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OPINION

Housing And Yankton's Future

lot of people will tell you that Yankton is a great place to The problem seems to be finding a place in Yankton to

That isn't really news. Yankton's housing shortage has been a focus of attention from city officials for quite some time. The question is, are there answers looming in the future?

The issue was brought to the forefront again Monday during the quarterly meeting of Yankton Area Progressive Growth (YAPG). It was a good venue to discuss the issue, because housing really is essential to whatever growth this market ever hopes to achieve.

Yankton Community Development Director Dave Mingo told the YAPG members that the city needs housing of all types and ranges. 'There was no area (in the survey) where we have an excess of housing stock available in," he said.

That also includes rental properties, which are snapped up practically as soon as they come available, Mingo noted.

Make no mistake, this is an important growth issue for Yankton. With a recent study projecting 500-600 jobs coming to the area in the next five years, one is forced to wonder where all those people might live. Certainly, they can find places in area towns, but that can only go so far in practical terms — and it would speak volumes about the nature of this market.

In fact, the recent YAPG survey is an important and essential step in addressing this issue, for it illustrates and quantifies the problems. It shows what must be done.

But determining precisely HOW this can be addressed is another matter. As YAPG President John Kramer noted Monday, finding contractors to build dwellings in a middling price range, from \$95,000-\$125,000, has been difficult. There is considerable risk in such projects - the kind of risk that can better be chanced in larger markets — and as such, they are hard to pursue in a market like Yankton. And that is a major hurdle.

But it's one that must somehow be overcome.

If Yankton is to be seen as an attractive market, a fertile place for construction and growth, it must have the housing capacity before it can entice such job creation. And that's why the economic future of this town really hinges on this issue.

kmh

OUR LETTER POLICY

The PRESS & DAKOTAN encourages its readers to write letters to the editor, and it asks that a few simple guidelines be followed.

Please limit letters to 300 words or less. Letters should deal with a single subject, be of general interest and state a specific point of view. Letters are edited with brevity, clarity and newspaper style in

In the sense of fairness and professionalism, the PRESS & DAKOTAN will accept no letters attacking private individuals or busi-

Specific individuals or entities addressed in letters may be given the opportunity to read the letter prior to publication and be allowed to answer the letter in the same issue.

Only signed letters with writer's full name, address and daytime phone number for verification will be accepted. Please mail to: Letters, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078, drop off at 319 Walnut in Yankton, fax to 665-1721 or email to views@yankton.net.

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The Rebirth Of **Stakeholder Capitalism**

BY ROBERT B. REICH Tribune Content Agency

In recent weeks, the managers, employees and customers of a New England chain of supermarkets called Market Basket have joined together to oppose the board of director's decision in June to oust the chain's popular chief executive, Arthur T. Demoulas.

Their demonstrations and boycotts have emptied most of the chain's 71 stores

What was so special about Arthur T., as he's known? Mainly, his business model. He kept prices lower than his competitors, paid his employees more, and gave them and his managers more authority. Late last year he offered customers an additional 4 percent discount, arguing they could use the money more than the shareholders.

In other words, Arthur T. viewed the company as a joint enterprise from which everyone should benefit, not just shareholders. Which is why the board fired him.

It's far from clear who will win this battle. But, interestingly, we're beginning to see the Arthur T. business model pop up all over the place.

Patagonia, a large apparel manufacturer based in Ventura, California, has organized itself as a "B corporation." That's a for-profit company whose articles of incorporation require it to take into account the interests of workers, the community and the environment as well as shareholders.

The performance of B corporations according to this measure is regularly reviewed and certified by a nonprofit entity called B Lab.

To date, more than 500 companies in 60 industries have been certified as B corporations, including the household products firm Seventh Generation

In addition, 27 states have passed laws allowing companies to incorporate as "benefit corporations." This gives directors legal protection to con-

sider the interests of all stakeholders rather than just the shareholders who elected them. We may be witnessing the beginning of a return

to a form of capitalism that was taken for granted in America 60 years ago. Then, most CEOs assumed they were responsi-

ble for all their stakeholders.

proclaimed Frank us are corporate shareholders Only some and shareholders have won big in America over the last three decades

ers - if they abandoned their other stakeholders. The raiders figured profits would be higher if the companies fought unions, cut workers' pay or fired them, automated as many jobs as possible or moved jobs abroad, shuttered factories, abandoned their communities and squeezed their customers.

Although the law didn't require companies to maximize shareholder value, shareholders had the legal right to replace directors. The raiders pushed

them to vote out directors who wouldn't make these changes and vote in directors who would (or else sell their shares to the raiders, who'd do the dirty work).

Since then, shareholder capitalism has replaced stakeholder capitalism. Corporate raiders have morphed into private equity managers, and unfriendly takeovers are rare. But it's now assumed corporations exist only to maximize shareholder returns.

Are we better off? Some argue shareholder capitalism has proven more efficient. It has moved economic resources to where they're most productive, and thereby enabled the economy to grow faster.

