New Underwood School District and City of New Underwood.

A great paid revenue source is established.

Interested parties may contact Don Ravellette at 605-685-5147

The Life of Joyce Sanderson



Mass of Christian Burial for Joyce Sanderson, 86, of Conde was held Tuesday, October 8th at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Turton. Father Gregory Tschakert officiated. Burial followed in St. John's Catholic Cemetery, Conde under the direction of Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel.

Joyce passed away Monday, September 30, 2024 at her home.

Joyce was born on July 23, 1938, in Conde to Lyman and Dorothy (Ragels) Wettstein. After graduating from Conde High School, she married Ronald A. (Jim) Sanderson on September 24, 1956, at St. John's Catholic Church in Conde. Together they raised three children: Patty (Mark) Grossman, Don Sanderson, and Brian (Tina) Sanderson. Joyce and Jim farmed in the Garden City area for many years before settling back on the home farm in 1972.

Grateful for sharing in her life are her children, and her grandchildren: Kristin (Evan) Mikulsky, Tony (Abbey) Grossman, Samantha (David) Hinckley, Travis (Mikayla Hood) Sanderson, Branden Kroll, Amber (Luke) Steiner, James (Stevie Ray Ann Wunder) Sanderson, and Autumn (Tyler) Neigel. The prides of Joyce's life were her great-

grandchildren: Sullivan Mikulsky; Jillian Grossman; Mason Sanderson; Jackson, Ian, and Amelia Steiner; and Destry, Miakoda, and Laiken Neigel. She is further survived by many nieces and nephews, and sisters-in-law Judy Zeck and Dorothy Sanderson.

In addition to her parents and her husband, Joyce is preceded in death by her brothers, Robert and Darrell "DZ" Zeck; her sister, Donna Boss; her grandson, David Kroll; and her brothers- and sisters-in-law, Jean and Ed Tribble, Richard Sanderson, Hazel and Don Reeve, and Ron Boss.

Joyce loved being part of her community, surrounding herself with people, and spending time with her friends. She was active in the Conde Legion Auxiliary and St. John's Catholic Church and Altar Society. She also enjoyed cooking, bowling, gardening, and taking care of her yard. Her pride and joy was their farm with its stunning views of the hills and sunsets. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

# **Groton Chamber of Commerce**

October 2, 2024, 12pm City Hall

- Members present: Hannah Hochstetler, Lori Giedt, Katelyn Nehlich, Douglas Heinrich, Ashley Bentz, April Abeln, and Carol Kutter
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved on a motion by Kutter and seconded by Heinrich. All members present voted ave.
- Treasurer's report was given. Dacotah Bank checking account balance is \$9,759.91 in addition to the \$10,000 CD. The bucks account balance is \$2,244.80. There is an outstanding check that was written to the Groton Lions Club. Abeln will check with the club. The report was approved by Abeln and seconded by Kutter. All members present voted aye.
  - A thank you note was received from Ashlynn Sperry for her 2024 scholarship.
- Lori Giedt from Lori's Pharmacy was present to accept her \$50 Chamber Bucks for winning the Homecoming Storefront Decorating Contest.
  - Giedt left the meeting at this time.
  - Chamber shirt orders are open until November 22nd. 22 orders have been placed so far.
- New tumblers from Rustic Cuts have been received and are for sale at City Hall for \$36. Theresa offered a 15% order discount.
- During the meeting, dues notices were prepared and mailed thereafter. Hochstetler mentioned a Dakota Broadcasting offer of 50 free radio ads for new Chamber members. Information will be posted on Facebook.
  - Main Street welcome banners are hung. No update was given for Hwy 12 banners.
- Motion by Nehlich and seconded by Abeln to donate a sweatshirt and tumbler to the Yelduz Shrine FEZtival of Trees event. The city will sponsor the tree and décor. All members present voted aye.
- Motion by Abeln and seconded by Nehlich to provide a Halloween prize basket at City Hall for Downtown Trick or Treat. Basket will include \$25 in Chamber Bucks as well as other seasonal items not to exceed \$25. All members present voted aye.
- Our 2025 window cling design was discussed. It was suggested the 57445-license plate design be used. Abeln will ask for a proof. 75 will be ordered once design is finalized.
- It was mentioned that 2 free ad spots on the Hwy 12 electronic sign will be given away to members that pay dues prior to February 1. All sign contracts will be up in 2026.
- Our donated services application for JVT internet for our Hwy 12 electronic sign was approved until October 2025. Application was completed by Abeln.
  - Donations were discussed, none were given.
- New business welcomes were discussed. Welcomes may be planned with Five Star Marine Werx, A Touch Up, The Jungle and possibly Kate's Confections.
- Motion by Abeln and seconded by Heinrich to award three \$500 scholarships to GHS Seniors for the 2024-2025 school year. All members present voted aye. Scholarship meet and greet is scheduled for May 14, 2025, at 1:30pm in the GHS library.
  - Next Meeting: November 6th at City Hall at 12:00pm Upcoming events
  - 10/03/2024 Enrich Groton SoDak Inc. Winter Gear Distribution 4-7pm Community Center
  - 10/05/2024 Pumpkin Fest at the City Park 10am-3pm
  - 10/10/2024 CCCTS 3-Day Sale at the Community Center 2-7pm
  - 10/11/2024 CCCTS 3-Day Sale at the Community Center 9am-3pm
    10/12/2024 CCCTS 3-Day Sale at the Community Center 9am-3pm
  - 10/11/2024 Lake Region Marching Band Festival 10am
  - 10/12/2024 Lori's Pharmacy Flu Shot Clinic 9am-1pm
  - 10/18/2024 Lori's Pharmacy Flu Shot Clinic 8am-6pm
  - 10/30/2024 Lori's Pharmacy Flu Shot Clinic 8am-6pm
  - 10/31/2024 Downtown Trick or Treat 4-6pm
  - 10/31/2024 United Methodist Church Trunk or Treat 5:30-7pm
  - 11/03/2024 SEAS Catholic Church Fall Dinner & Fellowship 5-6:30pm
  - 11/08-10/2024 Front Porch 605 Christmas at the Barn 10am-5pm
  - 11/16/2024 Legion Post #39 Turkey Party 6:30-11:30pm
  - 11/28/2024 Community Thanksgiving at the Community Center 11:30am-1pm
  - 12/01/2024 Groton Area Snow Queen & Talent Show 4:30pm GHS Old Gym
  - 12/07/2024 Olive Grove 8th Annual Holiday Party with Live & Silent Auctions 6pm-close
- Furrier Trunk Show Schedule
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  Rapid City
  Oct. 11 & 12, 10 am-6pm Oct. 13, 10-1pm
  Holiday Day Inn Rushmore Plaza, 505 N 5th St.

Aberdeen

Lily's Floral Design & Gifts, 423 S Main St.

Dakota Dunes Oct. 26, 2-7pm. Country Inn & Suites, 151 N Tower Rd.

Fargo Nov. 25 & 26, 10-6pm., Laurie's, 3265 45th St. S.

Oct. 18, 9-5:30pm • Oct. 19, 10-4pm.

consignment program/trade-in. Join us as we

Weekly SUDOKU — King Crossword -Answer Solution time: 21 mins. 5 8 6 7 1 9 4 2 3 9 2 1 6 4 3 7 8 5 4 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 2 1 8 3 6 4 9 5 7 3 5 7 1 9 2 6 4 8 6 9 4 5 8 7 3 1 2 8 6 5 9 3 1 2 7 4 7 3 9 4 2 5 8 6 1 1 4 2 8 7 6 5 3 9



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# The Groton Independent

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# Base Kamp Trap Team wins Class B Division

The 2024 Aberdeen Gun Club trap league wrapped up its season last week. Locally sponsored Base Kamp Lodge trap team were champions in the Class B Division. L-R Bruce Babcock, Greg Dennert, Tom Mahan, Gentry Gauer, Lon Gellhaus, and Brett Christianson. (Not pictured Ashton Holmes and Turner Thompson.) (Photo

courtesy Bruce Babcock)



Kessler 's trap team were champions in the Class A division. L-R Ron Beldon, Thad Albee, Bob Pray, Colton Hanson, Maggie Hanson, Swede Hanson. (Not pictured Jason Hanson) (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



**Gentry Gauer of Base Kamp Lodge** earned individual honors as Class B singles 16 yard runner up champion and season singles 50 straight award. Fellow Base Kamp lodge teammate Turner Thompson (not pictured) earned individual awards as well as Class B tied runner-up champion all around singles and champion Class B singles handicap.

(Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)



**Swede Hanson won individual awards** as Class A 16 yard runner-up champion, champion handicap and all around **champion.** (Photo courtesy Bruce Babcock)

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# Groton Chiropractic Clinic

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





The Steve Herron Memorial Pumpkin Patch was ready for the Pumpkin Fest pickers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The crowd size picked up in the afternoon as people returned from the Gypsy Day Parade in Aberdeen. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



### Winter Gear Distribution

Enrich Groton served almost 4 dozen at the Winter Gear Distribution in partnership with Dacotah Bank and the donations received at Common Cents.

Pictured are April Abeln, Dacotah Bank employees Heidi Locke and Karla Davidson, Sue Stevenson, Connie Stauch, John Aldrich, Rita Kampa and Karyn Babcock Other volunteers not pictured: Nancy Larsen, Topper Tastad, Kerry Kampa, Diane Warrington and Pat Miller (Courtesy Photo April Abeln)

**ALL OF THE PUBLIC NOTICES APPEARING** IN THE **GROTON** INDEPENDENT **ARE POSTED ON-LINE AT** 

sdpublicnotices.com



Groton Legion Hall Legion Meeting to Follow



Lori Westby assisted with the face painting at the Groton Pumpkin Fest. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



# Harry Implement

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# Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆ <

♦ Moderate ♦ ♦ Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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October 1, 2024 - GENERAL

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 and Sutton. Commissioner Wiese was absent. Commissioner Gage led the Pledge of Allegiance

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

OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Sheriff Lunzman introduced Amanda Brumfield the new Jail Nurse.

Residents of Eisenhower Circle met with the Commission due to concerns about their health, and value of their homes due to the odor that is coming from the rendering at the Beef Plant. Commissioner Sutton informed the residents that the Commission can not engage during Public Comment so if they wish to interact with them to contact the Auditor's office and be put on the agenda.

Thomas Leonhardt asked to be put on the agenda for next week regarding the Culverts to restore the water way at

SAFE HARBOR UPDATE: Gina Karst, Executive Director for Safe Harbor met with the Commission to give them an update and provided information for Fiscal Years 2022 – 2024. October is Domestic Violence Awareness/ Prevention Month. Their fiscal vear runs from July 1st to June 30th. They currently serve 7 counties and are currently assisting the Ellendale, ND community, due to them not having space for them. Last fiscal year they served 435 people; they offer the victims assistance with Financials, Housing, Transportation, etc. Due to National Dollars falling short and lost \$151,000.00 in Victims Service Grants, so had to eliminate one full-time position. Chairman Sutton, Thanked Gina for what she does, and it is a valuable service.

SOLID WASTE SPECIAL AS-SESSMENT FEES:

Commissioner Fjeldheim offered the following Resolution:

WHEREAS, Title 3, Solid Waste Management System, Chapter 3.07011 of the Second Revision Brown County Ordinances, effective March 12, 1997, as amended, requires the Board of County Commissioners to establish the Solid Waste Special Assessment fee schedule for the

following year. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the following Solid Waste Special Assessment fees shall be effective January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025, for the Brown County Sanitary Landfill:

SOLÍD WASTE SPECIAL AS-SESSMENT FEE SCHEDULE

(Assessment plus applicable sales tax billed with the Real Estate Tax Notice)

1. Households within Incorporated Cities or Civil Townships that require curbside service @ \$45.00 per year. Households within Incor-

porated Cities or Civil Townships that do not require curbside service @ \$95.00 per year.

3. Condominiums taxed as single units within Incorporated Cities or Civil Townships that require curbside service @ \$45.00 per year.

4. Condominiums taxed as single units within Incorporated Cities or Civil Townships that do not require curbside service @ \$95.00 per year.

5. Apartment Units and Assisted Living Units within in-corporated Cities that require curbside service @ \$25.00 per unit per year.

6. Seasonal Lake Cabins @ \$60.00 per year.

7. Mobile Home parks, outside incorporated municipalities, which provide or require lot side waste pickup during the entire assessment period, for deposit into a permitted landfill solid waste facility @ \$45.00 per unit

8. Mobile Home parks, outside incorporated municipalities, which do not provide or require lot side waste pickup during the

entire assessment period, for deposit into a permitted landfill solid waste facility @ \$95.00 per

Dated this 1st day of October, 2024 Seconded by Commissioner

Roll call vote: Dennert-aye; Fjeldheim-aye; Gage-aye; Sutton-aye; Wiese-absent. Resolu-

tion adopted. DIVERSION REIMBURSEMENT INCENTIVE FUND REQUEST: Kelsi Vinger, State's Attorney Grant Coordinator and Lara Nelson with Northern State University (NSU) met with the Commission to request \$15,000.00 from the Diversion Reimbursement Incentive funds that Brown County is to receive and to put towards Work-Study Case Manager to work with the people going through the Diversion Program at NSU. Lara informed the Commission that NSU would match the \$15,000.00 with Federal Funds. They are teaching language services, providing cultural services and working with families. Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the \$15,000.00 reuest and authorize Chairman Sutton to sign the agreement with NSU. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

APPLICATION FOR OCCU-PANCY: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following application submitted by Lynette Durheim for occupancy of Brown County Highway 102nd in Section 1/14-T28(Palmyra Township)-R 65W to bore under the highway and install poly pipe that will run through a casing under the highway for a Livestock water line of Web Water. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

HIĞHWAY 5-YEAR PLAN: Time and place, as advertised to discuss and receive public com-ment on the 5-year County Highway and Bridge Improvement Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent presented his 5-year plan to the Commission outlining plans for 2025-2029. Dirk informed the Commission that he can amend the plan halfway through the year after he received the Bridge Report if needed.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT UP-DATE: Dirk Rogers, Highway Superintendent updated the Commission stating they were completing 12W, need to do shouldering and striping yet but hope to finish by the end of the week. Then they will continue to haul gravel and mowing. Chair-Sutton asked about the Guard Rail at Richmond Lake and Dirk shared that the project was awarded to Dakota Fence.

MINUTES: Moved by Commissioner Dennert, seconded by Gage to approve the General Meeting Minutes of September 24, 2024. All members present voting ave. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Gage to approve the following Claims: Professional Fees: Boyce Law Firm \$450.00; Brown County 4-H Leaders Association \$5,350.00; CGI, LLC \$3,456.52; Dakota Group LLC ,500.00; Elections Systems Software \$1,104.70; IMEG Corp \$3,872.65; Jeremy Lund Siegel Barnett & Schutz, LLP \$759.00; Network Center, Inc 3,002.57; Northeastern Mental Health Center \$75.00; Sanford Health \$980.00; SDSU Extension \$99.96; Yankton County Sheriff's Office \$100.00. Publishing: Groton Daily Independent \$260.03; McQuillen Creative Group, Inc \$832.18; Todd County Tribune/Mellette County News \$24.82. Repairs & Mainténance: Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$668.25; Custom Installations Solutions \$31,820.00; Day County Treasurer \$4,139.94; Diamond Mowers LLC \$29.12; EcoLab Pest Elimination Division \$132.12; Hoven Auto Repair \$12.00; Interior Design Concepts 788.Ź0; JGE Inc \$1,010.44; KONE \$1,090.66; Lawson Products, Inc \$47.73; Leidholt Electric, LLC \$464.29: Pierson Ford Lincoln, Inc \$398.17; Safety Service \$3,075.00; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$243.00. Supplies: Advance Auto Parts \$81.59; Agtegra Cooperative \$568.76; Amazon Capital Services, Inc. \$768.46; Artz Equipment \$1,895.60; Avera LTC Pharmacy Aberdeen \$1,883.26; Bimbo Foods USA, Inc. \$902.10; Century Business Products \$95.48; Cole Paper Inc. \$1,212.69; Crawford Trucks & Equipment \$2,110.66; Custom Installations Solutions \$2,000.00; Dakota Oil

