

The Press & Dakotan

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We Say

Happy 125th!



THUMBS UP to the Catholic Diocese of Sioux Falls on its 125th anniversary. The year-long observance kicked off at Mount Marty College as it recognized the diocese's origins in Yankton, including Martin Marty as the first bishop. During the year, Catholic school students — including Sacred Heart in Yankton and St. Agnes in Vermillion — attended an All Schools Mass in

Park Place



Sioux Falls. The diocesan celebration later featured a Mass and other activities at Marty in honor of Native American culture, history and contributions to the faith. The celebration concluded last weekend with the LEGACY event at the Sioux Falls Arena and Convention Center. Congratulations on 125 years of faith and service.

Caught Cheating



THUMBS DOWN to Josh Duggar. Many will remember Duggar as the main reason his family's TLC circus act of a television show "19 Kids and Counting" was canceled earlier this year after his history of molestation came to light. Duggar is back in the spotlight again after being caught in the recent Ashley Madison data dump as one of the site's millions of paying customers. Duggar, who once worked at the Family Research Council, has been a critic of same-sex marriage for years and yet, has now admitted to extramarital affairs and been caught paying for a site that proclaims to facilitate extramarital affairs. It's funny that groups like Focus on the Family, the Family Research Council and National Organization for Marriage will fight tooth-and-nail in force against marriage equality, yet when a site attracts millions to break one of the Ten Commandments (Thou shalt not commit adultery), they're nowhere to be found and we're finding people on their payrolls with a paid membership.

Under Way



THUMBS UP to the South Dakota Department of Transportation for setting a new bid letting date on the long-awaited Highway 50 reconstruction project. The project was held back a whole year after the previous letting only fielded a single bid. With the state of our nation's road infrastructure crumbling, it's good to see the state making sure one of the main arteries serving the City of Yankton stays in prime shape and remains safe for drivers and pedestrians alike.

ONLINE OPINION

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

LATEST RESULTS:

Do you consider yourself a native of the city/zip code in which you are now living?
No.....59%
Yes.....31%
TOTAL VOTES CAST283

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 support sending U.S. troops to Iraq to fight ISIS?
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, August 21, the 233th day of 2015. There are 132 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On August 21, 1945, President Harry S. Truman ended the Lend-Lease program that had shipped some \$50 billion in aid supplies to America's allies during World War II.

On this date: In 1831, Nat Turner led a violent slave rebellion in Virginia resulting in the deaths of at least 55 white people. (He was later executed.)

In 1858, the first of seven debates between Illinois senatorial contenders Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas took place.

In 1911, Leonardo da Vinci's "Mona Lisa" was stolen from the Louvre Museum in Paris. (The painting was recovered two years later in Italy.)

In 1940, exiled Communist revolutionary Leon Trotsky died in a Mexican hospital from wounds inflicted by an assassin the day before.

In 1944, the United States, Britain, the Soviet Union and China opened talks at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington that helped pave the way for establishment of the United Nations. (The talks concluded on October 7.)

In 1959, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed an executive order making Hawaii the 50th state.

In 1963, martial law was declared in South Vietnam as police and army troops began a violent crackdown on Buddhist anti-government protesters.

In 1972, the Republican National Convention opened in Miami Beach.

In 1983, Philippine opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr., ending a self-imposed exile in the United States, was shot dead moments after stepping off a plane at Manila International Airport. The musical play "La Cage Aux Folles" opened on Broadway.

In 1991, the hard-line coup against Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev collapsed in the face of a popular uprising led by Russian Federation President Boris N. Yeltsin.

In 1993, in a serious setback for NASA, engineers lost contact with the Mars Observer spacecraft as it was about to reach the red planet on a \$980 million mission.

In 1995, ABC News settled a \$10 billion libel suit by apologizing to Philip Morris for reporting the tobacco giant had manipulated the amount of nicotine in its cigarettes.

Ten years ago: Pope Benedict XVI triumphantly ended his four-day trip to his native Germany, celebrating an open-air Mass for a million people in Cologne. Robert A. Moog, whose self-named electronic synthesizers revolutionized music in the 1960s, died in Asheville, North Caro-

