

THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

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OPINION | OTHER THOUGHTS

Work Needed To
Achieve The Dream

THE TIMES, Gainesville, Ga. (Aug. 25): Fifty years ago this week, a seminal moment in history was off many Americans' radar. This was the era before cable news and the Internet, so the only view most had of the event was on the evening news and in the daily newspaper the next day.

Even then, Martin Luther King Jr.'s address before the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington was relegated to many back pages, including in this newspaper. Had he spoken of his dream for a more just society before a quarter-million people today, his speech would be broadcast live on every news network, streaming online video and seen by anyone with a TV, laptop, tablet or smartphone.

That half-century span in how news was covered is only one aspect of how different our society was then and now. That African-Americans felt the need to gather in the nation's capital to affirm their civil rights showed it was a time when such rights were not assumed. The nation as a whole, and the South in particular, were just beginning the slow move past segregated schools and the "back of the bus" public mentality that had prevailed for so long. ...

King's speech certainly laid the groundwork for this vision: A nation where children would join hands across all racial, national and religious barriers and "not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character."

To some extent, we have reached this plateau; our nation's youth now grow up in a more integrated society than their parents and grandparents, a giant step in the right direction.

It's clear the United States of 1963 and of 2013 are not the same. ... Two hundred years of slavery, followed by a hundred years of Jim Crow laws, then 50 years of sporadic progress have produced a distinct cultural divide. Though our racial tapestries have intertwined in many ways—in pop culture, food, language—there's no denying that the experiences of white and black Americans remain different at many levels. And because of that, our views of the world have been molded by our backgrounds and experiences, sometimes in ways we're not aware of. ...

Achieving King's vision has never been easy, nor is it a given. Even after 50 years of milestones toward that goal, more work remains, and perhaps always will.

Countdown In Damascus

THE KHALEEJ TIMES, Dubai (Aug. 27): The clock is ticking away as the United Nations inspectors try to find traces of chemical agents. The fear is that they may have been dissipated. But as far as the world body chief is concerned, he is already judgmental.

In a brief media talk in Seoul, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said that the use of chemical weapons is a crime against humanity and must be punished. "Every hour counts. We cannot afford any more delays. We have all seen the horrifying images on our television screens and through social media. Clearly this was a major and terrible incident," Ban remarked to underscore his restlessness over the issue.

The movement on the high seas, nonetheless, suggests that Washington is gearing up to take up the role of punisher, and seems to have been emboldened with the support of France, Britain and Turkey.

Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu, while castigating the regime in Damascus, went on to say that Ankara would support military action against it, whether it is backed by the UN or not. So is the stance of Britain, which believes that no more tolerance should be shown towards the Baath Party in Syria. This inevitably sets the stage for a military intervention, and like the case of Iraq it is closely followed on a failed diplomatic track.

Whatever may be the findings of the inspectors visiting the ill-fated areas, it should be kept in mind that no effort should be made to jump the gun. The UN and the world powers have already blundered in the case of Iraq and Afghanistan, where their trigger happiness landed the whole world in a renewed security phobia and recession. The culprits responsible for using the toxic agents should be netted and punished in a way that doesn't come to bring miseries to millions more in the war-torn country.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

Today is Thursday, Aug. 29, the 241st day of 2013. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 29, 1943, responding to a clampdown by Nazi occupiers during World War II, Denmark managed to scuttle most of its naval ships.

On this date: In 1533, the last Incan King of Peru, Atahualpa, was executed on orders of Spanish conqueror Francisco Pizarro.

In 1862, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing began operations at the United States Treasury.

In 1877, the second president of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Brigham Young, died in Salt Lake City at age 76.

In 1944, 15,000 American troops marched down the Champs Elysees in Paris as the French capital continued to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis.

In 1952, 4'33" ("Four Minutes, Thirty-three Seconds"), a composition by avant-garde composer John Cage, had its premiere in Woodstock, N.Y., as pianist David Tudor sat at a piano and, for a total of four minutes and 33 seconds, played ... nothing.

In 1953, an early version of the animated cartoon character Speedy Gonzales made his debut in the Warner Bros. cartoon "Cat-Tails for Two."

In 1957, the Senate gave final congressional approval to a Civil Rights Act after South Carolina Sen. Strom Thurmond, then a Democrat, ended a filibuster that had lasted 24 hours.

In 1958, pop superstar Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Ind.

In 1972, swimmer Mark Spitz of the United States won the third of his seven gold medals at the Munich Olympics, finishing first in the 200-meter freestyle.

In 1982, Academy Award-winning actress Ingrid Bergman died in London on her 67th birthday.

In 1987, Academy Award-winning actor Lee Marvin died in Tucson, Ariz., at age 63.