\$423.75; Dakota Supply Group

\$1,472.15; Diamond Mowers

LLC \$1,127.86; Elections System & Software \$32.85; Fastenal Company \$369.83; Fire Safety First LLC \$77.00; Frederick Fire Department \$1,251.81; Great Western Tire \$1,236.72; Hansen Tools \$150.00: HF Jacobs & Son Construction Inc. \$35,463.95; Hoven Auto Repair \$56.00; J.D. Power \$303.00; Jamestown Implement LLC \$122.60; Josh Lee \$43.88; Kelco Supply Company \$545.07; Lawson Products, Inc \$533.46; Lien Transportation Company \$294,486.70; Marco Technologies, LLC \$89.86; Menards \$297.92; Midstates Group \$1,445.70; Nelson Sales & Service, LLC \$93.12; Pitney Bowes Global Financial Services LLC \$1,046.10; Runnings \$20.87; Safety Service \$2,378.67; Shop 4-H/National 4-H Council \$49.45: Stan Houston Equipment Company, Inc \$168.00; Thee Glass Doktor, LLC \$217.02. Travel & Conference: Dennis Feickert \$33.15; Doug Fjeldheim \$221.39; Drew Dennert \$407.41: Duane Jark \$94.35: Duane Sutton \$664.85 Mike Scott \$60.00; Northeast South Dakota Family Violence Prevention Conference \$800.00; Patti Woods \$160.00; Robert Baumgartner \$60.00; Scott Madsen \$356.00; Scott Meints \$160.00; Troy Knecht \$38.76. Utilities: Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. \$34.84; Northwestern Energy \$5,049.59; Verizon Wireless \$42.72. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

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

o Employment ending for Brett Provins, Brown County Jail Detention Officer; FT – effective September 24, 2024. Request

o Last day of temporary employment for Deb Antil, Brown County Election Worker; effective September 24, 2024.

o Hiring of Shelley Wilkie as Brown County 911 Communications Officer, FT; starting wage \$22.37/hour - effective September 30, 2024.

o Approve posting for Chief Public Defender position. All members present voting

aye. Motion carried.

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

ent voting aye. Motion carried. TRAVEL REQUEST: Moved by Commissioner Gage, seconded by Fjeldheim to approve the following travel request: Lynn Zacher, Sheriff's Office, to attend Concealed Permit Training on October 1, 2024 in Watertown, SD. All members present voting

aye. Motion carried. TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT RATES: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to approve the new per diem reimbursement rates effective October 1, 2024 per SDCL 3-9; 3-9-2; ARSD 05:01:02:11; 05:01:02:14 and 05:01:02:10.01. All members present voting aye. Motion car-

OTHER BUSINESS: None

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

action taken. PROCLAMATION BY GOVER-NOR: Chairman Sutton informed everyone there was a Proclamation by the Governor to lower the Capitol Flag to half-staff to honor the memory of Former Legislator, Dr. Don Van Etten from Pennington County that passed away. Duane stated he served with him when he was a Legislator, so he has asked Judy Dosch. Building Superintendent to lower our flags as well to honor his memory; thoughts and prayers

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Commissioner Fjeldheim, seconded by Dennert to adjourn the Brown County Commission at 10:18 a.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried.

Lynn Heupel, Brown County

Published October 9, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$110.10 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23765



RESOLUTION 2024-01 AND ORDER VACATING ROADWAYS

The Ordway Township Board of Supervisors held a hearing for public input on the vacation of public roadways listed below. The hearing was held at the offices of Kippley Group, 218 5th Avenue NW, Aberdeen South Dakota 57401 on September 5, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. as provided in Notice of Hearing published as required by law.

Board members present were Paul Meyers, Dave Dell, John Kippley, Kerry Howell and Mike McHugh. Members of the public present were James Meyers, Stephanie Meyers, Paisley Mitchell, and Corey Mitchell. Also present was attorney, Kari Bartling.

The Clerk called the hearing to order at 7:01 p.m. and declared the purpose of the hearing was to receive comments pertaining to the Petition requesting vacation of certain public roadways, described as follows:

Roadway #1: Running north and south commonly known as 390th Avenue, bordered by 126th Street on the south end and 124th Street on the north end and located between the W 1/2 of Section Four and the E 1/2 of Section Five and the E 1/2 Section Eight and the W 1/2 of Section Nine, Township 124 North of Range 63 West of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, That said public right of way is approximately Sixty-Six (66) feet wide and Ten Thousand ive-Hundred Sixty (10,560) feet

Roadway #2: Running east and west commonly known as 125th Street, bordered by 390th Avenue on the west end and 391st Ave on the east end and located between S 1/2 of Section Four and N 1/2 of Section Nine. Township 124 North of Range 63 West of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. That said public right of way is approximately Sixty-Six (66) feet wide and Five Thousand Two-Hundred Eighty (5280) feet in lenath.

The Petition was examined, and it was determined to be in proper form and executed by more than the required number of electors of Ordway Township.

The Chairman opened up the hearing to public comments. Corey Mitchell, Fire Chief of the Columbia SD Fire District said that vacating these roadways was a very good idea. The fire district has been called to several fires. auto accidents and shooting incidents that have occurred at locations served by the roadways in the petition. There have been several unsafe incidents, and the public would be better served the locations were vacated. Stephanie Meyers seconded the remarks and agreed that vacating would be beneficial. Kerry Howell who lives about 1/2 mile from the area reported high power rifle fire close to his house and is concerned about safety at his residence. It was noted that no one appeared in opposition to the Petition.

It was further discussed the roadways described above are section-line roadways that are unsafe for vehicular traffic, as they are primarily composed of dirt and the ruts are often

at least a foot deep making it unsafe for vehicular traffic, particularly at night. Further, due to their location and the expense of development as roadways, it will never be feasible or practical to develop them due to the terrain and limited use of the roadways; such that the board believes that it would be in the best interest of the public that these roadways be vacated.

Thus, the Board of Supervisors of Ordway Township, Brown County, South Dakota, having considered said matter and being fully advised in the premises and considering it advisable to do so; presented the following Resolution and Order and moved for its adoption:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:

That the existing public rightof-ways which includes the statutory right-of-ways and any rightof-ways acquired by deed(s) lying as follows shall be vacated: Roadway #1: Running north

and south commonly known as 390th Avenue, bordered by 126th Street on the south end and 124th Street on the north end and located between the W 1/2 of Section Four and the E 1/2 of Section Five and the E 1/2 of Section Eight and the W 1/2 of Section Nine, Township 124 North of Range 63 West of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota, That said public right of way is approximately Sixty-Six (66) feet wide and Ten Thousand Fivé-Hundred Sixty (10,560) feet in length.

Roadway #2: Running east and west commonly known as 125th Street, bordered by 390th Avenue on the west end and 391st Ave on the east end and located between S 1/2 of Section Four and N ½ of Section Nine, Township 124 North of Range 63 West of the 5th P.M., Brown County, South Dakota. That said public right of way is approximately Sixty-Six (66) feet wide and Five Thousand Two-Hundred Eighty (5280) feet in length.

It is further ordered that said Resolution and Order shall be published in the official/legal newspaper of the respective township once per week for two consecutive weeks; and that after such publication, such roadway shall be, after a lapse of thirty days after the last publication thereof, vacated without further proceedings unless appealed as provided by law; and that the Clerk herein is further ordered and directed to cause to be recorded a true and correct copy of this Resolution and Order in the office of the Register of Deeds in and for Brown County, South Dakota.

Paul Meyers moved that the described roadways be vacated because of the unsafe conditions, seconded by Dave Dell, motion carried unanimously.

John Kippley moved to adjourn, second by Kerry Howell, motion carried.

County of Brown

State of South Dakota )

I, Mike McHugh, being the duly elected, qualified and acting Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of Ordway Township, Brown County, South Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Resolution on the action thereon by the Board of Supervisors of Ordway Township, Brown County, South Dakota, at the special meeting of said Board, held the 5th day of September 2024, as the same

appears and is now recorded in the minutes of the Clerk of the Board of said Ordway Township and that the same is true and correct transcript thereof.

In witness whereof, I have set my hand this 1st day of October

/s/ Mike McHugh, Clerk Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of October 2024.

