

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS/ CIRCULATION Extension 104 CLASSIFIED ADS Extension 108 tera.schmidt@yankton.net

NEWS DEPT. Extension 114 news@yankton.net SPORTS DEPT. Extension 106 sports@yankton.net ADVERTISING DEPT.

sales@yankton.net BUSINESS OFFICE Extension 119 NEW MEDIA:

Extension 122

Extension 136 beth.rye@yankton.net COMPOSING DEPT. Extension 129 kathy.larson@yankton.net

> **MANAGERS** Gary L. Wood

Publisher Michele Schievelbein

Advertising Director

Iim Gevens Circulation Director Tonya Schild

Business Manager Tera Schmidt Classified Manager

Kelly Hertz Editor

James D. Cimburek Sports Editor Beth Rye

Digital Media Director Kathy Larson Composing Manager

### **DAILY STAFF**

Reilly Biel Cassandra Brockmoller Brandi Bue Rob Buckingham Caryn Chappelear Randy Dockendorf Rachel Frederick Jeremy Hoeck Nicole Myers Robert Nielsen Diana Smallwood David Stephenson Cathy Sudbeck JoAnn Wiebelhaus Brenda Willcuts Alissa Woockman

#### **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 & Dakotan. 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078.

### **MEMBERSHIPS**

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan 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	\$14.5
3 months	\$43.53
6 months	\$87.05

.. \$139.14 MAIL IN RETAIL 1-month......\$16.93 3 months...... \$50.79 6 months...... \$101.57

. \$148.82 MAIL OUTSIDE RETAIL TRADE ZONE . \$58.05

3 months..... 1-year.....\$186.33 \* Plus applicable sales tax

for all rates

**OPINION** 

# Bypass Issue: A **Conversation Piece**

The Yankton truck bypass issue — which has seen a spike in interest lately as an intriguing conversation piece, if not an actual DOT proposal — came before the City Commission Monday night in what could best be described as an animated discussion.

Since much of the petition support for the bypass project seems also tied to NOT pursuing the Highway 50 reconstruction, the bids for the first phase of which are going to be let next week, a discussion was really all that could take place Monday. Both the Highway 50 reconstruction and the possible, maybe-someday bypass would be state projects, so the City Commission could do little more than

Nevertheless, during Monday's discussion (which also delved into such topics as a noise ordinance vs. a "Jake Brake" ban and speeding motorists on Highway 50), we did learn — and were re-

minded of — a few things about the bypass issue:

• A truck bypass for Yankton is not a new idea, and it's not something that local officials have ignored. We recall hearing at least one commissioner talk about it more than a decade ago. As Commissioner Nathan Johnson pointed out (and this is something we also recall from Johnson's days as a reporter for this newspaper), the bypass issue has been mentioned almost annually in Pierre when local representatives attended legislative sessions to meet with lawmakers and state officials. The people in Pierre listened, Johnson noted, but never seemed overly interested in the bypass proposal, even though Yankton is the only South Dakota city of its size class to lack such a bypass,

• City officials do have a bypass in their long-range plans, and they even have a location for it, running from Bill Baggs Road up to the airport road. But there's no time frame for it, and to make the proposal happen, state and county officials would also have to be involved, and land would have to be acquired.

• The Highway 50 reconstruction has been characterized by some bypass proponents as a waste of money, but that obscures the fact that this roadway is very important to this community. It hooks up with (and basically becomes) the expressway that ties Yankton to Interstate 29. That makes it a vital artery that can't be dismissed as being unworthy of repair or reconstruction.

• And Highway 50 does need work. DOT engineer Rod Gall made that very clear when he spoke during Monday's meeting, noting that the patched-up roadway has foundation issues, numerous cracks and fractures, and has outlived its life expectancy. It would need a maintenance investment, even if a bypass were planned

• Yankton does have a traffic issue — especially on Broadway and Highway 50 — and it must be studied. The city has studies from the early 2000s, but they must be updated, as traffic has increased as the community has grown. (Try turning left onto Broadway some afternoon to find out more about this.) There is also increased pedestrian traffic, and that must factor into these studies.

