

# The Press & Dakotan

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## We Say

### Appreciation



**THUMBS UP** to the work done by rescue crews last week when authorities were searching for a missing 6-year-old Hurley child. We gave these people a nod last week, but we want to praise them again for the work they did. Also, some of the lists mentioning the agencies involved were incomplete: For instance, Davison County Search and Rescue and the Mitchell Fire Department were also involved, and it was one of these members who reportedly found the body of Lincoln Hilt. Granted, there were some things about the operation that need some work — for instance, the lines of communication between law enforcement and the media (and thus the public) need work — but the dedication of those involved was important and appreciated.

### Volunteerism



**THUMBS UP** to all the volunteers who dedicate their energy and time to helping others. This week was National Volunteer Week. Every day, people across the nation give back to their communities. During National Volunteer Week, we recognize those who make their community a better place. Thank you to all the volunteers!

### Terrible Loss



**THUMBS DOWN** to the tragic Brandon house fire which claimed the lives Sunday night of Valley Springs firefighter Steven Ackerman as well as homeowner David Smith. Viborg fireman Charlie Kludt, president of the South Dakota Firefighters Association, said the loss of Ackerman feels like a death in the family. Around 2,500 people are expected to attend Ackerman's funeral, including firefighters from 65 departments across the nation. The tragic Brandon blaze reminds us of the dangers that firefighters face whenever they answer the call.

### On The Road!



**THUMBS UP** to Yankton native Rosco Wuestewald, an internationally-renowned musician selected to play the entire Vans Warped Tour. This year's tour currently consists of 42 dates across the United States, kicking off in Anchorage, Alaska, and running all summer. But first, Wuestewald and fiancée Liz Carney will perform at his own personal "kick-off" gig on Friday (April 17) starting at 9:30 p.m. at Rounding 3rd Bar and Casino in downtown Yankton. Wuestewald and his band Onward Etc. have played Hawaii, Europe and nearly every location in between. However, he said the Warped Tour represents one of the biggest highlights of his life. You don't have to hit the road to catch him, as he welcomes one and all to Friday's set in his hometown.

## ONLINE OPINION

The results of the most recent Internet poll on the Press & Dakotan's Web site are as follows:

### LATEST RESULTS:

Should South Dakotans be given the chance to vote on the youth minimum wage law?  
Yes.....81%  
No.....19%  
**TOTAL VOTES CAST.....270**

The Press & Dakotan Internet poll is not a scientific survey and reflects the opinions only of those who choose to participate. The results should not be construed as an accurate representation or scientific measurement of public opinion.

### CURRENT QUESTION:

Do you think Tom Daschle would consider running for the U.S. Senate in South Dakota in 2016?  
To cast your vote in the PRESS & DAKOTAN'S Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

## IN HISTORY

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Friday, April 17, the 107th day of 2015. There are 258 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On April 17, 1975, Cambodia's five-year war ended as the capital Phnom Penh fell to the Khmer Rouge, which instituted brutal, radical policies that claimed an estimated 1.7 million lives until the regime was overthrown in 1979.

**On this date:** In 1492, a contract was signed by Christopher Columbus and a representative of Spain's King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella, giving Columbus a commission to seek a westward ocean passage to Asia.

In 1861, the Virginia State Convention voted to secede from the Union.

In 1905, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Lochner v. New York*, struck down, 5-4, a New York State law limiting the number of hours that bakers could be made to work. (This ruling was effectively overturned in 1937 by the high court's *West Coast Hotel Co. v. Parrish* decision.)

In 1924, the motion picture studio Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer was founded, the result of a merger of Metro Pictures, Goldwyn Pictures, and the Louis B. Mayer Co.

In 1937, Daffy Duck made his debut in the Warner Bros. animated cartoon "Porky's Duck Hunt," directed by Tex Avery.

In 1941, Yugoslavia surrendered to Germany during World War II.

In 1961, some 1,500 CIA-trained Cuban exiles launched the disastrous Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba in an attempt to topple Fidel Castro, whose forces crushed the incursion by the third day.