/s/ Meagan Baumgarn South Dakota Notary Public My commission expires

Published October 9 and 16, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$162.26 and may be viewed free of charge at www. sdpublicnotices.com. 23769



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BROWN )))) SS IN CIRCUIT COURT

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT A&N 23-81 A&N 24-4 NOTICE OF FINAL DISPOSI-IONAL HEARING

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE IN-TEREST OF K.S., B.S. AND 8.N., MINOR CHILDREN,

AND CONCERNING KEYAH NGUYEN, PASANG SENLOUAN-GRAT, AŃD JAVIER REYES, RE-SPONDENTS.

TO: Javier Reyes Unknown Father

Please take notice and be advised that the above-entitled matter has been scheduled for FINAL DISPOSITIONAL HEAR-ING on the 31st day of October, 2024, at the hour of 10:15 a.m. of said day, before the Honorable Circuit Court Judge Julie Dyorak. at the Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Petitioner hereby notifies Respondents of its intent to terminate parental rights. Dated this 4th day of October,

/s/ Karla Nelson, Deputy

**Brown County States Attorney** Published October 9, 2024, at the total approximate cost of 12.57 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23766



STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BROWN IN CIRCUIT COURT

FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT A&N 24-55 NOTICE OF ADJUDICATION

HEARING THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE

INTEREST OF K. B., A. P., AND G. P., MINOR CHILDREN, AND CONCERNING

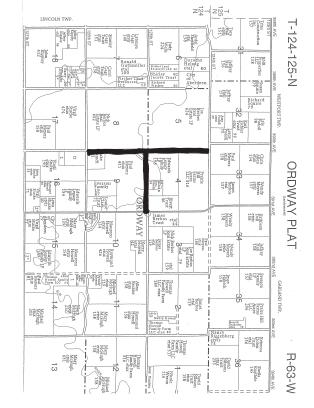
MARION JEAN PELTIER, ARIS PEREZ, KETH KRAUSE, AND KONACÍN BLACK ELK, RÉSPON-DENTS.

Please take notice and be advised that the above-entitled matter has been scheduled for an ADJUDICATION HEARING on the 12th day of November 2024, at the hour of 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. of said day, before the Honorable Circuit Court Judge Julie Dvorak, at the Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South

Failure to appear at these Adiudicatory proceedings shall be deemed an admission. Dated this 4th day of October,

/s/ Karla Nelson, Deputy **Brown County States Attorney** Published October 9, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$13.18 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23767

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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA COUNTY OF BROWN

SS

ÍN CIRCUIT COURT FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

NOTICE OF CONTINUED AD-VISORY HEARING

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA IN THE INTEREST OF

A. L., MINOR CHILD, AND CONCERNING DORI LLOYD AND RAYNARD LEBEAU, RESPONDENTS. TO: Dori Lloyd

Please take notice and be advised that the above-entitled matter has been scheduled for a Notice of Continued Advisory Hearing on November 4th, 2024 at the hour of 1:30 p.m., before the Honorable Circuit Court Judge Julie Dvorak, at the Brown County Courthouse, Aberdeen, South Dakota

Dated this 2nd day of October, 2024

/s/ Karla Nelson, Deputy Brown County States Attorney Published October 9, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$11.34 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices.com. 23768



Ordinance 779 An Ordinance certifying the 2025 City of Groton Property Tax Levy to Brown County

Be It Ordained by the governing body of the City of Groton, South Dakota that the City Finance Officer is hereby directed to certify the following amount of property tax levy to the County Auditor of Brown County, South Dakota, in the manner provided by law.

General Fund \$563,748

The amount of tax levy request is \$563,748. The amount of opt out request is \$230,000. The total request being \$793,748 for general purposes

Scott Hanlon, Mayor

Douglas Heinrich, Finance

First Reading: 9/17/2024 Second Reading: 10/1/2024 The City of Groton is an equal opportunity provider. Published October 9, 2024,

at the total approximate cost of \$9.81 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 23770



Notice of Surplus Property The Groton City Council has declared the following items as surplus property: 1985 Chevy C7D064 Dump Truck with 73,406 miles. Bids will be accepted at Groton City Hall, 120 N Main Street or mailed to PO Box 572. Bids are due by November 5, 2024, by 5:00pm and will be opened that same evening during the regular council meeting at 7:00pm. Please call 605-397-8422 with any questions. The City Council reserves the right to

refuse any and all bids. Published October 9, 2024, at the total approximate cost of \$6.44 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicnotices. com. 23771



October 1, 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: Babcock, Wells, Wambach, Bahr, and Mayor Hanlon presiding. Also present were Attorney Drew Johnson, Douglas Heinrich, Elizabeth Varin, Dwight Zerr, Jarod Fliehs, Jessica Kroll, Tricia Keith, Kami Lipp, and Todd Gay.

Moved by Wambach and seconded by Wells to approve the agenda with the movement of department reports to agenda item #3. All members present voted aye.

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

Department reports were

reviewed. Zerr and Gay exited the meet-

ing.

Keith and Lipp provided an end of year update for the 2024

swimming pool season Lipp and Keith exited the

The 2024 swimming pool report was approved on a motion by Babcock and seconded by Wambach. All members present

voted aye. Discussion took place regarding baseball.

Fliehs and Kroll exited the meetina.

Discussion took place regarding the preparation plan for the skating rink

Moved by Bahr and seconded by Wambach to approve the gate guote of \$7,000 for the soccer complex. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Babcock and sec onded by Wells to declare the 1985 Chevy C7D064 Dump Truck as surplus property. Bids are due by November 5, 2024, at 5:00pm. All members present voted aye.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to approve the liquor license renewals for The Jungle, American Legion Post #39, Ken's Food Fair, Red Horse Inn, Olive Grove Golf Course, Dollai General, and MJ's Sinclair. All members present voted aye.

The second reading of Ordinance No. 779 - Certifying 2025 City of Groton Property Tax Levy to Brown County was approved on a motion by Bahr and seconded by Wambach. All members present voted ave.

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

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

Payroll, \$32,536.40, Employee

salaries; Executive, \$559.27, Administrative, \$4,743.83, ; Public Safety, \$11,289.55, ; Public Works, \$14,233.57, ; Culture & Recreation, \$1,710.18, ; Dacotah Bank, \$6,379.53, Withholding/SS/Medicare; Dakotaland FCU, \$730.00, Wireless router - Rubble Site; Dacotah Bank, \$647.90, HSA contributions; Dacotah Bank, \$3,811.27, With holding/SS/Medicare; Dacotah Bank, \$50.00, HSA contributions; Aflac, \$435.76, Employee insurance; Colonial Life, \$69.40, Employee insurance; Allied Benefit Systems, \$14,120.45, Employee insurance; Reliance Standard Life Insurance, \$88.10, Employee Insurance; Pressure Washer Central, \$17.36, 36" wand for pressure washer - City Shop; Skeeter Defeeter, \$275.00, Mos quito spray application - Soccer Complex; Dakota Supply Group, \$70.60, Curb box - Water Dept.: IMEG Corp., \$2,500.00, Engineering costs - Wastewater Řeport; VESTIS, \$67.26, Rug rent - City Hall; Verizon Wireless, \$40.01, Wireless router - Rubble Site: J's Superior Cleaning, \$200.00, Commercial cleaning City Hall; Irby, Inc. \$1,795.50, Corner guards, elbows w/ jacket seals - Electric Dept.; SD Department of Health, \$238.00, Water testing; Harry Implement, Inc., \$266.00, Heat shrink tubing, battery terminal lugs, battery cables - Street Dept.; SD Supplemental Retirement , \$290.00, Supplemental retirement; AutoZone, \$195.72, Serpentine belt, transmission fluid, wiper blades, oil, filter Multiple Depts.; Alternative Technologies, Inc., \$264.00, Transformer oil testing - Electric Dept.: Lien Transportation Company, \$208.05, Hot mix - Street Dept.; Glenn Bitz, \$175.00, Window cleaning - City Hall; Justin Cleveland, \$26.80, Employee mileage reimbursement - Traffic OT meeting in Aberdeen, SD; Greg's Repair, \$21.31, Mower tire repair - Parks; Dennis "Mike" Olson, \$688.80, Code enforcement services; WESCO Distribution, \$2,081.00, Meter sockets, current transformer - Electric Dept.; The Groton Independent,

\$113.13, Publishing costs; NW

Energy, \$11.35, Natural gas service - PD generator; Dollar General, \$251.60, Bottled water,

bug spray, plates, homecoming supplies, tape, toilet paper, paper

towels, candy, batteries - Multiple Depts.; S&S Lumber Co., \$355.62, Glue, quick clamps, 24mm socket, fuse holder, wire connector, toggle switch, hydraulic end, batteries, drill bits, spade bit, reflective numbers, rope, zip ties, basketball nets, masking tape, mumber, hose parts, male adapter, hitch pin, threaded PVC plug, bug spray, tubing - Multiple Depts.; Drew Johnson, \$1,150.00, Legal services - September 2024; SD Retirement System, \$11,409.92, Employee retirement.