By this view, stakeholder capitalism locked up resources in unproductive ways. CEOs were too complacent. Companies were too fat. They employed workers they didn't need, and paid them too much. They were too tied to their communities.

But maybe shareholder capitalism isn't all it was cracked up to be. Look at the flat or declining wages of most Americans, their growing economic insecurity, and the abandoned communities that litter the nation.

Then look at the record corporate profits, CEO pay that's soared into the stratosphere, and Wall Street's financial casino (along with its near meltdown in 2008 that imposed collateral damage on most Americans).

You might conclude we went overboard with shareholder capitalism.

The directors of Market Basket are now considering selling the company. Arthur T. has made a bid, but other bidders have offered more. Reportedly, some prospective bidders think they can squeeze more profits out of the company than Arthur T. did.

But Arthur T. may have known something about how to run a business that made it successful in a larger sense.



REICH

JoAnn Wiebelhaus Brenda Willcuts Jackie Williams

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ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

On this date: In 1624, King Louis

In 1792. French revolutionaries

XIII of France appointed Cardinal

imprisoned the royal family. In 1814, the Cape Colony in

southern Africa was ceded by the Dutch to Britain. Swedish physicist

Anders Jonas Angstrom was born in

raised for the first time in Los Angeles.

founder of modern nursing, died in

was again elected Speaker of Turkey's

post of vice chancellor of Germany,

saying he was prepared to hold out

"for all or nothing." In 1946, author H.G. Wells, 79,

the border between Berlin's eastern

and western sectors and began build-

ing a wall that would stand for the next

Cardinals became the 14th player in major league baseball history to reach

the 3,000th career hit plateau as his

team defeated the Chicago Cubs, 3-

ifornia ranch, President Ronald Rea-

gan signed a historic package of tax

found the wreckage of a plane which

had disappeared almost a week ear-

lier while carrying Rep. Mickey Leland,

Ten years ago: A stronger-than-

expected Hurricane Charley roared

ashore Florida's Gulf Coast as a dan-

gerous Category 4 storm, resulting in

at least 10 U.S. deaths. Hutu maraud-

D-Texas, and 14 other people - there

and budget reductions.

were no survivors.

In 1981, in a ceremony at his Cal-

In 1989, searchers in Ethiopia

In 1961, East Germany sealed off

In 1979, Lou Brock of the St. Louis

In 1846, the American flag was

In 1910, Florence Nightingale, the

In 1923, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk

In 1932, Adolf Hitler rejected the

Richelieu his first minister.

days left in the year.

made its debut

Logdo.

London at age 90.

Grand Assembly.

died in London.

28 vears.

ers raided a U.N. refugee camp in Today is Wednesday, August 13, the 225th day of 2014. There are 140 western Burundi, shooting and hack ing at least 150 Congolese Tutsis to death. The summer Olympic games officially opened in Athens. TV chef Today's Highlight in History: On August 13, 1934, the satirical comic strip "Li'l Abner," created by Al Capp, Julia Child died in Montecito. California, two days short of her 92nd birth-

> day **Five years ago:** The Philadelphia Eagles signed Michael Vick to a oneyear deal, prompting criticism from animal rights activists over his role in a dogfighting ring. NFL commissioner Roger Goodell suspended Cleveland Browns receiver Donte Stallworth for the entire season after Stallworth served 24 days in jail for DUI manslaughter in the death of 59-yearold Mario Reves in Miami

One year ago: Israel released 26 Palestinian inmates, many convicted in arisly killings, on the eve of longstalled peace talks, angering families of those killed by the prisoners. Tom-pall Glaser, 79, a country music singer, publisher and studio owner best known for his association with the outlaw movement against record labels, died in Nashville

Today's Birthdays: Former Cuban President Fidel Castro is 88. Actor Pat Harrington is 85. Former U.S. Surgeon General Joycelyn Elders is 81. Actor Kevin Tighe is 70. Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen is 68 Actress Gretchen Corbett is 67. Opera singer Kathleen Battle is 66. High wire aerialist Philippe Petit is 65. Hockey Hall of Famer Bobby Clarke is 65. Golf Hall of Famer Betsy King is 59. Movie director Paul Greengrass is 59. Actor Danny Bonaduce is 55. TV weatherman Sam Champion is 53. Actress Dawnn (correct) Lewis is 53. Actor John Slattery is 52. Actress Debi Mazar is 50. Actress Quinn Cummings is 47. Actress Seana Kofoed is 44. Country singer Andy Griggs is 41. Country musician Mike Melancon (Emerson Drive) is 36. Actress Kathryn Fiore is 35. Pop-rock singer James Morrison is 30. Actress Lennon

Thought for Today: "The great business of life is to be, to do, to do without, and to depart." — John, Viscount Morley of Blackburn, English journalist (1838-1923).

million investment is a wonder-

Your progressive approach

ful achievement for Tabor and

to business development won

the surrounding area.

the day. Good Job!!

