

THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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OPINION | WE SAY

On The Trail



THUMBS UP to the South Dakota 125th anniversary wagon train as it kicks off its ride Wednesday from Yankton. The send-off meal and celebration will be held at the rodeo grounds on the north side of town. In addition, tours will be offered for the neighboring Mead Building undergoing historic restoration. After leaving Yankton on Thursday morning, the wagon train will continue with area stops in Tabor, Scotland and Tripp before eventually reaching its final destination in Pierre. The wagon train provides a unique opportunity to recapture a piece of pioneer history and to gain a better understanding of the people who settled the state.

Fishing Fun



THUMBS UP to the liberalized fishing limits that have been enacted for Lake Yankton ahead of the fish kill-off that will take place next month. The kill-off is being done because of the presence of invasive fish, which were probably introduced during the 2011 flooding on the Missouri River. The temporary rules allow for a great take from the lake — which is about to become dormant for several months. The rules allow anglers to get one last taste of action — and then some — from this popular fishing spot.

Catching The Bus



THUMBS UP to Freeman High School for hosting the C-SPAN bus this week. The bus made a special stop at the school in recognition of FHS winning honorable mention in last year's StudentCam competition, sponsored by the public affairs network. The FHS documentary placed among the top 150 spots from among a record 2,355 entries from across the nation. The \$1 million bus offers a high-tech experience with interactive technology. The displays not only make government interesting but also show its impact on all of our lives.

Fade To Black



THUMBS DOWN to the passing this past week of Richard Attenborough, a solid British actor who turned himself into an acclaimed director; he died Sunday at age 90. Many movie fans likely remember Attenborough as "Big X," one of the doomed masterminds in the 1963 movie "The Great Escape," or, later, the mastermind of a doomed endeavor called "Jurassic Park" in 1993. But when he turned to filmmaking, he created the Oscar-winning 1982 epic "Gandhi." His career was filled with bold directing choices — "A Bridge Too Far," which looked at a monumental Allied defeat during World War II; "Cry Freedom," centered on the death of South African activist Steve Biko; and "Chaplin," a bio of Charlie Chaplin — that yielded mixed results with occasional hits. He was revered as a movie titan in England, where he was knighted and even given a seat in the House of Lords, according to the New York Times. On either side of the Atlantic, he was seen as a fixture of the film medium, and he will be missed.

ONLINE OPINION

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

LATEST RESULTS:

Do you think your school district should adopt a four-day school week?
No 51%
Yes 43%
Not sure 6%
TOTAL VOTES CAST 329

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 all police should be required to wear cameras when they are in the field?

To vote in the *Press & Dakotan's* Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, August 29, the 241st day of 2014. There are 124 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 29, 1944, 15,000 American troops of the 28th Infantry Division marched down the Champs Elysees in Paris as the French capital continued to celebrate its liberation from the Nazis.

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

In 1814, during the War of 1812, Alexandria, Virginia, formally surrendered to British military forces, which occupied the city until September 3.

In 1864, the Democratic National Convention, which nominated Maj. Gen. George B. McClellan for president, opened in Chicago.

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

In 1910, Korean Emperor Sunjong abdicated as the Japan-Korea Annexation Treaty went into effect.

In 1935, the film "Top Hat," starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, premiered at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

In 1958, pop superstar Michael Jackson was born in Gary, Indiana. In 1964, Roy Orbison's single "Oh, Pretty Woman" was released on the Monument label.

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, Arizona, at age 63.

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

Ten years ago: Tropical Storm Gaston made landfall in South Carolina at near-hurricane strength. Protesters filling 20 city blocks peacefully swarmed Manhattan's streets on the eve of the Republican National Convention to demand that President George W. Bush be turned out of office. A car bomb at the office of a U.S. security contractor in Afghanistan killed about ten people, including

three Americans. Closing ceremonies were held in Athens, Greece, for the Olympic games.

Five years ago: Funeral services were held in Boston for Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, who was eulogized by President Barack Obama; hours later, Kennedy's remains were buried at Arlington National Cemetery outside Washington. Eight people were found beaten to death at a mobile home in Glynn County, Georgia; family member Guy Heinze Jr., who reported finding the bodies, was later convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole. Space shuttle Discovery and seven astronauts blazed into orbit on a flight to the international space station.

One year ago: In a sweeping new policy statement, the Justice Department said it would not stand in the way of states that wanted to legalize, tax and regulate marijuana as long as there were effective controls to keep marijuana away from kids, the black market and federal property. The NFL agreed to pay \$765 million to settle lawsuits from thousands of former players who developed dementia or other concussion-related health problems they say were caused by the on-field clashes.