Announcement: Pumpkin Fest on Saturday, October 5th from 10am to 3pm.

Announcement: Enrich's Winter Gear Distribution on October 3rd from 4pm to 7pm at Groton Community Center.

Varin exited the meeting. Moved by Wells and seconded by Bahr to adjourn into executive session for personnel and legal matters 1-25-2 (1) & (3) at 8:21pm. All members present voted aye. Council reconvened into regular session at 8:35pm.

Moved by Wells and seconded by Babcock to adjourn the meeting at 8:35pm. All members present voted aye.

Scott Hanlon, Mayor Douglas Heinrich, Finance

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City of Columbia Council Meeting - October 2, 2024

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

Community: Ryan Truax, Ted

Corey Mitchell called the meeting to order. He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Cara mentioned the addition of a bill from Johnson Rock & ravel to the proposed agenda. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Trevor Meints seconded the All in favor - motion motion. Corey Mitchell called carried. for any conflict of interest on agenda items. There were no conflicts. Minutes were handed out from the Sept 19th meeting. Scott Meints made a motion to approve the minutes. Trevol Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor - motion carried.

Warrant Vouchers Northwestern Energy – electricity – 1482.76; Web – fire prevention – 52.02; Brown County Treasurer mosquito prevention - 624.36; JVT – fire prevention – 212.85; Double D Lot Services - mowing and fertilizing-9252.00; Jeremy Dosch- Sept. wages -419.99 -; Cara Dennert – Sept wages– 1235.25; GDI – publications –96.86; Dacotah Bank – shop supplies -222.16; Runnings shop supplies - 42.86: Park & Play - Daly Memorial Bench 2,283.23; Corey Mitchell - 3rd quarter wages -340.34; Trevor Meints - 3rd quarter wages 296.46; Emily Eichler - 3rd quarter wages - 255.29; Jeremy Dosch - 3rd quarter wages -296.46; Scott Meints - 3rd quarter wages - 296.46; SD Unemployment Insurance - insurance 33.23; United States Treasury 3rd quarter 941 - 2067.50; Johnson Rock & Gravel - gravel for streets - 585.90

Scott Meints made a motion to approve the vouchers as corrected. Jeremy Dosch seconded the motion. All were in favor motion carried.

COMMUNITY COMMENTS / CORRESPONDENCE: Pipeline afetv letter

UNFINISHED BUSINESS -Ted Dickey & Ryan Truax were present to discuss wastewater and drainage plans for State Water plan/public notice. There is a compliance issue with our lagoon in the imminent future. Ted explained that in order to qualify for state monies we will need to raise our sewer rates. There is a sag issue between James & Lake Blvd. Ted reviewed our rates and the possible loan amount of 3.714 million. He explained that the DANR focuses on the natural water areas and look to the best interests of the environment. This doesn't lock the city into signing on with the project, but it starts the ball rolling so that the council can make informed decisions

on what dollar amount that we would be looking at to need to finance. We need to know what the government would be willing to put towards the project. After much discussion. Trevor Meints made a motion to pass resolution 24-02 to authorize Corey Mitchell to sign the application for financial assistance. Jeremy Dosch seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

The council Nuisanceswould like to remind residents that the county is having free drop off at the landfill until September 14th. The council also discussed a water issue in a residence.

Streets - The grader will be here to blade some streets soon. We were trying to hold off for rain, but.

Parks - The Columbia Committees asked for permission to hang up some Halloween decorations at the new park.

Lagoon/Sewer See unfinished business

Rubble Site - John Hansen is going to stack the piles before a burn this winter.

NEW BUSINESS - Trevor is looking at new tires and rims for the Bobcat.

FINANCIAL REPORT - Cara talked recently with Rod Fortin in the State Auditor's office. On the annual report, it stated that the General Fund is very low in funds. The Sales Tax Fund dollar amount was very high. For the last 5 years, all sales tax monies have been put into the later fund. Rod explained that we need to keep 2 or 3 years worth of mortgage for our City Hall in the Sales Tax Fund, but the majority could be transferred to the General Fund. Emily Eichler made a motion to transfe \$80,000 to the General Fund. Trevor Meints seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried. Cara presented bank balances. Trevor Meints made a motion to accept the financial reports as given. Emily Eichler seconded the motion. All were in favor – motion carried.

September 30, 2024, balances: SF - \$ 70,729.10; SF Money Market -\$ 151,553.84

GF - \$ 135,386.82; GF Money Market - \$ 50,852.35; CD Money Market - \$ 32,451.54

FIT - \$15,393.60; Cash on hand - \$0

Next Regular City Council Meeting – November 6, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by Cara Dennert, Finance Officer

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23 24 25

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Published October 9, 2024 at the total approximate cost of \$45.53 and may be viewed free of charge at www.sdpublicno tices.com. 23773



RESOLUTION NO. 24-02 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION FOR FINAN-CIAL ASSISTANCE, AUTHO-RIZING THE EXECUTION AND SUBMITTAL OF THE APPLICATION, AND DESIGNATING AN **AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE** TO CERTIFY AND SIGN PAY-MENT REQUESTS.

WHEREAS, the City of Columbia (the "City") has determined it is necessary to proceed with improvements to its Wastewater System, including but not limited to replacing several blocks of sewer lines in town, make repairs to the lift station and construct a new lagoon for the city wastewater system (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that financial assistance will be necessary to undertake the Project and an application for financial assistance to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources (the "Board") will be prepared; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary to designate an authorized representative to execute and submit the Application on behalf of the City and to certify and sign payment requests in the event financial assistance is awarded for the Project, NOW THEREFORE BE IT RE-

SOLVED by the City as follows:

1. The City hereby approves the submission of an Application for financial assistance in an amount not to exceed \$3,714,000 to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources for the Project. 2. The Town President is

hereby authorized to execute the Application and submit it to the South Dakota Board of Water and Natural Resources, and to execute and deliver such other documents and perform all acts necessary to effectuate the Application for financial assistance.

The Town President is hereby designated as the authorized representative of the City to do all things on its behalf to certify and sign payment requests in the event financial assistance is awarded for the Project.

Adopted at Columbia, South Dakota, this 2 day of October APPROVED:

City of Columbia (Seal) Àttest: Finance Officer Published October 9, 2024,

tices.com. 23774



NOTICE OF DEADLINE FOR **VOTER REGISTRATION** 

Voter registration for the General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, will close on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. Failure to register by this date will cause forfeiture of voting rights for this election. If you are in doubt about whether you are registered, check the Voter Information Portal on the Secretary of State's website at https://vip.sdsos.gov/VIPLogin. aspx or call the Brown County Auditor's Office at 605-626-7110.

Registration may be com-pleted during regular business hours at the county auditor's office, municipal finance office, secretary of state's office, and those locations which provide driver's licenses, SNAP, TANF, WIC, military recruitment, and assistance to the disabled as provided by the Department of Human Services. You may contact the county auditor to request a mail-in registration form or access a mail-in registration form on the Secretary of State's website at https://sdsos.gov/ elections-voting/voting/registerto-vote/default.aspx.

Any voter who needs assis-

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

Lynn Heupel, County Auditor Brown County, SD

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# **King** Crossword

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# **ACROSS**

- 1 "Kapow!" 4 Makes a
- choice 8 Release money
- 12 Actress Merkel
- 13 Bovfriend
- 14 Celestial bear
- 15 MSNBC rival 16 Lawman
- Wyatt 17 Some HDTVs
- 18 James Caan's role in "The Godfather"
- 21 Shoe width
- 22 Aachen arti-
- 23 Tire pattern 26 LBJ's suc-
- cessor 27 Faux -
- 30 Shower bar?
- 31 Chart format 32 Shed
- 33 Cauldron 34 Hit show let-
- ters 35 Symbol of
- freshness 36 HBO rival 37 Serena, to
- Venus 38 Grammywinning
- Shawn Colvin 2 song 45 Exotic berry

4 Heeded

8 President

rage!"