FROM THE BIBLE

Lifting up His eyes, then, and seeing that large crowd was coming toward Him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread, so that these people may eat?" John 6:5. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

YOUR LETTERS

Winning The Day

Larry Ness, Yankton

Congratulations to Bon Homme County and its commissioners for landing the Dakota Plains project. The \$30

The Job of management, Abrams, chairman of Standard Oil of New Jersey, in 1951, "is to maintain an equitable and working balance among the claims of the various directly interested groups ... stockholders, employees, customers and the public at large."

Johnson & Johnson publicly stated that its "first responsibility" was to patients, doctors and nurses, and not to investors.

What changed? In the 1980s, corporate raiders began mounting unfriendly takeovers of companies that could deliver higher returns to their sharehold-

But we're all stakeholders in the American economy, and many stakeholders have done miserably. Maybe more stakeholder capitalism is in order.

Robert Reich is Chancellor's Professor of Public Policy at the University of California at Berkeley and Senior Fellow at the Blum Center for Developing Economies. His new film, "Inequality for All," is now out on iTunes, DVD and On Demand.

EPA: Learn From These States

BY DAN BAKAL

McClatchy-Tribune News Service

While debate rages on about the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Clean Power Plan aimed at reducing greenhouse gas pollution from existing U.S. power plants, it's important to take a look at what is already working around the country from the standpoint of clean energy deployment.

A recent report produced by Ceres, a nonprofit group that mobilizes business and investing leaders to address climate change and other global sustainability issues, looked at how 32 of the country's largest electric utility holding companies - providing 70 percent of the nation's power — are doing at delivering renewable energy and energy efficiency, two key building blocks of the Clean Power Plan.

The findings may not be shocking, but they are instructive and relevant to states as they consider their own approaches for meeting the EPA's proposed goals.

The report shows wide disparities in how much renewable energy and energy savings utilities are providing. It also shows that strong state policies play an important role in enabling them to meet customers' clean energy needs.

With renewable energy, five electric utility holding companies - Xcel Energy, PG&E, Edison International, Berkshire Hathaway Energy and Duke Energy — delivered an impressive 60 million megawatt hours in 2012, enough clean energy to power nearly 6 million homes.

The fact that two California utilities are among those five is not surprising. What is somewhat surprising is having companies like Xcel, Berkshire and Duke - with customers in Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Utah and Wisconsin — cracking the list.

These states have all set goals for sourcing more renewable energy, showing that there's a strong correlation between forward-thinking clean energy policies and utilities that are delivering the most to their customers.

While some continue to claim that renewable energy is too expensive, a recent National Renewable Energy Laboratory report estimates that such projects have added only about 1 percent to electricity costs across the country. That's well below the cost-containment caps that most state legislatures have adopted. Meanwhile, renewable energy project costs continue to drop at a rapid pace.

Energy efficiency is showing even more value. For 2012 alone, electric utilities helped customers save a cumulative total of 140 million megawatt hours, enough to power nearly 13 million homes.

Those savings are happening in coastal states like California, Massachusetts and Oregon, but also in interior states such as Colorado, Minnesota, Arizona and Michigan. These states have all set energy efficiency goals, incentivize their utilities to achieve them, and continue to find that is costs far less money to save energy than it does producing it (oftentimes, by needing to build new power plants).

The EPA recognizes that these energy efficiency programs are delivering results and is encouraging states to include them as part of their compliance plans, which will be due in 2016.

Many of these states are also recognizing how clean energy can be a positive driver for competitiveness and economic development. Another recent Ceres report shows that 53 of the Fortune 100 companies have specific clean energy goals, and that access to clean energy is becoming an increasingly important factor in their decisions to site new facilities, including data centers and manufacturing plants.

All of these trends, collectively, explain why Warren Buffet recently announced plans to double his \$15 billion investment in wind and solar energy over the next decade.

Like Buffet, many states are doubling down on their clean energy policies, recognizing that they can both reduce risks and costs for their residents and businesses. Indeed, Northeast states involved in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative have showed that they can use market-based mechanisms to reduce carbon pollution and use the revenue to invest in renewable energy projects and utility energy efficiency programs. Those states are expected to adapt their programs to ensure that it meets EPA's new proposal. But for some states like Michigan and Ohio, which are actively reconsidering their clean energy goals and targets, it would make sense to align their goals with the expectations of the Clean Power Plan.

The bottom line: As state policymakers and voters grapple with specific approaches for meeting the EPA's proposal for reducing carbon emissions and increasing clean energy, they should pay close attention to the two-dozen states — in all corners of the country — that are already seeing wide-ranging financial and environmental benefits from proactive clean energy policies.

Dan Bakal is director of electric power at Ceres, a nonprofit group mobilizing business and investor leadership on climate change and other global sustainability challenges. Readers may send the author email at bakal@ceres.org.

Stella (TV: "Nashville") is 15.