

THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

Yankton Media, Inc., 319 Walnut St., Yankton, SD 57078

CONTACT US

PHONE:
(605) 665-7811
(800) 743-2968
NEWS FAX:
(605) 665-1721
ADVERTISING FAX:
(605) 665-0288
WEBSITE:
www.yankton.net
EMAIL ADDRESS:
news@yankton.net

SUBSCRIPTIONS/
CIRCULATION:
Extension 112
CLASSIFIED ADS:
Extension 108
NEWS DEPARTMENT:
Extension 114
SPORTS DEPARTMENT:
Extension 106
ADVERTISING OFFICE:
Extension 122
BUSINESS OFFICE:
Extension 119
NEW MEDIA:
Extension 136
COMPOSING DESK:
Extension 129

* * *

MANAGERS

Gary L. Wood
Publisher
Michele Schievelbein
Advertising Director
Tonya Schild
Business Manager
Tera Schmidt
Classified Manager
Kelly Hertz
Editor
James D. Cimburek
Sports Editor
Beth Rye
New Media Manager
Kathy Larson
Composing Manager
Bernard Metivier
District Manager

* * *

DAILY STAFF

Melissa Bader
Derek Bartos
Brett Beyer
Cassandra Brockmoller
Rob Buckingham
Randy Dockendorf
Jeannine Economy
Jeremy Hoek
Nathan Johnson
Muriel Pratt
Sheldon Reed
Noelle Schlechter
Cathy Sudbeck
Sally Whiting
Brenda Willcuts
Jackie Williams

* * *

Published Daily Monday-Saturday

Periodicals postage paid at Yankton, South Dakota, under the act of March 3, 1979.

Weekly Dakotian established June 6, 1861. Yankton Daily Press and Dakotian established April 26, 1875.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Yankton Daily Press & Dakotian, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078.

* * *

MEMBERSHIPS

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotian is a member of the Associated Press, the Inland Daily Press Association and the South Dakota Newspaper Association. The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to use of all the local news printed in this newspaper.

* * *

SUBSCRIPTION RATES*

(Payable in advance)

CARRIER DELIVERY
1-month \$12.09
3 months \$36.27
6 months \$72.53
1-year \$133.09
MOTOR ROUTE
(where available)
1 month \$14.51
3 months \$43.53
6 months \$87.05
1 year \$139.14
MAIL IN RETAIL
TRADE ZONE
1-month \$16.93
3 months \$50.79
6 months \$101.57
1-year \$148.82
MAIL OUTSIDE
RETAIL TRADE ZONE
1 month \$19.35
3 months \$58.05
6 months \$116.09
1-year \$186.33

* Plus applicable sales tax for all rates

OPINION | OTHER THOUGHTS

Pressing Forward In The Middle East

KANSAS CITY STAR (Aug. 6): A new round of Middle East peace talks begin this week with hope for success in short supply. And no wonder. The modern state of Israel is nearing age 70, and in all that time there has been no settlement of the vexing question of how Israel and a Palestinian neighbor state can coexist in peace.

Nor has there even been an agreement on how to create that Palestinian state and what the capitals of it and Israel should be. Both want Jerusalem.

Yet Secretary of State John F. Kerry deserves praise for ending a five-year freeze in talks even if almost no one imagines a final settlement can be reached in the nine months he has set as the goal. Israeli and Palestinian leaders also deserve praise for finding the courage to renew peace talks when so few hold out hope for success.

Perhaps this lack of hope signals what financial markets often call capitulation, meaning that against all odds the markets begin to rebound just when most investors give up. A weary world is near capitulation on the Middle East and could hardly have lower expectations for success in these negotiations.

Israelis and Palestinians need to work hard now to create a two-state solution so all people in the region can live out their dreams in peace and in a relationship built on mutual respect. ...

Chief negotiators Saeb Erekat for the Palestinians and Tzipi Livni for the Israelis will need to focus on the future of Jerusalem and the current Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank and the annexed East Jerusalem. A settlement may well hinge on whether both sides will be willing to share Jerusalem as a capital.

Continued tension in the Middle East because of the stateless Palestinians gives extremists around the world a rallying cry. A successful resolution to the conflict would be a gift to the world.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 8, the 220th day of 2013. There are 145 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 8, 1963, Britain's "Great Train Robbery" took place as thieves made off with 2.6 million pounds in banknotes.

On this date: In 1815, Napoleon Bonaparte set sail for St. Helena to spend the remainder of his days in exile.

In 1911, President William Howard Taft signed a measure raising the number of U.S. representatives from 391 to 433, effective with the next Congress, with a proviso to add two more when New Mexico and Arizona became states.

In 1937, during the Second Sino-Japanese War, Japan completed its occupation of Beijing.