The bottom line from Monday is, the bypass issue is still stuck in neutral — it has been for several years — and won't be going anywhere for some time to come. That doesn't mean the city or area residents should give up on the idea. Nor does it mean that other efforts to accommodate truck traffic shouldn't be made. However, there's no indication that a bypass is any sort of priority with the state, no matter what city officials have said and no matter how many people sign whatever petitions are circulated. Meanwhile, the Highway 50 project is a pressing concern for both the DOT and for Yankton. That's where the energy is today. The bypass will simply have to wait.

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/.

### IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press Today is Wednesday, August 26, the 238th day of 2015. There are 127 days left

Today's Highlight in History: On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women's right to vote, was certified in effect by Secretary of State Bainbridge

Colby.

On this date: In 1789, France's National Assembly adopted its Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa began cataclysmic eruptions, leading to a

massive explosion the following day.

In 1939, the first televised major league baseball games were shown on experimental station W2XBS: a doubleheader between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field. The Reds won the first game, 5-2, the Dodgers the second, 6-1.)

In 1944, French Gen. Charles de Gaulle braved the threat of German snipers as he led a victory march in Paris, which had just been liberated by the Allies from Nazi occupation. In 1958, Alaskans went to the polls to

overwhelmingly vote in favor of statehood. In 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson was nominated for a term of office in his own right at the Democratic National Con-

vention in Atlantic City, New Jersey.

In 1968, the Democratic National Convention opened in Chicago. In 1972, the summer Olympics games

opened in Munich, West Germany. In 1978, Cardinal Albino Luciani of Venice was elected pope following the death of Paul VI. The new pontiff took the name Pope John Paul I. (However, he

died just over a month later.)
In 1985, 13-year-old AIDS patient
Ryan White began "attending" classes at
Western Middle School in Kokomo, Indiana, via a telephone hook-up at his home after school officials had barred Ryan from

participating in person. In 1996, Democrats opened their 42nd national convention in Chicago. 2009, authorities in California solved the 18-year disappearance of Jay-

cee Lee Dugard after she appeared at a

parole office with her children and the An-

tioch couple who'd kidnapped her when

she was 11.

Ten years ago: Utility crews in South Florida scrambled to restore power to more than 1 million customers blacked out by Hurricane Katrina, which continued to churn in the Gulf of Mexico. A fire raced through a crowded, rundown Paris apartment building housing African immigrants,

killing 17 people, mainly children.

Five years ago: The government of Chile released a video of the 33 miners trapped deep in a copper mine; the men appeared slim but healthy as they sang the national anthem and yelled, "Long live Chile, and long live the miners!'

One year ago: In a speech to the American Legion's national convention in Charlotte, North Carolina, President Ba-rack Obama defended his administration's response to Veterans Affairs lapses that had delayed health care for thousands of former service members, but conceded more needed to be done to regain their trust. Burger King announced it would buy Canadian restaurant chain Tim Hortons in an \$11 billion deal to create the world's third largest fast-food chain.

Today's Birthdays: Actress Francine York is 79. Former Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge is 70. Rhythm-and-blues singer Valerie Simpson is 70. Pop singer Bob Cowsill is 66. Broadcast jour-nalist Bill Whitaker is 64. Actor Brett Cullen is 59. NBA coach Stan Van Gundy is 56. Jazz musician Branford Marsalis is 55. Country musician Jimmy Olander (Diamond Rio) is 54. Actor Chris Burke is 50. Actress-singer Shirley Manson (Garbage) is 49. Rock musician Dan Vickrey (Counting Crowes) is 49. TV writer-actress Ri-ley Weston is 49. Rock musician Adrian Young (No Doubt) is 46. Actress Melissa McCarthy is 45. Latin pop singer Thalia is 44. Rock singer-musician Tyler Connolly (Theory of a Deadman) is 40. Actor Mike Colter is 39. Actor Macaulay Culkin is 35. Actor Chris Pine is 35. Country singer Brian Kelley (Florida Georgia Line) is 30.
Rhythm-and-blues singer Cassie Ventura is 29. Actor Dylan O'Brien is 24. Actress Keke Palmer is 22.