Today's Birthdays: Actor-director Lord Richard Attenborough is 91. Actress Betty Lynn (TV: "The Andy Griffith Show") is 88. Movie director William Friedkin is 79. Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., is 78. Actor Elliott Gould is 76. Movie director Joel Schumacher is 75. TV personality Robin Leach is 73. Actor Ray Wise is 67. Actress Deborah Van Valkenburgh is 62. Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew is 59. Dancer-choreographer Mark Morris is 58. Country musician Dan Truman (Diamond Rio) is 58. Actress Rebecca DeMornay is 55. Singer Me'Shell NdegeOcello is 45. Rhythm-and-blues singer Carl Martin (Shai) is 44. Actress Carla Gugino is 43. Rock musician Kyle Cook (Matchbox Twenty) is 39. Actor John Hensley is 37. Rock musician David Desrosiers (Simple Plan) is 34. Rapper A+ is 32. Actress Jennifer Landon is 31. Actor Jeffrey Licon is 29. Actress-singer Lea Michele (TV: "Glee") is 28. Rock singer Liam Payne (One Direction) is 21.

Thought for Today: "People are very open-minded about new things — as long as they're exactly like the old ones." — Charles F. Kettering, American inventor (1876-1958).

FROM THE BIBLE

The Holy Spirit will come upon you, ... the child to be born will be called holy — the son of God. Luke 1:35. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



Michael Reagan

Rev. Al Gets It Right

BY MICHAEL REAGAN

CagleCartoons.com

The Rev. Al Sharpton is getting the right kind of grief.

This time it's not from conservatives for being a race hustler who exploits every white-on-black killing to raise money for his civil rights group National Action Network or to boost his miserable ratings on MSNBC.

This time Sharpton is being criticized by other blacks - liberal blacks - who didn't like the tough sermon he preached at Michael Brown's funeral on Monday.

Sharpton's fiery eulogy was not the familiar Gospel of the Rev. Al.

Sure, he quoted the Bible and criticized Ferguson police for allowing a young black man's body to lie in the middle of the street for more than four hours.

But after calling for major reforms in policing, Sharpton pulled a switcheroo. He pointedly condemned the violence and rioting that came in response to Brown's death.

Then he surprised everyone in the church by bringing up a subject that too few black leaders - particularly the part-time one in the White House - are brave enough to bring up on a public stage.

Sharpton said blacks have to take responsibility for the chronic violence and bad behavior in their community that creates so much police attention in the first place.

"We have to be outraged at a 9-year-old girl killed in Chicago. We have got to be outraged by our disrespect for each other, our disregard for each other, our killing and shooting and running around gun-toting each other..."

As Sharpton said, "Blackness has never been about being a gangster or a thug." It has been about rising up, fighting against discrimination, building churches and black colleges and succeeding in life and never giving up.

"And now," he said, "we get to the 21st century, we get to where we've got some positions of power. And you decide it ain't black no more to be successful. Now, you want to be a n— and call your woman a 'ho.' You've lost where you're coming from."

The New Rev. Al had Spike Lee and other sensible blacks standing in pews when he declared, "We've got to clean up our community so we can clean up the United States of America!"

But since Monday Sharpton has been rapped by

Kelly Hertz

What The Calendar Says

BY KELLY HERTZ

kelly.hertz@yankton.net

For me, the calendar says it's calendar season. Actually, so does a peculiar dazed feeling that dogs me every late summer.

One of the responsibilities I have here is to oversee our "River City" entertainment section — and at least 75 percent of the work involved with that project is updating the calendar of events. It's a living, breathing, squirming document — a needy beast that demands attention on a weekly basis.

As the first sentence may suggest, this is the busiest time of the year in terms of tending to that calendar, because I spend a lot of time sorting through school online calendars for the new school year. It's at this time that the River City calendar will become bigger and seemingly more ponderous than at any other point during the course of the year. (This would explain why, right now, I'm having a hard time remembering what month it is.)

I think this weekly ritual of surfing and searching may qualify me as a decent judge of what makes for a good website calendar. This is not a petty subject: The websites (or Facebook pages) for virtually every school, every entertainment venue, every performer and many organizations and businesses offer some sort of online calendar of events to tell the world what they're doing and when. And it sure seems that no two are exactly alike in terms of functionality.

So, what makes for a good online calendar? (OK, some of you should start taking notes right here ... please?)

The first thing is literally the very first thing you look for: an obvious homepage link that immediately takes you to the calendar. There are some websites that force you to play hide-and-seek just to find this important, basic entry. This makes no sense at all.

