

## The Press &amp; Dakotan

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

jim.gevens@yankton.net

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Extension 108

tera.schmidt@yankton.net

## NEWS DEPT.

Extension 114

news@yankton.net

## SPORTS DEPT.

Extension 106

sports@yankton.net

## ADVERTISING DEPT.

Extension 122

sales@yankton.net

## BUSINESS OFFICE

Extension 119

ar@yankton.net

## NEW MEDIA:

Extension 136

beth.rye@yankton.net

## COMPOSING DEPT.

Extension 129

kathy.larson@yankton.net

\* \* \*

## MANAGERS

Gary L. Wood

Publisher

Michele Schievelbein

Advertising Director

Jim 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 Chappellcar

Randy Dockendorf

Jeannine Economy

Rachel Frederick

Jeremy Hoeck

Nicole Myers

Robert Nielsen

Diana Smallwood

David Stephenson

Cathy Sudbeck

JoAnn Wiebelhaus

Brenda Willcuts

Alissa Wockman

\* \* \*

Published Daily  
Monday-SaturdayPeriodicals postage  
paid at Yankton, South  
Dakota, under the act of  
March 3, 1979.Weekly Dakotan  
established June 6, 1861.  
Yankton Daily Press and  
Dakotan 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 Associ-  
ated 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.....\$135.09

## MOTOR ROUTE

(where available)

1 month.....\$14.51

3 months.....\$43.53

6 months.....\$87.05

1 year.....\$139.14

## MAIL IN RETAIL

Trade Zone

1-month.....\$16.93

3 months.....\$50.79

6 months.....\$101.57

1-year.....\$148.82

## MAIL OUTSIDE

RETAIL TRADE ZONE

1 month.....\$19.35

3 months.....\$58.05

6 months.....\$116.09

1-year.....\$186.33

\* Plus applicable sales tax  
for all rates

## We Say

## Great Celebration



**THUMBS UP** to everyone — and everything, for that matter — who made last weekend's Riverboat Days celebration another great success. There were very nice crowds all three days, and that turnout was no doubt prodded along by some great weather. (The only quibble in that department might have been Saturday night, when the wind switched around to the north-west and became decidedly chilly, especially if you weren't dressed for it.) There are many things that stand out, but we really want to give some kudos to Friday's thunderous fireworks display, which may have been one of the best shows seen in Yankton for many years. Overall, Riverboat Days 2015 proved why it remains one of the biggest draws in the region. And that's a testament to all the people that make it happen.

## Scam-alot



**THUMBS DOWN** to yet another scam that is making the rounds, this one involving the IRS. As was reported in Monday's edition, Attorney general Marty Jackley is warning about this scam, in which a caller contacts someone and tells him or her that the IRS is threatening to sue them over unresolved debts. Some have even said that an arrest warrant has been issued. The caller eventually tries to seek personal identification information, which can compromise many of your accounts. We've encountered several complaints about this scam in the area lately, with reports that the scam callers can be very persistent, sometimes calling three or four times a day. Remember, this is a scam — do NOT give out any personal information to these people. Be on your guard. (If the IRS really has an issue with you, it has more efficient and secure ways to contact you; that may not be great news, but it beats falling prey to predators looking to steal you blind.)

## 'Death Porn'



**THUMBS DOWN** to the *New York Daily News*, a tabloid newspaper in the Big Apple, which trolled the very bottom of the gutter with its cover Thursday on the tragic shooting deaths of two Virginia TV journalists. The shooter had his own camera, and he later posted the video of this execution online. For its front-page art Thursday, the *News* grabbed three high-definition images from the killer's camera, which gave us a shooter's perspective with an outstretched arm holding a gun featured in all three photos. The second photo literally showed the blast of the gun at the barrel, and the final photo showed TV reporter Alison Parker (who, of course, died) screaming in terror and pain after being hit. It's a sickening sequence that is blunt, to be sure, but also terribly bad taste and horrendous editorial judgment. The paper also posted a portion of the killer's video on its website. To be fair, there were other newspapers that published images taken from the shooter's camera, but none were like the three-image montage the *News* served up to readers. Yes, it got everyone's attention, but there had to be better, more civilized, less hurtful ways to focus on this tragedy. The editor of a Dallas newspaper lambasted the *News'* cover as "death porn." It's hard to disagree.