Thought for Today: "While we read history we make history." — George William Curtis, American author-editor (1824-

### FROM THE BIBLE

He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel. Genesis 3:15. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



Robert B. Reich

# 'On Call': An Upsurge **In Uncertain Work**

BY ROBERT B. REICH

Tribune Content Agency

As Labor Day looms, more Americans than ever don't know how much they'll be earning next week or even tomorrow

This varied group includes independent contractors, temporary workers, the self-employed, part-timers, freelancers and free agents. Most file 1099s rather than W2s, for tax purposes.

On demand and on call — in the "share" economy, the "gig" economy or, more prosaically, the "irregular" economy — the result is the same: no predictable earnings or hours.

It's the biggest change in the American workforce in over a century, and it's happening at lightning speed. It's estimated that in five years over 40 percent of the American labor force will have uncertain work; in a decade, most of us.

Increasingly, businesses need only a relatively small pool of "talent" anchored in the enterprise - innovators and strategists responsible for the firm's unique competitive strength. Everyone else is becoming fungible, sought only for their reli-

ability and low cost. Complex algorithms can now determine who's needed to do what and when, and then measure the quality of what's produced. Reliability can be measured in experience ratings. Software can seamlessly handle all transactions — contracts, billing, payments, taxes.

All this allows businesses to be highly nimble immediately responsive to changes in consumer preferences, overall demand and technologies — while shifting all the risks of such changes

Whether we're software programmers, journalists, Uber drivers, stenographers, child care workers, TaskRabbits, beauticians, plumbers, Airbnb'rs, adjunct professors or contract nurses · increasingly, we're on our own.

And what we're paid, here and now, depends on what we're worth here and now – in a spot-auction market that's rapidly substituting for the old labor market, where people held jobs that paid regular salaries and wages.

Even giant corporations are devolving into spot-auction networks. Amazon's algorithms evaluate and pay workers for exactly what they contribute.

Apple directly employs fewer than 10 percent of the 1 million workers who design, make and sell products such as iPads and iPhones.

This giant risk-shift doesn't necessarily mean lower pay. Contract workers typically make around \$18 an hour, comparable to what they earned as "employees."

Uber and other ride-share drivers earn around \$25 per hour, more than double what the typical taxi driver takes home. The problem is that workers don't know when

they'll earn it. A downturn in demand, or sudden change in consumer needs, or a personal injury or sickness, can make it impossible to pay the bills.

So they have to take whatever they can get, now: ride-shares in mornings and evenings, temp jobs on weekdays, freelance projects on weekends, Mechanical Turk or TaskRabbit tasks in

Which partly explains why Americans are putting in such long work hours — longer than in any other advanced economy.

And why we're so stressed. According to polls, almost a quarter of American workers worry they won't be earning enough in the future. That's up

from 15 percent a decade ago.
Irregular hours can also take a mental toll. A recent study concluded that people who do irregular work for a decade suffer an average cognitive decline of 6.5 years relative to people with regular hours.

Such uncertainty can be hard on families, too. Children of parents working unpredictable schedules or outside standard daytime working hours are likely to have lower cognitive skills and more behavioral problems, according to new research.

For all these reasons, the upsurge in uncertain work makes the old economic measures unemployment and income – look far better than Americans actually feel.

It also renders irrelevant many labor protections such as the minimum wage, worker safety, family and medical leave, and overtime — because there's no clear "employer." And for the same reason it eliminates employer-financed insurance - Social Security, workers compensation, unemployment benefits and employerprovided health insurance under the Affordable Care Act.

What to do? Courts are overflowing with lawsuits over whether companies have misclassified "employees" as "independent contractors," resulting in a profusion of criteria and definitions.

We should aim instead for simplicity: Whatever party — contractor, client, customer, agent or intermediary — pays more than half of someone's income or provides more than half their working hours should be responsible for all the labor protections and insurance an employee is entitled to.