In 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Gulf Coast near Buras, La., bringing floods that devastated New Orleans. More than 1,800 people in the region died.

Ten years ago: A bombing at the Imam Ali Shrine in Najaf, Iraq, killed at least 85 people, including Shiite

leader Ayatollah Mohammed Baqir al-Hakim. Six nations trying to defuse a standoff over North Korea's nuclear program ended their talks in Beijing with an agreement to keep talking. South Dakota congressman Bill Janklow was charged with felony manslaughter in a car accident that claimed the life of motorcyclist Randolph E. Scott. (Janklow was later convicted and served 100 days in jail.)

Five years ago: Republican presidential nominee John McCain picked Sarah Palin, a maverick conservative who had been governor of Alaska for less than two years, to be his running mate.

One year ago: Seizing the Republican National Convention spotlight in Tampa, Fla., vice presidential candidate Paul Ryan promised Mitt Romney would "not duck the tough issues" if he were to win the White House and that their party would move forcefully to solve the nation's economic woes. Hurricane Isaac sidestepped New Orleans, sending the worst of its howling wind and heavy rain into a cluster of rural fishing villages. The NFL announced it would open the regular season with replacement officials.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-director Lord Richard Attenborough is 90. Actress Betty Lynn (TV: "The Andy Griffith Show") is 87. Movie director William Friedkin is 78. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., is 77. Actor Elliott Gould is 75. Movie director Joel Schumacher is 74. Former White House Press Secretary James Brady is 73. TV personality Robin Leach is 72. Actor Ray Wise is 66. Actress Deborah Van Valkenburgh is 61. Secretary of the Treasury Jacob Lew is 58. Dancer-choreographer Mark Morris is 57. Country musician Dan Truman (Diamond Rio) is 57. Actress Rebecca DeMornay is 54. Singer Me'Shell NdegeOcello is 44. Rhythm-and-blues singer Carl Martin (Shai) is 43. Actress Carla Gugino is 42. Rock musician Kyle Cook (Matchbox Twenty) is 38. Actor John Hensley is 36. Rock musician David Desrosiers (Simple Plan) is 33. Rapper A+ is 31. Actress Jennifer Landon is 30. Actor Jeffrey Licon is 28. Actress-singer Lea Michele (TV: "Glee") is 27. Rock singer Liam Payne (One Direction) is 20.

Thought for Today: "Don't be 'consistent,' but be simply true." — Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr. (1809-1894).

FROM THE BIBLE

When You give it to them, they gather it up; when You open Your hand, they are filled with good things. Psalm 104:28. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

STAR TRIBUNE
CagleCartoons.com

SACK



Pierre Report

Summer Work Continues

BY SEN. JEAN HUNHOFF

R-District 18 (Yankton)

August has been a busy month for legislative summer meetings.

The rules committee met on Aug. 20. The attorney general's office presented rules for the minimum standards for an individual to act as a school sentinel, a school sentinel training program and the procedures for the revocation of a school sentinel's certification. The AG staff had meetings with stakeholders for input on the rules. The rules mirror law enforcement personnel criteria. The training is only 80 hours as compared to 13 weeks for law enforcement training. Members had questions regarding the content of the training materials. There were no opponents. It was stated there were no requests known for training at this time. The process was approved.

- The Department of Education brought rules for referencing state and federal regulations for special education, amend Career and Technical Education rules to establish a methodology for forecasting contributions from student fees and state appropriations available to meet projected payment schedules on outstanding bonds for lease purchase agreements with the four postsecondary technical institutes, and clarify the process by which the BE makes determinations of whether to approve requests for issuance of new bonds from the postsecondary technical institutes.

The BE proposed to amend Certification rules to streamline the certification process for military spouses leaving employment as certified teachers in other states to accompany their spouses to South Dakota, amend a State Accreditation and Approval System rules to allow for an accreditation review desk audit rather than team visits to the district being reviewed.

I did question the desk audit versus the site visit every five years. Desk audits eliminate the face-to-face encounters and engagement of the board with school districts. The response was that desk audits have been shown to accurately reflect what is occurring in the district. The rules process was approved.

- PUC brought rules to update statutory authority in grain buying. The rules provide for electronic warehouse receipts. HB 1017 repealed that certain trucks needing decals no longer needed the decals.

The rules also attempt to make voluntary credits sales consistent with the rules for grain sellers. A voluntary grain seller, instead of taking cash, voluntarily takes credit to take payment at some later date. In 2009 both buyers and seller said contracts dealing with grain purchases were valid if done verbally on a telephone call to an elevator as long as contract was sent as a follow-up within 48 hours of the phone call. A judge ruled that the statute applied to other grain contracts but not voluntary contracts due to the language in the law.