## ONLINE OPINION

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

## LATEST RESULTS:

Do you support a tax levy in Yankton County to help pay for road/bridge repairs and maintenance?

No.....	51%
Yes.....	41%
Not sure/don't care.....	8%
<b>TOTAL VOTES CAST .....</b>	<b>257</b>

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 Joe Biden will run for president in 2016?

To cast your vote in the **PRESS & DAKOTAN'S** Internet poll, log on to our website at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

## IN HISTORY

## By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, August 28, the 240th day of 2015. There are 125 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On August 28, 1955, Emmett Till, a black teenager from Chicago, was abducted from his uncle's home in Money, Mississippi, by two white men after he had supposedly whistled at a white woman; he was found brutally slain three days later.

**On this date:** In 1609, English sea explorer Henry Hudson and his ship, the Half Moon, reached present-day Delaware Bay.

In 1862, the Second Battle of Bull Run (also known as Second Manassas) began in Prince William County, Virginia, during the Civil War; the result was a Confederate victory.

In 1922, the first-ever radio commercial aired on station WEAF in New York City; the 10-minute advertisement was for the Queensboro Realty Co., which had paid a fee of \$100.

In 1944, during World War II, German forces in Toulon and Marseille, France, surrendered to Allied troops.

In 1945, the Allies began occupying Japan at the end of World War II.

In 1963, more than 200,000 people listened as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech in front of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C.

In 1964, two days of race-related rioting erupted in North Philadelphia over a false rumor that white police officers had beaten to death a pregnant black woman.

In 1968, police and anti-war demonstrators clashed in the streets of Chicago as the Democratic National Convention nominated Hubert H. Humphrey for president.

In 1972, Mark Spitz of the United States won the first two of his seven gold medals at the Munich Olympics, finishing first in the 200-meter butterfly and anchoring the 400-meter freestyle relay. The Soviet women gymnasts won the team all-around.

In 1988, 70 people were killed when three Italian stunt planes collided during an air show at the U.S. Air Base in Ramstein, West Germany.

In 1990, an F5 tornado struck the Chicago area, killing 29 people.

In 1995, a mortar shell tore through a crowded market in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, killing some three dozen people and triggering NATO airstrikes against the Bosnian Serbs.

**Ten years ago:** New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin ordered everyone in the city to evacuate after Hurricane Katrina grew to a monster storm. Iraqi negotiators finished a new constitution but without the endorsement of Sunni Arabs. West Oahu of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, won the Little League World Series title with a 7-6 win over the defending champions from Willemstad, Curacao.

**Five years ago:** Conservative commentator Glenn Beck and former Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin headlined a "Restoring Honor" rally attended by tens of thousands in Washington. U.S. and Afghan forces repelled attackers wearing American uniforms and suicide vests in a pair of simultaneous assaults before dawn on NATO bases near the Pakistan border. A gunman in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, shot and killed the mother of his two children, the woman's boyfriend and three other people before fleeing with the children to Rancho Cucamonga, California, where he killed himself (the children were unharmed).