In 1942, during World War II, six Nazi saboteurs who were captured after landing in the U.S. were executed in Washington, D.C.; two others who'd cooperated with authorities were spared.

In 1945, President Harry S. Truman signed the U.S. instrument of ratification for the United Nations Charter. The Soviet Union declared war against Japan during World War II.

In 1953, the United States and South Korea initiated a mutual security pact.

In 1968, the Republican national convention in Miami Beach nominated Richard Nixon for president on the first ballot.

In 1973, Vice President Spiro T. Agnew branded as "damned lies" reports he had taken kickbacks from government contracts in Maryland, and vowed not to resign — which he ended up doing.

In 1974, President Richard Nixon announced his resignation, effective the next day, following damaging new revelations in the Watergate scandal.

In 1978, the U.S. launched Pioneer Venus 2, which carried scientific probes to study the atmosphere of Venus.

In 1993, in Somalia, four U.S. soldiers were killed when a land mine was detonated underneath their vehicle, prompting President Bill Clinton to order Army Rangers to try to capture Somali warlord Mohamed Farrah Aidid. In 2007, space shuttle Endeavour roared into orbit with teacher-astronaut Barbara Morgan on board.

Ten years ago: The Boston Roman Catholic archdiocese offered \$55 million to settle more than 500 lawsuits stemming from alleged sex abuse by priests. (The archdiocese later settled for \$85 million.)

Five years ago: China opened the

Summer Olympic Games with an extravaganza of fireworks and pageantry. A charter bus crashed near Sherman, Texas, killing 17 members of a Vietnamese-American Catholic group en route to Missouri. Former Democratic presidential candidate and vice-presidential nominee John Edwards admitted having an extramarital affair. Russia sent an armored column into the break-away enclave of South Ossetia after Georgia launched an offensive to crush separatists there.

One year ago: Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi fired his intelligence chief for failing to act on an Israeli warning of an imminent attack days before militants stormed a border post in the Sinai Peninsula and killed 16 soldiers. Misty May-Treanor and Kerri Walsh Jennings of the United States became the first three-time gold medalists in Olympic beach volleyball history, beating Jennifer Kessy and April Ross 21-16, 21-16 in the all-American final.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Anderson is 87. Joan Mondale, wife of former Vice President Walter F. Mondale, is 83. Actress Nita Talbot is 83. Singer Mel Tillis is 81. Actor Dustin Hoffman is 76. Actress Connie Stevens is 75. Country singer Phil Balsley (The Statler Brothers) is 74. Actor Larry Wilcox is 66. Actor Keith Carradine is 64. Rhythm-and-blues singer Airrion Love (The Stylistics) is 64. Country singer Jamie O'Hara is 63. Movie director Martin Brest is 62. Radio-TV personality Robin Quivers is 61. Percussionist Anton Fig (TV: "Late Show With David Letterman") is 60. Actor Donny Most is 60. Rock musician Dennis Drew (10,000 Maniacs) is 56. TV personality Deborah Norville is 55. Actor-singer Harry Crosby is 55. Rock musician The Edge (U2) is 52. Rock musician Ricki Rockett (Poison) is 52. Rapper Kool Moe Dee is 51. Rock musician Ralph Rieckermann is 51. Middle distance runner Suzy Favor-Hamilton is 45. Rock singer Scott Stapp is 40. Country singer Mark Wills is 40. Actor Kohl Sudduth is 39. Rock musician Tom Linton (Jimmy Eat World) is 38. Singer JC Chasez ('N Sync) is 37. Actress Tawny Cypress is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Drew Lachey (98 Degrees) is 37. Rhythm-and-blues singer Marsha Ambrosius is 36. Actress Lindsay Sloane is 36. Actress Countess Vaughn is 35. Actor Michael Urie is 33. Tennis player Roger Federer is 32. Actress Meagan Good is 32. Britain's Princess Beatrice of York is 25. Actor Ken Baumann is 24.

Thought for Today: "The time to relax is when you don't have time for it." — Sydney J. Harris, American journalist (1917-1986).

FROM THE BIBLE

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

YOUR LETTERS

‘How Convenient!’

Michael Slama, Yankton

You may remember the TV show "Saturday Night Live" and a segment starring the Church Lady whose famous line was "How Convenient!"

Our new city manager seems to think we taxpayers are some form of a bank and dripping in money! She has developed a budget with an increase of \$5 million over last year. Two million dollars of that will come from additional property assessments.