In 1984, Geraldine "Jerrie" Mock became the first woman to complete a solo airplane trip around the world as she returned to Columbus, Ohio, after 29 1/2 days in her Cessna 180. Ford Motor Co. unveiled the Mustang at the New York World's Fair. The first game was played at New York's Shea Stadium; the Pittsburgh Pirates defeated the Mets, 4-3.

In 1970, Apollo 13 astronauts James A. Lovell, Fred W. Haise and Jack Swigert splashed down safely in the Pacific, four days after a ruptured oxygen tank crippled their spacecraft while en route to the moon.

In 1984, an 11-day police siege began at Libya's embassy in London when an unidentified shooter inside the building fired on a crowd of protesters, killing police officer Yvonne Fletcher. (The Libyans in the embassy were eventually allowed to leave the country as Britain and Libya severed relations.)

In 1990, the Rev. Ralph D. Abernathy, the civil rights activist and top aide to Reverend Martin Luther King Jr., died in Atlanta at age 64.

In 1993, a federal jury in Los Angeles convicted two former police officers of violating the civil rights of beaten motorist Rodney King; two other officers were acquitted. Turkish President Turgut Ozal died at age 66.

**Ten years ago:** Registered sex offender David Lee Onstott was charged with first-degree murder in the death of Sarah Michelle Lunde, the 13-year-old Florida girl whose body had been found the day before. (Onstott was later convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.) A Swiss tourist bus plunged into an Alpine ravine, killing 12 people.

**Five years ago:** Some 100,000 Poles filled Warsaw's biggest public square, joining together for a memorial and funeral Mass for the 96 people killed in a plane crash a week earlier. (A thickening cloud of volcanic ash over Europe caused some world leaders — including President Barack Obama — to cancel plans to attend a state funeral the next day.) Pope Benedict XVI began a pilgrimage in Malta, a Catholic nation buffeted by the worldwide clerical sex abuse scandal. Ubaldo Jimenez pitched the first no-hitter in the Colorado Rockies' 18-year history, dominating the Atlanta Braves in a 4-0 victory.

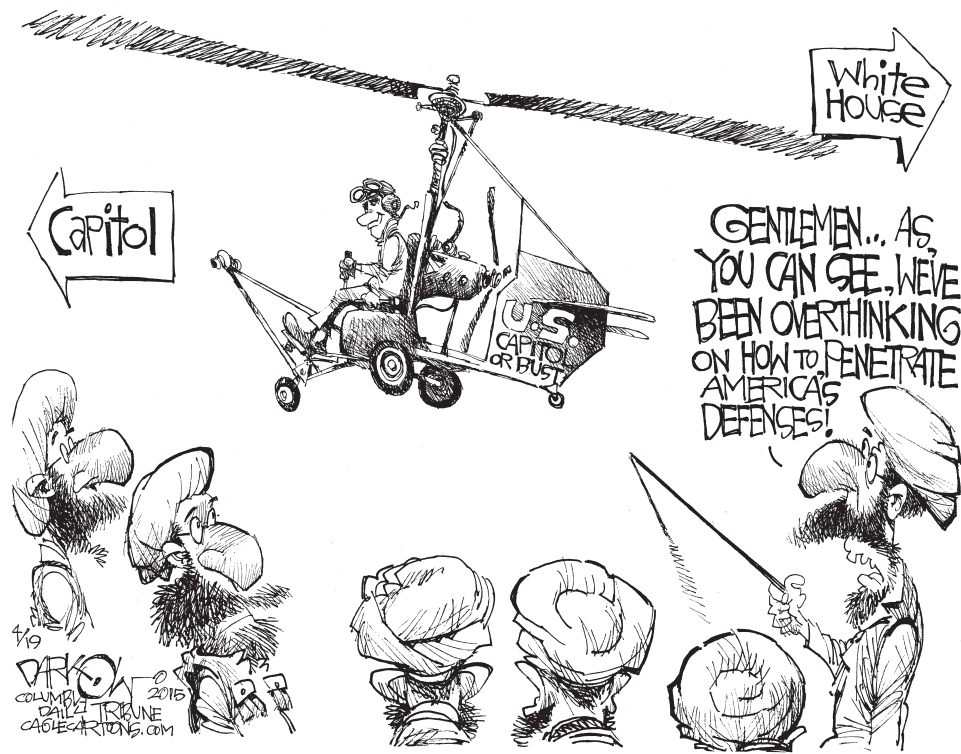
**One year ago:** Ukraine and Russia agreed on a tentative halt to violence and to calm tensions along their shared border after more than a month of Cold-War style military posturing triggered by Moscow's annexation of Crimea. Nobel Prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez, 87, died in Mexico City.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor David Bradley is 73. Composer-musician Jan Hammer is 67. Actress Olivia Hussey is 64. Actor Clarke Peters is 63. Rock singer-musician Pete Shelley (Buzzcocks) is 60. Actor Sean Bean is 56. Former NFL quarterback Boomer Esiason is 54. Actor Joel Murray is 53. Rock singer Maynard James Keenan is 51. Actress Lela Rochon is 51. Actor William Mapother is 50. Actress Leslie Bega is 48. Actor Henry Ian Cusick is 48. Actress Kimberly Elise is 48. Singer Liz Phair is 48. Rapper-actor Redman is 45. Actress Jennifer Garner is 43. Country musician Craig Anderson (Heartland) is 42. Singer Victoria Adams Beckham is 41. Actress-singer Lindsay Korman is 37. Actress Rooney Mara is 30. Actress Jacqueline MacInnes Wood is 28. Actor Paulie Litt is 20. Actress Dee Dee Davis is 19.