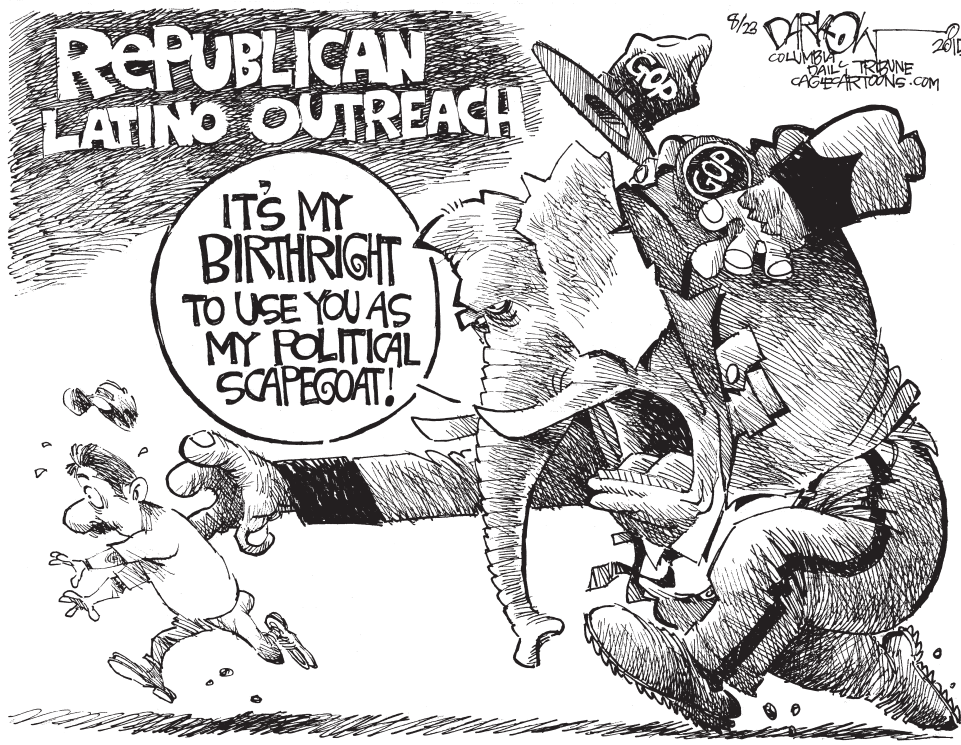
lina, at age 71.

Five years ago: Iranian and Russian engineers began loading fuel into Iran's first nuclear power plant, which Moscow promised to safeguard to prevent material at the site from being used in any potential weapons production. A Vincent van Gogh painting, "Poppy Flowers," was stolen in broad daylight from Cairo's Mahmoud Khalil Museum. (Although Egyptian authorities initially said they'd recovered the painting the same day at the Cairo airport, that report turned out to be erroneous; the painting remains missing.) Emmy-winning CBS News correspondent Harold Dow died at age 62.

One year ago: Calling it a "miraculous day," an American doctor infected with Ebola left his isolation unit at Emory University Hospital in Atlanta; Dr. Kent Brantly warmly hugged his physicians and nurses, showing the world that he posed no public health threat one month after getting sick with the virus. Gov. Jay Nixon ordered the Missouri National Guard to begin withdrawing from Ferguson, where nightly scenes of unrest had erupted since a white police officer fatally shot an unarmed black 18-year-old nearly two weeks earlier. Former Irish Prime Minister Albert Reynolds, 81, died in Dublin.

Today's Birthdays: Former NFL player and general manager Pete Retzlaff is 84. Actor-director Melvin Van Peebles is 83. Playwright Mari Crowley is 80. Singer Kenny Rogers is 77. Actor Clarence Williams III is 76. Rock-and-roll musician James Burton is 76. Singer Harold Reid (The Statler Brothers) is 76. Singer Jackie DeShannon is 74. College and Pro Football Hall of Famer Willie Lanier is 70. Actress Patty McCormack is 70. Pop singer-musician Carl Giammarese is 68. Actress Loretta Devine is 66. NBC newsman Harry Smith is 64. Singer Glenn Hughes is 63. Country musician Nick Kane is 61. Actress Kim Cattrall is 59. College Football Hall of Famer and former NFL quarterback Jim McMahon is 56. Actress Cleo King is 53. Retired MLB All-Star pitcher John Wetteland is 49. Rock singer Serj Tankian (System of a Down) is 48. Figure skater Josee Chouinard is 46. Actress Carrie-Anne Moss is 45. Retired MLB player Craig Counsell is 45. Rock musician Liam Howlett (Prodigy) is 44. Actress Alicia Witt is 40. Singer Kellis is 36. TV personality Brody Jenner is 32. Singer Melissa Schuman is 31. Olympic gold medal sprinter Usain Bolt is 29. Actor-comedian Brooks Wheelan (TV: "Saturday Night Live") is 29. Actor Cody Kasch is 28. Country singer Kacey Musgraves is 27. Actress Hayden Panettiere is 26. Actor RJ Mitte is 23. Actor Maxim Knight (TV: "Falling Skies") is 16.

Thought for Today: "I don't measure America by its achievement but by its potential." — Shirley Chisholm, American politician (1924-2005).



Telling Histories

BY KELLY HERTZ
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History is an endless story, and it's told in countless ways.

I came across two very different styles of such storytelling on a trip I took recently.

The journey was my idea, for it allowed me to cross an item off my own nerdy (by some assessments) bucket list by seeing the Abraham Lincoln Museum in Springfield, Illinois. That was one story. When MapQuest informed me that the trip to the Land of Lincoln could take my traveling party through Hannibal, Missouri, the childhood home of Mark Twain, it was an intriguing bonus.

There was a lot to learn from these two places.

Hannibal is not terribly unlike Yankton, in that it's a river town of about comparable size. Of course, Hannibal is an older town situated on a bigger river (the Mississippi), and it has an immense literary figure around which to build its identity.