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11 Zap with a

- ods 47 Actor Tropical tuber 32 Prepare pota-Harrison Paramount
- 48 Brisk pace 49 Vogue rival

46 Eventful peri-

- 50 Microwave 51 Curly cabbage 10 "This — out-52 Ken or Barbie
- 53 Oklahoma tribe

# **DOWN**

- 1 Tampa Bay team, for short Domini
- 3 "Death in Venice" author
- 20 Author Yutang 41 Woody's son 23 Recipe abbr. 24 Kanga's kid
- 25 Have dinner 26 Carnival city
- 27 Luau dish 28 Gore and Pacino

29 Farm pen Quiet partner? 31 "Continue!"

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- toes 34 Bashful
- Martin Van 35 Truck fuel 9 Not pizzicato 36 Marsh bird
  - 37 Lowercase 38 Bag
- 39 Pac-12 team 40 Hammer tar-19 Tide variety aet
  - 42 Rice-shaped pasta
    - 43 Vegan's no-no
    - 44 Big fair, for short
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Groton Independent ♦ Wed., Oct. 9, 2024 ♦ 7

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of charge at www.sdpublicno-

Down 2, Lady Netters rally to stun Mobridge-Pollock
It was like two different volleyball teams shows up to play Mobridge-Pollock Monday evening as Groton Area rallied to beat Mobridge-Pollock in a five set match.

The Bridge City Tigers dominated Groton Area in the first two sets by identical scores of 25-16. When asked what she told the team after the second loss, Coach Chelsea Hanson said, "I really didn't say anything. It was Coach Jenna Strom that told them they needed to go out, relax and have some fun."

Groton Area sported a 6-0 lead to start the third set and never trailed as the Tigers won the third set, 25-17. It was an eight point rally in the fourth set that gave Groton Area a 19-14 lead and the visiting Tigers won the fourth set, 25-19. Groton Area took the early lead in the fifth set and went on to win, 15-10. This was the first five-set match for Groton Area this year.

Chesney Weber led Groton Area with 53 of 59 in attacks for 13 kills, she was 13 of 16 in serves for three ace serves, had one block and 16 assists. Rylee Dunker had was 20 of 25 in attacks with seven kills and had four assisted blocks. Taryn Traphagen was 22 of 23 in attacks for seven kills. Jaedyn Penning had five kills and 20 digs. Faith Traphagen had five kills and two assisted blocks. Elizabeth Fliehs was 13 of 14 in serves with three ace serves and she had 17 assists. Jerica Locke had two ace serves and 39 digs. Laila Roberts had two kills and 13 digs. Kella Tracy had two kills and Sydney Locke had one ace serve.

Raelyn Aberle led Mobridge-Pollock with 12 kills, 23 digs and four ace serves. Charley Henderson was limited to two points in the final two sets and finished with nine kills, two solo and four assisted blocks and one ace serve. Tegan Konold had eight kills, one solo and three assisted blocks, 10 digs and two ace serves. Sophia Overland had three kills, 19 digs and 14 assists. Grace Overland had seven kills. Jacy Netterville had one ace serve and 21 digs and Ellie Kemnitz had 14 assists.

Groton Area, now 12-5 on the season, will travel to Milbank on Thursday. Mobridge-Pollock drops to 15-4.

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Agtegra, Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Fans of Jaedyn Penning, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms and The Meathouse in Andover.

Groton Area won the junior varsity match, 2-0. In the first set, the lead changed hands five times and the set was tied eight times before Groton Area had a seven point rally under the serving of Talli Wright to take the lead for good and to win, 25-14. The second set was tied 16 times with seven lead changes before Groton Area pulled out a 26-24 win. Libby Althoff had six kills one ace serve, Makenna Krause had five kills and one ace serve, Kella Tracy had five kills, McKenna Tietz had three kills and one ace serve, Sydney Locke had three ace serves, Talli Wright two ace serves and one kill and Emerlee Jones had two kills.

The junior varsity match was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Adam and Nicole Wright.

Groton Area made it a clean sweep with a 25-18 and 25-22 win in the C match.

- Paul Kosel

# **South Dakota Minumum Wage Will Increase January 1**

Effective January 1, 2025, South Dakota's minimum wage for nontipped employees will be \$11.50 per hour, up from \$11.20 per hour in calendar year 2024.

For tipped employees, the hourly minimum wage for calendar year 2025 will be no less than \$5.75 per hour, up from \$5.60 in calendar

The changes were posted on the South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation (DLR) website.

The state's minimum wage is adjusted annually as a result of an initiated measure approved by South Dakota voters in 2014. Increases in the state minimum wage rate are based on the national cost of living index. State law requires the rate to be rounded up to the nearest

With limited exceptions, South Dakota's minimum wage applies regardless of the age of the employee, the number of hours worked each week, or length of employment. When utilizing the tip credit for tipped employees, the wages paid by the employer and tips received by the employee must equal at least the state minimum wage. The employer must keep a record of all tips received by employees.

# Girls soccer ends season with 3-0 win over Garretson

**By Coach Matt Baumgartner** 

Final regular season game today on the road down in Garretson. Embraced the wind and a long 18-day hiatus since our last outing against Dakota Valley.

Girls started very relaxed and showed very little signs of rust for not playing in over two weeks. Had multiple opportunities on net in the opening 10 minutes, before a good midfield combination play from Kayla Lehr and McKenna Tietz opened space for Jerica Locke to run in upon and open the scoring.

Minutes later Brenna Imrie found Brooklyn Hansen in space and her shot was picture perfect in the top of the net. Mia Crank responded with a long 40 yard shot 14 minutes later to round out the half and the scoring on the day. Rotation and a plethora of positions changes make the afternoon fun and energetic for everyone, our chances second half found the post a few times and some miss kicks lead to us not adding more to the scoresheet.

Saturday matchup was looked at as being a great opportunity to build our momentum and craft our message to the rest of the state heading into the playoffs that we have one big goal this year. Our spirts are all high after having a stellar regular season and are looking for another rally of support from the community and fans as we face off with Vermillion in the State A Quarterfinals, Tuesday October 5th at 4:00 PM in Groton.

### Goals:

- 1 Jerica Locke assisted by McKenna Tietz -
- 2 Brooklyn Hansen assisted by Brenna Imrie 15th minute
- 3 Mia Crank unassisted 29th minute

Jaedyn Penning - 1 save - 40 minutes Mia Crank - 1 save - 40 minutes

# Boys soccer rallies to tie **Dakota Valley**

The Groton Area boys soccer team was down 3-0, with 12 minutes left in the game. The Tigers came back to tie the game at three with the scoring coming form corner kicks. Ethan Kroll had one goal and two assists and Logan Olson had two goals.





# Groton Area beats Roncalli in a double overtime thriller



Christian Ehresmann tried to gain some yards, but a Roncalli player would grab a hold of a leg and wouldn't let go. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

A goal line stand in the second overtime gave the Groton Area Tigers a 29-23 thrilling win over Aberdeen Roncalli in action played Friday in Groton.

"We work on situations like that," said Coach Shaun Wanner. "We fill every gap and our linebackers were going to hit hard. We knew where the ball was going. Backous is a senior and a four year starter and one of the best players around. Roncalli wasn't going to go for any trick plays. They were going to him. That was a great stop."

The Tigers scored first in the game on a 58 yard pass play from Korbin Kucker to Keegen Tracy. Joao Nunes kicked the PAT. That drive took just six plays with two first downs going 70 yards in three minutes. "When we scored first," Wanner said, "I knew this was going to be a good game."

Roncalli would then score on the next possession that was helped by a big pass play taking the Cavaliers down to the Tiger seven yard line. Roncalli would score on a seven yard run by Zane Backous and Aiden Fisher kicked the PAT. That drive went 69 yards in four plays with two first downs in just over a minute.

The first quarter ended tied at seven.

Roncalli would score first in the second quarter in a drive that went 77 yards in 10 plays with six first downs in four minutes. Brody Weinmeister would score on a one-yard run with Fisher kicking the PAT.