The proposed rule change added language for voluntary credit sales to operate in the same parameters at which all other grain sale contracts operate. This provides for consistent language for all grain sales contracts. The PUC said this is important to farmers because they are selling grain over the phone and responding to changing prices.

The rules mirror the practice to allow for oral contracts with the safeguard that the elevator sends out the contract for agree or not agree with the terms. The rules also lay out financial criteria for grain buying licenses, adding a net worth as a criteria.

For the license, the grain buyer must have at least \$100,000 of net worth. The PUC stated this rule would not impact current buyers as they have that net worth currently.

There is also a rule making customer notice requirements if there is a change in owner or transfer of grain buyer license.

There was opponent testimony that the bond levels were too low and the time frame of 48 hours too short. The PUC response was that the judge ruling reflected the voluntary grain selling not the time frame therefore the PUC could not change the time frame.

The process was approved.

- Department of Public Safety brought rules for the 911 Coordination Board. The rules defined "County 911 Coordinator," conformed to legislative changes and define allowable personnel costs for County 911 Coordinators and other 911 or PSAP employees. The process was approved.

Rules were also presented to:
— provide the minimum requirements for



J. Hunhoff

obtaining and maintaining school bus inspector certification from the Highway Patrol and the process for revoking and regaining school bus inspector certification,

— further define unprofessional or dishonorable conduct for purposes of emergency medical technician-basic licensure, and to provide for revoking and regaining of emergency medical technician-basic licensure for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct,

— to clarify that transfer-only ambulance services are prohibited in South Dakota,
— allow the Director of Highway Safety to approve motorcycle safety course curricula
— and change the commercial driver licensing third party tester fees from \$80-\$90.
Process was approved.

- Board of Pharmacy amended rules to establish the ability of pharmacies to retain health records, including prescription orders, in an electronic format. Process was approved
- The GF&P appeared to propose the following:

— amend a Refuges' rule to remove approximately 62.5 acres of privately owned real estate from the Renziehausen Slough State Game Bird Refuge in Brown County.

— For duck hunting season rules to increase the daily bag limit for scaup and increase the possession limit for ducks, coots and mergansers as recently approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service,

— rules to increase the Canada goose daily bag limit contingent upon approval from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The daily bag limit in Unit 1 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 20 light geese, 8 geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and two white-fronted geese. The daily bag limit in Unit 2 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 20 light geese, four geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant, and two white-fronted geese. The daily bag limit in Unit 3 during the goose hunting season may include no more than 20 light geese, and four geese that may be a combination of Canada geese and black Brant. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit except there is no possession limit for light geese.

The process was approved.
• The topic of the day was the rules for raw milk.

The first set of rules never made it to the rules committee. There was so much opposition at the first hearing, the Department of Agriculture went back and revisited the issues that were brought forth at the public hearing. The Ag Department was proposing to require additional labeling to dairy producers and some additional testing.

The Ag Department and two proponents spoke to the rules. There were opponents both East and West River, with the majority of opponents coming from western South Dakota.

The rules committee requires that the department prepare a fiscal impact statement on those businesses that would be impacted by the rules. In short, what could be the financial impact on the businesses having to implement the regulations? The department responded that they were unable to produce a fiscal statement. The opponents perceived that the proposed rules would increase the cost of their business and no information was provided as to why the rules changes were needed.

Facts did not come out until at the end of the hearing, and that was 2.5 hours later. There are five licensed producers of raw milk in South Dakota and there was an investigation of a reported illness associated with drinking raw milk. The opponents believe in free market and have abided by the existing rules. The buyer can make their own choice about buying the raw milk.

Consumer safety is an issue, but the department did not provide data to suggest that the current rules are not working.

There was no resolution. The department was sent back to analyze what the cost would be for the producer of raw milk and bring to the next meeting. Ironically one of the opponents brought a container of raw milk took a gulp before beginning his testimony and conclude with another gulp of raw milk. He appeared to be a healthy young man.

The next meeting will be hearing No. 2 for rules on raw milk.

YOUR LETTERS

Good Samaritans

Janice Vellek, Yankton

On the evening of Aug. 13, I was walking my little dog and tripped on an uneven portion of the sidewalk. I fell, but due to the quick response of a couple leaving Burger King, James and Kathy, they came to my aid. Also, some young teens in a car stopped and offered to

help. James and Kathy stayed with me until my husband arrived to take me to the clinic to be checked over. I had bruises and my hand required stitches.

We hear so much about all of the bad in the world, but thank goodness we live in a small town where people are not afraid to help someone in need. I'm very grateful!