The next step is to offer a calendar that's user friendly, and this is where my current searches through the school websites have taught me some things. These calendars run the gamut from the very simple — and even the relatively primitive — to the unnecessarily complex.

Most sites list their events a month at a time (although one school forced me to go through its entire school year week by week). The monthly packaging, in theory, allows me to cover more ground more quickly.

But how these sites do this task varies greatly. Some schools, for instance, simply post PDF pages of calendars (the kind you would then print out and pin to a cork board) on their websites. This is arguably the least amount of work you can do to

YOUR LETTERS

SD Has Been Framed!

Arlene Stoeber, Yankton

If you haven't seen the beautiful hillside on the Federal Prison Campus, it's a MUST.

South Dakota has been framed, but in a good way.

There's always anticipation each spring as to what the floral hillside will evolve into as

"progressive" blacks for using Brown's funeral and the notoriety of a tragic police shooting to scold the black community for its own sins.

The Rev. Al's critics say the issue of black-on-black crime is irrelevant to Brown's death. Brown was shot by a white cop, not another young black male, they argue.

BS, I say. Sharpton was right to use a national pulpit to challenge black leaders to address the black-on-black killing spree that has been decimating the youth of our inner cities for decades.

Thanks to the attention of the national media and professional race-card players like Sharpton, everyone in America knows about Michael Brown's tragic death. Soon we'll know how it actually happened.

Meanwhile, have you ever heard of Dorval Jenkins, Marcus McCarty or Antonio Smith?

They're just three of the 26 murder victims in Chicago since Aug. 9, the day Brown was killed in suburban Ferguson.

All but one or two of the 26 dead Chicagoans were young black males. All but one or two were shot to death deliberately or by accident by other black males.

Jenkins was 19. McCarty was 14. Antonio Smith, deliberately gunned down by local gangsters in a dead-end alley for unknown reasons, was 9.

Al Sharpton didn't show up at their funerals. Neither did Spike Lee or Snoop Dogg. Neither did several underlings from the White House. Neither did Brian Williams and Anderson Cooper.

Black-on-black gang murders are too common. They're not news. So they don't bring good ratings or network camera teams.

It's great to see the Rev. Al's call for blacks to man-up and address the violence and gang culture that's destroying their community and tainting their entire race.

Now, if he's really serious, he needs to take it to the streets and churches of Chicago.

Whether the cameras follow him there or not.

Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "The New Reagan Revolution" (St. Martin's Press). He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelereagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

disseminate this information, and it's not real attractive — but I've always found this rather unsophisticated mode handy. Once you figure out how the information is organized (which is the key to every single site I go to, by the way), you can zip through an entire school year or a complete schedule quickly. The pages materialize easily and scrolling is a breeze. So, simple is good.

By contrast, some online calendars are so loaded with links, color schemes and clip art that it's hard sometimes to make much headway. I actually like color-coded links — for instance, red links for sporting events, green for fine arts, blue for scholastics, etc. — because all I have to do is search for those colors to find the information I need. But sometimes the colors blend together too much, depending on the formatting, and they tell me very little.

And, as is often the case in the computerized age, some websites simply don't work well on every computer — and that is doubly true with calendars, some of which are built with a lot of moving digital bits. The more "bells and whistles" that some overeager designer packs onto a calendar page, the more time-consuming it usually is.

While most schools (especially), venues and bands present their calendars month by month, a few merely list their events without a monthly structure to guide you. I find this works pretty well if the copy is clean: It's more straightforward and easier to read. So, for my money, Freeman Public School may have the best online non-athletic calendar in the area (at least, once you find the link; see my first point). USD's main events calendar, which was a tedious headache before it was redesigned about a year ago, is also in this ballpark.

Of course, one of the fatal issues for online calendars has nothing to do with software, color codes or moving parts: It's those places that simply don't update their calendars. As I write this, there are at least two area schools that still have 2013-2014 information on their websites. There are also some venues that haven't bothered to update their entertainment calendars for months. This is utterly self-defeating and completely frustrating for users.

I'm not going to pretend that maintaining an online calendar is easy; my own experiences with the River City calendar, which is an aggregate of so many other lists, tells me that. But if it's deemed to be worth having, then it's worth doing right and doing often. And that's true every day, week and month, no matter what the calendar says.

You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

the spring planting is finished. Before Jack Frost casts his spell, be sure to take time to drive down Douglas Ave. to see South Dakota within a green framework with YC in school colors, the Might MO in yellow, and the city of Yankton highlighted with red.

Thank you, FPC, for the beauty and talent you share annually with the community.