**Thought for Today:** "I think America is richer in intelligence than any other country in the world; and that its intelligence is more scattered than in any country of the world." — Will Durant, American historian (1885-1981).

## FROM THE BIBLE

Whoever hears My word and believes Him who sent Me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed the death of life. John 5:24. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



# It's Television Trash

BY KELLY HERTZ  
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In Yankton, it's the season of the purge. This refers not to the two recent movie thrillers bearing that title, but rather to the annual city-wide cleanup when residents are able to chuck their unwanted items to the curb and have them whisked away by city crews.

This springtime ritual is always something of a trashy spectacle that briefly generates a mild Third World vibe, but it can also be rather enlightening at times.

This year, for instance, I've noticed a lot of old television sets being jettisoned. These clunky cubes, their useful and appreciated days long spent, are cast out with the heaps of torn-out wood work, worn furniture, amputated branches and discarded toilets.

It's a sign of the complete conquest of the wide, high-definition glories of flat-screen televisions in our culture. The old sets have become obsolete pieces of refuse, demoted from the garage-sale bargains or the college dorm room hand-me-downs of old. I'm not sure you can even easily purchase a television anymore that doesn't boast a large, flat screen.

I only recently decided to enter the 21st century and purchase a flat-screen set. This move was a struggle for me. I resisted it for a long, long time for two reasons: one, my old television, which I purchased in the early 2000s, still worked; and two, I was reticent to acquire a flat-screen set because I didn't want to feel somehow *obligated* to spend more time watching the thing, given the price and all, in lieu of doing other things with my life that didn't include being hypnotized by a TV.

But I finally gave in last fall thanks to some compelling inducements, like finding a good sale on a smart TV at a local store (which also delivered and set the thing up), and realizing the new season of "The Walking Dead" was looming. (OK, I don't watch a lot of TV, but I do watch *some* TV.) With that, I bit (so to speak). However, there was another reason that drove me to a big screen: It was getting too hard to read my old TV.