Presumably that party will share those costs and risks with its own clients, customers, owners and investors. Which is the real point: to take these risks off the backs of individuals and spread them as widely as possible.

In addition, to restore some certainty to peoples' lives, we'll need to move away from unemployment insurance and toward income insurance.

Say, for example, your monthly income dips more than 50 percent below the average monthly income you've received from all the jobs you've taken over the preceding five years. Under one form of income insurance, you'd automatically receive half the difference for up to a year.

But that's not all. Ultimately, we'll need a guaranteed minimum basic income. But I'll save this for another column.

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 Netflix, iTunes and Amazon

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Time Issues

Todd B. Woods, Yankton Yankton County Commission Chair

I want to thank Emily Vanderhule for her letter to the editor ("Better Time," Press & Dakotan, Aug. 21) and I agree with you on finding a better time for meetings. When elected into office we discussed this

very issue as the meetings started at 3:30 p.m. and, after a lengthy discussion, we decided to start at 4 p.m. As a commissioner I have tried my best to find a time where we can encourage public attendance and respect our county employees and avoid paying overtime. We have our meetings recorded and aired on the local cable networks and are available on YouTube. Also, all commissioners' emails are listed on the county website for people to ask us questions. In this era of 24/7 shifts, unfortunately we are unable to accommodate everyone.

In regards to the Road and Bridge Levy, we hosted a public forum on July 13 at p.m., immediately after the Highway 52 Open House. The open house had a great turnout but most of the people did not stay for the Road and Bridge Levy

I respect your opinion and hope you are not voting "no" because of the time of the meetings as our roads and bridges have been neglected far

Some levy facts:

• If your home is assessed at \$100,000, the additional tax is \$84.15 (\$7/month — equivalent to one value meal at a fast food restaurant).

 Ag Land varies based on commodity prices, yields, quality of soil, and if it is pasture or tillable acres but the average increase would be approximately \$1.62/Acre. (One hundred Acres would be an additional \$162/year.) • This revenue can only be spent on Roads &

• Road and Bridge Repair plans are in place

if passed. I encourage everyone to educate themselves on the facts before you vote. Please attend the Chamber Forum on Sept. 1 at 7 p.m. at RTEC or one of the numerous Town Hall meetings that we are doing across the county. You can email questions or concerns to toddw@co.yankton.sd.us.

# It's About Discipline

Cheri Loest, PE, Utica

I recently gathered signatures to put the Yankton County Road and Bridge Levy to a public vote. I don't disagree with the need for extra funds. My family travels our township and county roads daily, and we agree they need work beyond our current budget. What I disagree with is how the levy was written and passed. Too many "details" weren't included:

 The proposed levy has no sunset clause. This new tax will continue forever or until the commission votes to repeal. School and township "opt-out levies" are required to include an expiration date. A sunset clause is CRITICAL as it forces the governing body to better prioritize how the money is spent, to periodically review if the levy is still required, and, most importantly, for the public to agree.

• Too often, additional money is used to reduce the "normal" budget of the department receiving the extra money. The resolution should state that the current highway budget will continue to comprise the same percentage of the county's budget during this levy's lifetime. These additional funds are supplemental, not replace-

• How will these funds be used? There should be a restriction stating that all monies collected are dedicated for replacement-in-kind or substantially similar to that of current structures. This money shouldn't be dedicated to building new roads for specific uses.

• The Yankton School District has twice failed to pass an opt-out. Its reserves are dwindling, and it is unlikely the state will offer much help. Thus, I surmise YSD will turn to the local taxpayers again. Did our county commissioners consult the Yankton School Board to discuss the needs of both entities, the overall impact to the taxpayer and how they might work together to meet the needs of both without losing the taxpayers

verbiage for this levy, our commission must add responsible restrictions that fit our specific needs. If it isn't in writing, any newly elected commissioners can interpret as liberally as they

• Even though the state provided the basic

Do your research. Attend the public meetings. Ask tough questions. Expect solid answers.