Groton Area would answer on a 64 yard drive with three first downs in nine plays spanning five minutes. Tracy would make the touchdown catch on an eight yard pass from Korbin Rucker. Joao Nunes would kick the PAT and the game was tied at 14, which was the halftime score. Groton Area had the ball twice and Roncalli once in the third quarter, but the score remained tied at 14 going into the fourth quarter.

Ryder Johnson would punt the ball and it would land right at the one yard line where Roncalli had to start. The Cavaliers got one first down, but ended up punting on fourth and nine.

The Tigers would start at the Roncalli 43 yard line and after two first downs, Groton Area was fourth and one at the Roncalli one yard line. "Our exchange student from Langford is a good kicker," Wanner said. "He hasn't missed many extra points - only when there is a bad snap or bad hold. I asked the team if they wanted to go for the run or the kick and they agreed to go for the field goal. I wanted points and I knew he was going to make it. That would put pressure on Roncalli."

Joao Nunes would kick a 20 yard field goal and the Tigers would take a 17-14 lead with 3:17 left in the game.

The Cavaliers would try to get a first down on fourth and 10 with 1:41 left in the game; however, the pass was incomplete and Groton Area would take over on downs. The Tigers had the ball at the Roncalli 48, but were held to fourth and third. Now Roncalli had the bal back with 1:12 left in the game.

The Cavaliers got a first down at the Tiger 19 yard line with 50 seconds left. They got another first down and were down to the Groton Area four yard line with 27 seconds left. The Tiger defense kept the Cavaliers out of the end zone. On fourth and 10 at the Groton Area 10 yard line, a field goals attempt by Roncalli was blocked; but a roughing the kicker penalty would give Roncalli another chance. This time, Aiden Fisher would kick a 22 yard field goal with one second left on the clock and the game was tied at 17.

Both teams would have four chances to score from the 10 yard line. Groton Area would have the first opportunity in the first overtime. On the first play, Christian Ehresmann would score on a 10 yard pass from Korbin Kucker. The Tigers were going to kick the PAT, but picked up the ball and attempted a run that was stopped.

Roncalli would score on a third and three with a three yard run by Zane Backous. The PAT kick was blocked by Ryder Johnson and the score remained tied, now at 23. "We came up with some big plays and that was one of them," Wanner said. "If they would have made the kick, they would have won the game."

Groton Area would score on the first play in the second overtime on a pass play from Korbin Kucker to Keegen Tracy. Once again, the Tigers were going to kick the PAT but elected for the run that was stopped.

Aberdeen Roncalli would now have four chances. The Cavaliers had the ball at the one yard line for the final play of the game and the Tiger defense prevented the score and would win a sack. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

the game, 29-23.



Brevin Fliehs tackles Zane Backous for a sack. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Keegen Tracy would catch the ball on the his play. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

"I was proud of our kids," Wanner said. "After last week, I didn't know how we were going to respond. But by midweek, I knew they were ready to go. We had a good practice on Wednesday and everyone was there at that the 6 a.m. Thursday practice. I could tell we were ready to play."

Groton Area had 13 first downs, carried the ball 28 times for 59 yards (Korbin Kucker 15-15, Brevin Fliehs 5-19, Christian Ehresmann 8-25); and Korbin Kucker completed 15 of 19 passes for 166 yards with four touchdowns (Receivers: Christian Ehresmann 7-47, 1 TD; Keegen Tracy 3-68, 3 TD; Brevin Fliehs 2-14l Ryder Johnson 2-17; Teylor Diegel 1-15). Defensive leaders were Christian Ehresmann with 14 tackles followed by Brevin Fliehs with nine, Tucker Hardy seven, Korbin Kucker five and Caleb Mertz with four.

Aberdeen Roncalli had 15 first downs, carried the ball 37 times for 146 yards with three touchdowns (Zane Backus 17-82, 2 TD; Aiden Fisher 10-24; Brady Weinmeister 10-40, 1 TD); and Aiden Fisher completed seven of 20 passes for 140 yards (Receiver: James Behan 3-114, Brody Weinmeister 1-9, Jett Johnson 1-5, Luke Kaiser 1-7, Zane Backous 1-5) Defensive leaders were Brody Weinmeister with 12 tackles followed by Carter Samson with 11 and Zane Backous and Noah Kramer each had eight.

There were no fumbles or interceptions in the game.

Groton Area, now 4-2, will travel to Sisseton on Friday. Aberdeen Roncalli is also 4-2.

"We can't have a letdown in the next two weeks. If we win those games, we could be hosting the first round of the playoffs."

The game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Agtegra

Avantara Groton, Bierman Farm Service, BK Custom T's & More, Blocker Construction, Dacotah Bank, Dan Richardt from Groton Ford, Groton Ag Partners, Groton Chamber, Groton Ford, John Sieh Agency, Jungle Lanes & Lounge, Krueger Brothers, R&M Farms/Rix Farms and The Meathouse in Andover. Justin Olson provided the play-by-play, Jeslyn Kosel operated the camera and Paul Kosel the technical assistance.

- Paul Kosel

# Girls soccer advance to state championship semifinal game

Groton Area defeated Vermillion, 11-1, in the first round of the state soccer playoffs held Tuesday in Groton. Groton Area will host the semifinal game on Saturday. The Tigers will take on Dakota Valley. Game time is noon.

11:53:

Hansen
5:45: I
The boton area will host the semifinal game on Saturday. The Tigers will take on Dakota Valley. Game time is noon.

Scoring: First Half:

34:22: Faith Traphagen 26:46: Brooklyn Hansen 6:36: Laila Roberts

1:35: Jerrica Locke assisted by Brooklyn

ansen

Vermillion: 0:34: Taylor Reuvers

35:51: McKenna Tietz

31:06: Brooklyn Hansen 28:15: Jerica Locke 27:24: Kayla Lehr 25:53: Laila Roberts

11:53: Jerica Locke assisted by Kennedy

5:45: McKenna Tietz - Game ends

The boys travelled to Vermillion and lost their game, 12-0. The game had to go 6- minutes before the mercy rule took effect.

The girls game was broadcast live on GDILIVE.COM, sponsored by Avantara - Groton, Dacotah Bank, Groton Chamber, Groton Chiropractic Clinic, Harry Implement of Ferney, John Sieh Agency, Lori's Pharmacy, Milbrandt Enterprises, POET, Rix Farms/R&M Farms, S & S Lumber, Sun & Sea Travel, The Meathouse of Andover, Weismantel Insurance Agency of Columbia.



Jerica Locke (left) and McKenna Tietz (right) squeeze out Vermillion's Marasia Warren. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



Laila Roberts gets in front of Vermillion's Taylor Reuvers. (Photo by Paul Kosel)



The Groton Area and Langford Area bands, under the direction of Desiree Yeigh and Kelly Wieser, have been playing together at the home football games this year. (Photo by Paul Kosel)