And yet, Hannibal is still in the process of reviving that history. There were numerous historical sites (including, beyond all the Twain/Samuel Clemens curiosities, a small museum honoring another former resident, the "Unsinkable" Molly Brown) and numerous big, old houses. These homes were in various states of repair, ranging from the immaculate to the desperate; however, there were several places that bore signs indicating that restoration projects were under way. Hannibal really is a work in progress itself.

The town is steeped in its history. The historic downtown district is developed nicely, with some buildings proudly displaying the structural scars wrought by proud age. Many residential streets are narrow, and a few neighborhoods are situated on steep hills. It's an old river town in every sense.

It also bears haunting little nooks. While we were driving around Hannibal one moonlit night, we suddenly came upon an old graveyard that looked like something out of a horror movie. (Since the town features "ghost tours," I suspect the moody appearance of the place wasn't merely coincidence.) The fact that we couldn't find this cemetery again in the light of day made it even more interesting.

What also stuck out about Hannibal was the sounds of the soft summer evening. In its dark jungle of modern neighborhoods, a symphony of locusts, crickets, frogs and other creatures oozed from everywhere. I could imagine that was exactly how it sounded (with an occasional distant, lonesome riverboat horn through in) more than 170 years ago when Clemens/Twain was growing up on those muddy Mississippi banks. In that sense, it was living history.

From Hannibal, we journeyed 100 miles east

to Springfield and a different kind of history.

The capital of Illinois is a sprawling city: Its population is listed at 117,000, and it seemed far bigger than that, especially downtown. Also, because it is a capital, Springfield doesn't rely so heavily on history as places like Hannibal naturally do. In Springfield, history — with one extraordinary exception, which I'll discuss in a moment — seems virtually manufactured amid the metropolitan trappings.

The Lincoln museum that I longed to visit did not disappoint; it was unlike any museum I've ever encountered. It's a state-of-the-art facility at the throbbing, downtown heart of the city with many modern features, not to mention its own Subway restaurant and a great souvenir store. But the place isn't really packed with historical items, unlike the Hannibal museums, for instance. Instead, the Lincoln museum offers a multimedia tour that tells an almost operatic tale of both a man and a broken nation. It starts with Lincoln's humble log-cabin beginnings and takes you through his rise as a lawyer and politician. There are also showcases explaining the history of slavery, echoing a dramatic collision course that is fully realized in the second half of the tour. It builds to its inevitable, emotionally draining conclusion. The museum, which also includes a thundering multi-screen theatre, offers a full immersion in Lincoln's legacy, if not a variety of artifacts from the man's life.

For the most part, a trip around the Springfield doesn't expose you to the kind of 19th century trappings that dominate Hannibal. We did run across a number of stately mansions that were well preserved, but most of them have been zoned commercial and serve as professional office space. That's one good way to preserve history, I suppose.

However, there is that aforementioned exception to Springfield's modernity: Lincoln's tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery. This is a holy place whose silent power cannot be overstated. The outer monument, a dramatic structure by any standard, is dominant and staggering, and the walkway approach features signs that ask just two things of you: "Silence" and "Respect." Once inside, you move through narrow corridors on a circular path that takes you to the area of the family crypts, and here lies the point of it all. This is no multimedia production. It's simply a room featuring a monument buried deep within a much greater monument, a chamber tastefully lit and adorned with a patriotic solemnity that cannot be manufactured.

It was a somber yet stirring finale to a historical journey that took my traveling group into the orbits of two amazing American personalities, with towns telling their tales in two very different ways. Each brought history alive. Neither of them should be missed, and both make me yearn to see more such chapters. Yeah, my nerdism is alive and well.

Follow @kelly_hertz on Twitter.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Better Time

Emily VanDerhule, Yankton

I would like to address County Commission chairman Todd Woods' recent comments regarding the upcoming property tax levy vote for road and bridge improvements.

Mr. Woods said "I want to do some forums and more public education" and "I don't want mistruths, I want them to know the facts and let them make a decision based on the facts." I couldn't agree more. That is why the county commission meetings should be held at an appropriate time (like the city commission meetings) so that the public is more able to attend and have an opportunity to know what the facts are. Personally, I can't afford to take 60-90 minutes off work to attend. Others have been requesting this for quite some time, I hope the county commission is listening.

I will be voting against the tax levy and encouraging others to do the same until the

County Commission is able to have their public meetings outside the average 8 a.m.-5 p.m. workday.

'Uncle Jimmo' Signs Off

Jim Clark, Vermillion

I regret to inform my listeners that I resigned as host of "Jazz Nightly" on South Dakota Public Broadcasting Radio on Aug. 6. I would have liked to have said goodbye on the air but the circumstances of my abrupt resignation on that day made it impossible.

I had contemplated resigning for a long time. While I could publicly disclose at length the reasons for my resignation and the issues and conflicts involved, I have concluded that it would serve no useful purpose at this time.

To all my loyal listeners and supporters over the past 14 1/2 years, I can only thank you from the bottom of my heart. I will never forget you.

P & D LETTER POLICY

The **PRESS & DAKOTAN** invites its readers to write letters to the editor. We ask 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 mind.

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

- 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 us at kelly.hertz@yankton.net.

DESTINY: "Our republic and its press will rise or fall together."

— Joseph Pulitzer

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS: It's Your Right To Know!