**One year ago:** Comedian Joan Rivers was rushed to New York's Mount Sinai Hospital after she suffered cardiac arrest at a doctor's office where she'd gone for a routine outpatient procedure (Rivers died a week later at age 81). Acknowledging he "didn't get it right" with a two-game suspension for Ravens running back Ray Rice, NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell announced tougher penalties for players accused of domestic violence, including six weeks for a first offense and at least a year for a second. Glenn Cornick, 67, the original bass player in the rock band Jethro Tull, died in Hilo, Hawaii.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Sonny Shroyer is 80. Actor Ken Jenkins is 75. Former Defense Secretary William S. Cohen is 75. Actor David Soul is 72. Former pop singer-musician Honey Lantree (The Honeycombs) is 72. Former MLB manager and player Lou Piniella is 72. Actress Barbara Bach is 69. Actress Debra Mooney is 68. Singer Wayne Osmond (The Osmonds) is 64. Actor Daniel Stern is 58. Olympic gold medal figure skater Scott Hamilton is 57. Actor John Allen Nelson is 56. Actress Emma Samms is 55. Actress Jennifer Coolidge is 54. Movie director David Fincher is 53. Actress Amanda Tapping is 50. Country singer Shania Twain is 50. Actor Billy Boyd is 47. Actor Jack Black is 46. Actor Jason Priestley is 46. Olympic gold medal swimmer Janet Evans is 44. Actor J. August Richards is 42. Rock singer-musician Max Collins (Eve 6) is 37. Actress Carly Pope is 35. Country singer Jake Owen is 34. Country singer LeAnn Rimes is 33. Actor Michael Galeota is 31. Actress Sarah Roemer is 31. Actor Armie Hammer is 29. Rock singer Florence Welch (Florence and the Machine) is 29. Country-pop singer Cassadee Pope (TV: "The Voice") is 26. Actress Katie Findlay is 25. Actor/singer Samuel Larsen is 24. Actor Kyle Massey is 24. Actress Quvenzhané Wallis is 12. Reality TV star Alana Thompson, AKA "Honey Boo Boo," is 10.

**Thought for Today:** "The opposite of love is not hate, it's indifference. The opposite of art is not ugliness, it's indifference. The opposite of faith is not heresy, it's indifference. And the opposite of life is not death, it's indifference." — Elie Wiesel, Romanian-born journalist-author.

## FROM THE BIBLE

Jesus saw His mother and the disciple whom He loved. John 19:26. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



## Death On Live TV: The Ghost Of 'Network'

BY KELLY HERTZ

kelly.hertz@yankton.net

It could be cynically argued that many details of the killings Wednesday of two Virginia television journalists, gunned down on live TV while doing a report from a shopping center, somehow capture the spirit of 2015.

And yet this also feels so 1976.

The deaths of reporter Alison Parker and cameraman Adam Ward, murdered by a disgruntled ex-employee of a Roanoke television station, featured horrific modern twists. The ex-worker, Vester Flanagan II, waited until the live morning remote broadcast was under way before executing the two journalists on the air, while wounding the person they were interviewing. Flanagan also took his own video of the attack with a GoPro camera, then posted it on YouTube while he was on the run from the law.

He clearly wanted an audience and he got it, even with his own suicide. And now he's a big story. He's viral. He's somebody.

That's why this feels so 2015. It's an age of endless selfies and social media self-stardom. Against this backdrop, aided by wall-to-wall television that sees newsworthiness in anything with great video, we saw a troubled individual — who was black and gay, and allegedly had a laundry list of grievances ranging from sexual harassment to racial outrage — generate the notoriety he clearly craved.

But it also may feel vaguely familiar if you saw the 1976 movie "Network," Paddy Chafesky's disturbing satire of the television news industry and our hypnotized devotion to it. This grim tale has grown even more disturbing in the years since because it has become far less surreal and more foretelling. It generally nailed how networks, personalities, corporations and others court ratings and attention, and how tragedy is reduced to a commodity. Whether it was an aging TV news anchor calmly telling his audience he planned to commit suicide on the air, or the sight of radical extremists considering their next moves in terms of appealing to key viewer demographics, the movie boiled matters of life and death into marketing strategies. Even an on-air assassination proved a ratings boon, which appealed to the hallowed bottom line.

Perhaps what we saw this week was an insane variation of the movie's message.

A former, bitter TV news reporter executing two journalists on the air? That's a powerful, compelling lead.

The perpetrator posting his own video of his

crime on social media? That made him a viral sensation.