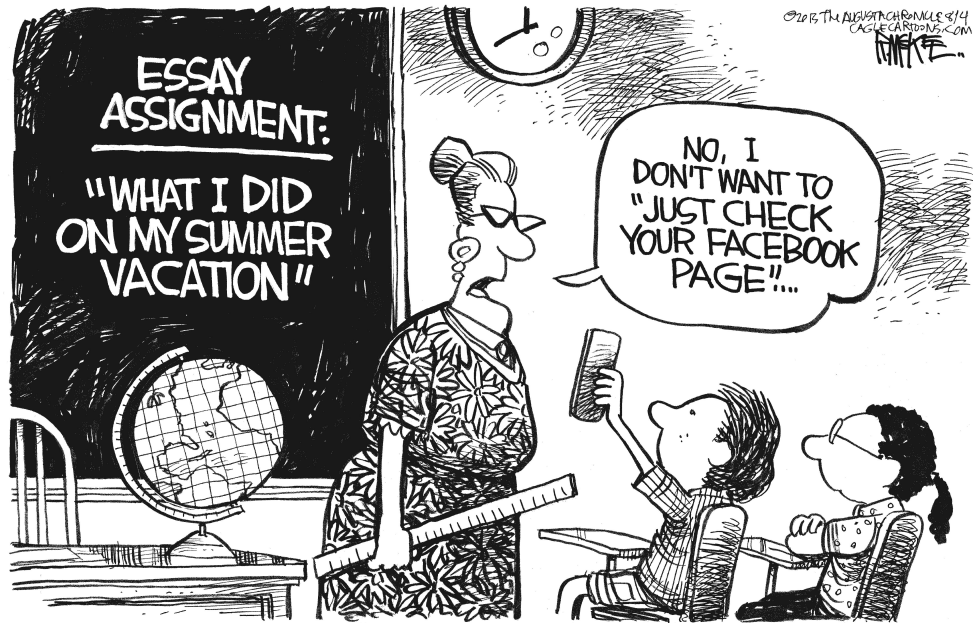
Earlier this summer, we faced an outrageous gash in the form of water/sewer improvements. Past and present city officials decided to let this project rust over many decades until there was no alternative but to replace the whole watery mess. So what if the cost was around \$30 million! What's your increase in your water/sewer bill?

She thinks it will be more palatable and reasonable if \$3 million of the \$5 million increase comes from

tax levied against the traveling public staying in local hotels. Listen to that ring of the cash register in the City Hall. Now we're up to a possible \$32 million in bonds and taxes with hips in water/sewerage and topped off with a layer of more fiscal "needs." Let's see what stuff the City Commission is made of when this proposed multi-million dollar increase comes before them.

Am I upset? You bet, because just the other day, I received a letter from the assessment office informing me of an upcoming visit to see if my house assessment can be increased. Apparently they have already gotten their marching orders to find that \$2 million. It was also noted in the letter that, in South Dakota, the home owner has absolutely no say in telling the assessors to take a hike and get off your property. Assessors can come to your home because the laws are on their side! Welcome to the Brave New World and Socialism.

Have you received your assessment letter yet?



Writer's Block

New Corporate Tricks

BY WILLIAM KERR

For the Press & Dakotan

"New Tricks!"

That is the name of a great British television series about a team of retired policemen (now civilian investigators) reinvestigating old unsolved cases led by a beautiful active police Superintendent, who knows her stuff, often using new techniques not available when the crimes were committed. You mystery buffs will love it (available from NET-FLIX).

It is also what I call a scheme being used by big Pharmaceutical companies to improve the data of their human trials required and submitted to the FDA when applying for approval of a new drug.

That New Trick is a simple one: Eliminating from drug trials anyone over 65 years of age. That means that the part of our population which provides the most hospital admissions is not involved in the tests. Can you see before I provide the details and statistics how that could make the trials look a whole lot better, or to put it another way, the drug being tested show a much lower existence of undesirable side effects than if older people were included in the tests?

You would think that it would be required that all ages in our population be included in the testing. I would say that each age group ought to be included in the same proportion as they exist in the total population. But until 1997, most of these random controlled trials (RCTs) enrolled only those between 18 and 65 years of age. In 1997 the FDA Modernization Act required RCTs to include children ages 2 to 17, according to Public Citizen Health Letter (July 2012). But nothing was ever done about those over 65. The main reason was that "the elderly, who have more chronic diseases and are more likely to be taking multiple medications, make interpretations more difficult Drug Manufacturers also focus on getting the drug approved with the fewest adverse effects. Excluding the elderly using unjustified exclusion criteria, especially in cardiology and oncology



William
KERR

trials — accomplishes all of those goals."

"So what?" you might say. The best answer would be to give you the outcomes for one drug (probably the worst studied), in research published in 1999. When physicians began prescribing the drug "rates of hospitalization for high levels of potassium in the blood rose 4.6 fold, rates for hospitalization for heart failure rose 4.4 fold and related mortality rose 6.7 fold." Is that enough "what?"

If those over 65 had been included in the trials of this drug, it would not likely have been approved. And you would think that in future any drug showing any increase (over current figures for our population) in heart failures or deaths in trials would be banned. Yet, these figures and those for many other drugs studied in the research, have not provided enough reason for those involved to change the rules by law.