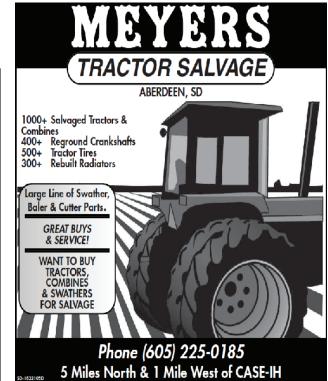


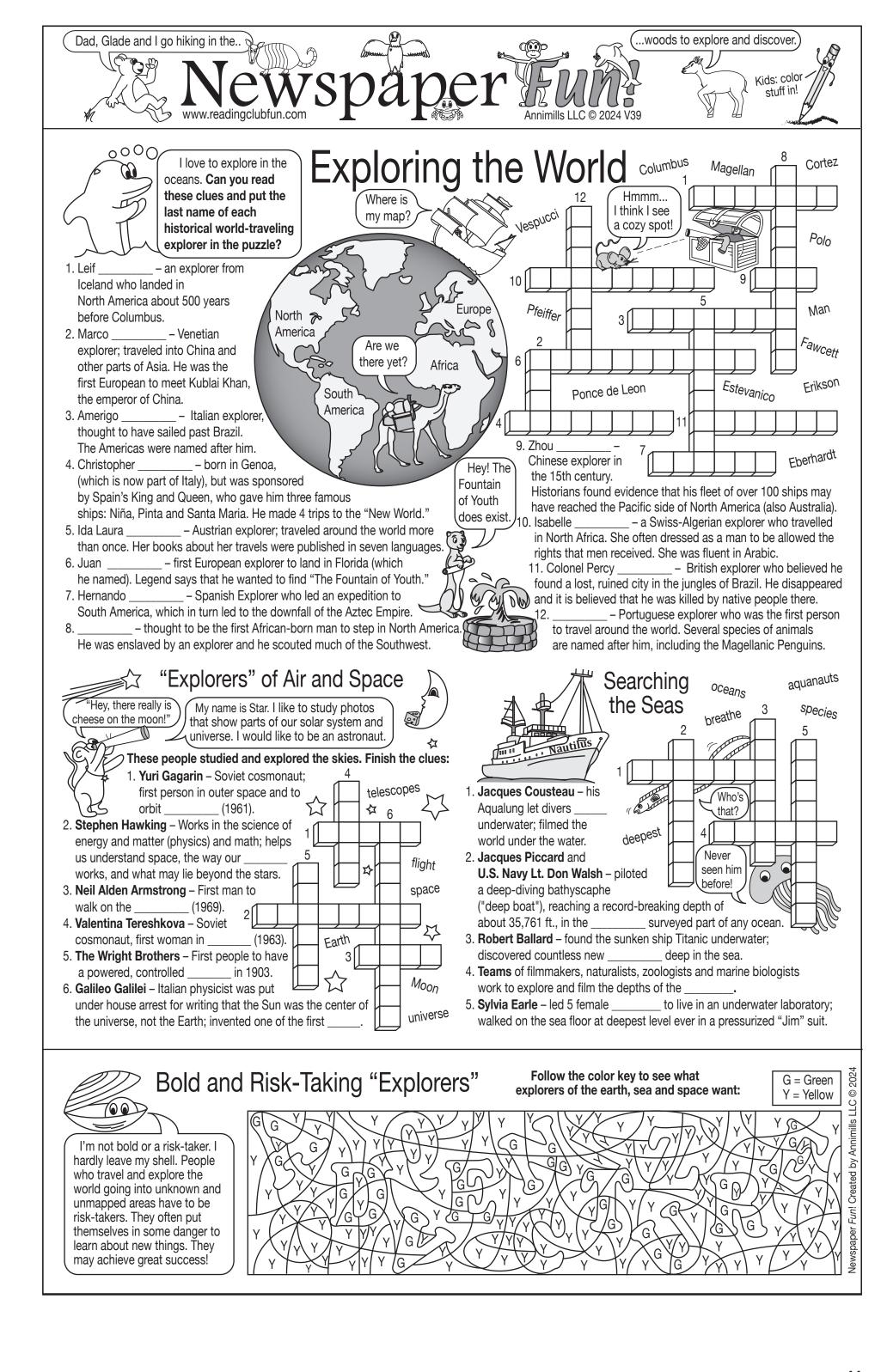
Faith Traphagen moves the ball to keep it away from a Vermillion player. (Photo by Paul Kosel)











Dear EarthTalk: Are we really all exposed to many hazardous chemicals that come off the packaging our food travels in? What can we do to minimize our exposure to these potential toxins in our food?

-- William Freleigh, Newark, DE



A large percentage of our food packaging contains toxic Food Contact Chemicals (FCCs), which are chemicals that come into contact with foods during manufacturing, packaging or transportation. Notable FCCs include BPA, BPS and BPF, all commonly found in soda and soup cans, plastic food linings, and DVDs, and plasticizers or phthalates, which are widely used to make plastic products more flexible and durable. At least 25 percent of FCCs, including BPAs and plasticizers, can be found in the human body due to exposure to food packaging, and can be extremely hazardous to our health. Some health risks include harm to the immune system, cancer, liver toxicity, thyroid effects and reproductive toxicity. BPAs are especially hazardous for women, as they are also toxic to the ovaries and uterus.

Due to the prevalence of FCCs in so much food packaging, it is impossible to fully avoid them. However, there are ways to reduce our exposure to toxic chemicals in our food. For one, buy food that is stored in glass jars or BPA-free boxes instead of metal cans and plastic



Lots of food packaging contains toxic chemicals that come into contact with foods during manufacturing, packaging or transportation.

containers, which are more likely to contain FCCs. Also, wash your hands often and always before eating, steer clear of fast-food and fatty foods and eat fresh, unprocessed foods, especially organic fruits and vegetables. You can also reduce risks when preparing food by using wooden, stainless steel or silicone kitchenware, and avoiding non-stick pans, disposable packaging, packaging with recycling codes 3 or 7, and black plastic kitchenware.

FCCs are also prevalent in cleaning products and other household items. You can reduce your exposure to chemicals in these products by using glass or stainless-steel reusable water bottles, buying fragrance-free soaps, cosmetics and cleaners, refusing paper receipts and avoiding vinyl carpets and fabrics. It is also recommended that you keep your windows open for ventilation whenever possible, as synthetic

chemicals often deteriorate into dust particles that are easily inhaled. Unfortunately, the only way that we will be able to permanently get rid of FCCs is to campaign for them to be banned by the government and by national retailers. Several volunteer-led campaigns have already spoken out on the issue, and a lot of headway has been made in banning specific toxic chemicals, including BPAs, in California. If you would like to help canvas for the banning of toxic chemicals in food packaging, consider volunteering for Take Out Toxics or other local campaigns that are pressuring their local governments and retailers to call for chemical bans.

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

# **"Prairie** Doc or **Prairie** Bot?"

Artificial Intelligence or A.I. has gone from Science Fiction to a reality. This technology continues to evolve and find new applications



in the world, including the world of medicine. With any new advancement, there are pros and cons to be considered when implementing it into regular use, especially in medicine.

In 2023 the Journal of Medical Internet Research published an article where they had ChatGPT take 2 of the 3 USMLE exams. Step 1 is taken by third year medical students and all physicians must pass all three tests in order to become licensed as a physician. The program was given 4 different practice tests and scored between 44 to 64.4% correct. Over 60% is considered a passing score. The headlines read that ChatGPT passes medical boards.

While this headline was shocking, reading the article gives more nuances to that declaration. There were three different AI programs used, and only one had a passing score for one of the four sample tests, the easiest step 1. When the exams themselves were broken down, the AI was able to answer the "easy" questions with the greatest accuracy. Questions were graded on a score from 1 (easy) to 5 (difficult). However, it was unable to answer any of the level 5 questions. When the program was given a "hint", the performance increased to 22% correct of the level 5 questions. Students taking the test do not aet hints.

For this article I decided to ask Chat GPT to list "5 ways AI will improve the practice of medicine in the next 5 years" and "5 ways AI may harm the practice of medicine in the next 5 years." Here is what the program came up with.

Here are the 5 ways ChatGPT thought AI could improve the practice of medicine

- Improved diagnostics and early detection 1)
- 2) Personalized treatment plans
- Efficient administrative workflows
- 4) Virtual health assistants and remote monitoring
- 5) Drug discovery and development

Here are the 5 ways ChatGPT thought AI could worsen the practice of medicine

- Over-reliance on AI 1)
- 2) Bias in algorithms
- 3) Privacy and data security risks
- 4) Job displacement and role redefinition
- 5) Increasing costs for AI implementation

AI is a tool that can be used. Like any tool in medicine, it needs to be tested for safety, accuracy, and effectiveness before widespread implementation. While ChatGPT could easily write this entire article for me in a matter of seconds, it would not be providing you with the personal connection or with the level of reverence and responsibility that each Prairie Doc feels. We take our motto to provide you with health information that is based in science and built on trust very seriously. We will watch as this technology develops and advances. We embrace progress while holding fast to our prairie roots of connection and community. You do not need to worry about Prairie Doc being replaced by Prairie Bot.

Jill Kruse, D.Ó. 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, Instagram, and Threads featuring On Call with the Prairie Doc®, a medical Q&A show (most Thursdays at 7pm on SDPB or streaming on Facebook), 2 podcasts, and a Radio program (on SDPB), providing health information based on science, built on trust for 23 Seasons.

BELGOSIO MARSCAPONE

BUSCH LIGHT

BEER



\$799

PREMIUM ICE CREAM

**BLUE BUNNY**