Promoting his own video/crime on Twitter? Although video was pulled from YouTube, it was still seen by thousands of people and wound up being posted by other sites. So, too, was the video from the television station.

Posting his video online while on the run? This was a calculated maneuver by Flanagan that also perfectly set the story up for his final, self-destructive scene.

Flanagan is not alone in using such media tools to garner attention. For example, the Islamic State group is quite proficient at this, posting high-resolution videos of beheadings on the web to go along with well-produced recruitment clips that are apparently luring a few westerners to their cause. Like the radicals in "Network," they also understand what holds eyeballs and makes the greatest impact.

Of course, this story is about more than people seeking attention for themselves. It's also about a world of voyeurs who, via television and a multitude of online portals, can gawk at such tragedies and deliver to their makers or perpetrators precisely what they want: Our glassy-eyed, horrified attention.

(While I'm in this unfortunate neighborhood, I have to mention the *New York Daily News*, a tabloid newspaper whose cover Thursday morning featured three still images culled from Flanagan's video, including one that featured a gun — seen from the shooter's perspective — raised and firing horrified, wounded look on Parker's face in the final frame. Honestly, it looked like something from a video game. I cannot even begin to convey my reaction to this ... or to the very real possibility that it probably sold a lot of papers.)

Can we be blamed for being transfixed by such images? Deep down, I don't think we'd be human if we weren't somehow at least mildly curious about such unpredictable terror.

In a way, this also tends to make us victims, albeit willing ones. An overwhelming majority of us certainly don't condone murder, and yet some of us checked it out online Wednesday out of some detached curiosity. We did it because of the morbid shock value.

We did it because we could.

This, then, is the age in which we live. As surely as everyone can be a star, everyone can also be an audience. It's the "Network" vision taken to the most viral degree. And that can't be good news for anyone.

Follow @kelly\_hertz on Twitter.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Lessons

## Mark Winegar, Vermillion

One important lesson I learned in 20 years of teaching is to set high standards because when you do people will meet them. That's why I think lowering standards for math teachers in South Dakota is the wrong response to the current shortage. We ought to identify the root cause of the shortage and deal with it instead.

The root cause is the low pay teachers receive in South Dakota. We ought to be reassessing our priorities rather than taking pride in the "great bargain" we get by paying teachers the least in the nation or participating in an annual blue ribbon farce.

Our children deserve a world-class education and once we provide it South Dakota will become a more attractive place for businesses to locate. Only then will we be able to supply a well-prepared workforce along with a rural lifestyle. It all hinges on paying a competitive salary to attract and keep great teachers.

So now you are asking yourself, "So where

## YOUR D.C. LAWMAKERS

## SOUTH DAKOTA

**SEN. JOHN THUNE:** United States Senate SR-493, Washington, D.C. 20510; Washington Phone: (866) 850-3855; Sioux Falls Phone: (605) 334-9596; Fax: (202) 228-3855; Web: thune.senate.gov.

**SEN. MIKE ROUNDS:** 502 Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; Washington Phone: 202-224-5842; D.C. Fax: 202-224-7482; Sioux Falls Phone: 605-336-0486; S.D. Fax: 605-336-6624; email: N/A

**REP. KRISTI NOEM:** 2422 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Washington Phone: (202) 225-2801 or (855) 225-2801; Sioux Falls Phone: (605) 275-2868; Fax: (202) 225-5823; email: visit <https://noem.house.gov>

## NEBRASKA

**SEN. DEB FISCHER:** 825 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; Washington Phone: (202) 224-6551; email: N/A

**SEN. BEN SASSE:** B40E Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington DC 20510; Washington Phone: (202) 224-4224; email: N/A

**REP. ADRIAN SMITH:** 503 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515-2703; Washington Phone: (202) 225-6435; Fax: (202) 225-0207; District Phone: (308) 633-6333; email: log on at [www.house.gov/writerep/](http://www.house.gov/writerep/)

SECURITY: "Where the press is free, and every man able to read, all is safe." — Thomas Jefferson

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