That's 14 years ago, folks! Another failure of our legislators to protect us all, including themselves. Does that seem right to you?

It is also one reason why we come off so poorly in the world regarding health outcomes. On highest life expectancy 43 other countries are listed above us. ("The Economist: Pocket World in Figures," 2010 edition) On lowest death rates, 26 countries are listed and we are not among them. On lowest infant mortality rates, 32 countries are listed and we are not among them. On lowest population per doctor, Cuba is second lowest, Russia is seventh lowest and we are not even listed in the 19 countries that are mentioned At the same time we are listed as the second highest in health spending.

I call what the big pharmaceutical companies have been doing on trials "new tricks." Not because they are that new, but because knowledge of them is recent. I would guess that most of you didn't even know about them until today.

It takes a lot of energy from us citizens who even bother to vote, let alone pay attention, to know who is our best possible representative. Obviously, we voters have not done a very good job for some time now.

The Post: It's A Family Matter

BY KATHLEEN PARKER

© 2013, Washington Post Writers Group

WASHINGTON — When *The Washington Post* Writers Group came courting several years ago, inviting me to join the company's syndicate, I remember well the pitch: We're a family.

By then I had been syndicated for more than a decade by the Tribune Co. and was struck yet again by the layers of irony implicit in the words such media organizations use to describe themselves. Syndicate. Family.

Thank God no one kissed me. In *The Post's* case, the term was more than metaphor. The paper, which has been in the Graham family for 80 years, was literally a family. The idea appealed to me. Only family-held papers seemed to sustain the degree of loyalty to the journalistic ideals that attracted my generation of reporters to the field. Back in the day, we really did want to save the world.

And, of course, drink. There were other attractions to the *Post* group. My previous syndicate, to which I am forever grateful, was an enormous enterprise where I was but one of scores of "products" that a handful of salesmen had to sell. Most significant, the top executives were primarily businessmen rather than journalists.

At the Writers Group, in contrast, the top guys — editorial director Alan Shearer and senior editor James Hill — are veteran journalists with close to 100 combined years of institutional memory. The stable of writers is relatively small and, if I do say so, the best in the business. Editing is top-notch, owing in no small part to one fellow whose name will not be familiar to many — Richard Aldacushion, editor/fact-checker extraordinaire.

We writers worship Richard. One columnist made his name a verb. "To be Richarded" means to be subjected to his gimlet eye and, on occasions too numerous to count, saved from humiliation. We are, indeed, a family and each column is our baby. It doesn't take a village to write a column, but it's helpful to have a few affectionate aunts and uncles reading over one's shoulder.

We may not be perfect, but what family is? Although the syndicate is separate from the newspaper, we all live under *The Post* banner, dwell in the same building, occupy the same pages and pixels — and all have enjoyed the aura of the literal family, the Grahams.



Kathleen
PARKER

Their announcement Monday that the paper is being sold to Amazon creator Jeff Bezos wasn't just a news shock. It was a gut-punch of familial disruption. Children of divorce are familiar with the feeling.

Nothing will change in the immediate future, we've been told. And truly, for me, nothing will. Even though I've enjoyed being part of a family I admire, I have been an independent operator for most of the 25 years I have written my column. Only my muse — the fire-breathing headline monster — has kept me company.

Still. When you walk in the door of *The Post*, you gulp the air of history and feel the presence of journalism's greats. Bob Woodward of Watergate fame is still around knocking on

doors and writing books. Ben Bradlee — Ben Bradlee! — walked these very hallways. Katharine Graham, the matriarch-publisher who shepherded this institution through some of the nation's most significant political moments, held court a few floors up.

And now her son Don Graham and granddaughter/publisher/Namesake Katharine Weymouth have made the decision no one thought they'd ever see. The family paper is to become the private enterprise of an online retail entrepreneur. Then again, who better to adapt an old form to a new shape?

On Monday, when they called the staff together to deliver the news, Weymouth and Graham explained what has long been known: The publicly held company simply doesn't have the necessary resources for innovation and survival in the Internet age. It is a familiar story these days, but the sting is nonetheless fresh when it is one's own. Divorce is also commonplace, but this fact is of little consolation when one's own family falls apart.

Bezos has been lauded from all quarters as a good guy whose values are in line with "the family's." There's no questioning his entrepreneurial vitality. When one's personal fortune hovers around \$25 billion, one can afford to dabble in such things as space travel, 10,000-year clocks and even newspapers.

All things change. Children grow up, parents die, families adapt and evolve. With therapy — and perhaps a little cash infusion — this one will, too.

Kathleen Parker's email address is kathleenparker@washpost.com.

WRITE US

Letters, Yankton Press & Dakotan, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078