There is a lot of reading that must be done anymore when watching television, depending on the channel. If you spend any time watch-

ing ESPN, for instance, you're bombarded with streams of headlines and scores across the bottom of the screen, as well as factoids along the side. The same applies to the cable news channels, which have been crawling information across the bottom of the screen since 2001. (While some news channels may have used occasional headlines streaming at the

bottom of the screen previously, it became standard operating procedure on 9/11, when people couldn't get enough information fast enough about what was happening to us. The headline crawls have never stopped, except for commercials, of course.) These channels now try to squeeze even more information onto the screen to hold your eyeballs there and keep you from surfing off elsewhere. (On the financial channel CNBC, its full-court effect can be almost mind-numbing.)

If you have an old-style television, this amounts to a form of torture. I grew weary of trying to figure out what I missed scrolling down in the corner while I was trying to read some minute verbiage flashing in upper left hand channel.

Most every television channel and network has embraced the wide-screen format, and if you have an old-style screen, good luck trying to keep up.

So, I surrendered. I purged and I evolved. To date, I've liked the picture quality of the new set, although it pales when compared to the shock of realizing just how light and un-anvil-like the flat screens are. This also tells me a lot of people around town have been lugging a ton of unwanted weight out to the curb when ditching their old TVs. It's good exercise, I suppose, offered in lieu of the exercise we all might get if we *didn't* watch TV so much.

This makes me wonder what new development will change our lives next and turn a current treasure into tomorrow's disposable relic. It won't happen all at once, but it will eventually reinvent some aspect of how we live, just as big-screen TVs have done, just as iPads and smartphones are doing. And how will we know about it? Just watch the curbs during spring cleaning. The purge may tell you.

Follow @kelly\_hertz on Twitter.



Kelly HERTZ

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Potholes: They're Back

**Rich White, Bethesda, MD**  
*Executive Director, Car Care Council*  
Potholes have returned, and hitting one with your car can do a real number on tires, wheels, steering and suspension, and alignment. To help determine if hitting a pothole has damaged your vehicle, watch for these warning signs.

- Loss of control, swaying when making routine turns, bottoming out on city streets or bouncing excessively on rough roads are indicators that the steering and suspension may have been damaged. The steering and suspension are key safety-related systems. Together, they largely determine your car's ride and handling. Key components are shocks and/or struts, the steering knuckle, ball joints, the steering rack/box, bearings, seals and hub units and tie rod ends.

- Pulling in one direction, instead of maintaining a straight path, and uneven tire wear, are symptoms of an alignment problem. Proper wheel alignment is important for the lifespan of tires and helps ensure safe handling.

- Low tire pressure, bulges or blisters on the sidewalls, or dents in the wheel rim will be visible and should be checked out as soon as possible, as tires are the critical connection between your car and the road.

If you've hit a pothole, it can be difficult to know if your vehicle has been damaged in the process, so have a professional technician check out the car and make the necessary repairs to ensure safety and reliability.

April is National Car Care Month and the non-profit Car Care Council offers many free tools on its website to help you drive smart, save money and be car care aware, includ-

### About This Page

The View page provides a forum for open discussion of issues and interests affecting our readers. Initialed editorials represent the opinion of the writer, but not necessarily that of the PRESS & DAKOTAN. Bylined columns represent the view of the author. We welcome letters on current topics. Questions regarding the Views page should be directed to Kelly Hertz at kelly.hertz@yankton.net.

ing the popular 80-page Car Care Guide and a custom service schedule and email reminder service.

### Excellent Writing

**Jim Casey, Norfolk, Neb.**  
Last fall, my wife and I had a getaway weekend in Yankton. While reading my Yankton paper, I came across a great article on the editorial page entitled "Coping With Corruption," written by Vince Two Eagles. Excellent, column, excellent, topic, excellent writing! I hung onto the paper and re-read it several times.

What a great column that gives us a completely different view of a broad number of topics, from the heart of the reservation and problems that affect Indians. My outlook as a white man is surely different than his.

Thank you, Vince Two Eagles. You have a great universal view of life and I thank you for broadening mine. And thanks, *Press and Dakotan*, for being inclusive and creative. To quote the article: "Doshka" (Later)!

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