

# The Press & Dakotan

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861  
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## We Say

### Man Versus Nature



**A THUMBS DOWN** to our tendency to put animal life above human life. Until this week, most Americans were unaware of a 13-year-old lion named Cecil — a famed resident of Zimbabwe's Hwange National Park. This week it was reported that Minnesota dentist Walter Palmer had killed Cecil and paid \$50,000 for the pleasure. It's hard to say what compels some-

one to leave their job for long periods of time, spend thousands of dollars to jet halfway across the planet and pay an additional 50 grand to hunt dangerous game. But regardless of the reason, the reaction has been visceral. Social media in America and abroad has exploded with angry reactions that have left Palmer out of business, in hiding and facing possible investigation. It's a reaction strong enough to believe Palmer shot a human by its magnitude. But in this rush to condemnation of killing a lion, it seems we've lost sight of the fact that humans are just as good at killing other humans — many right here in America. Poaching is a problem that needs to be dealt with on the international stage and its perpetrators ought to be punished, but in the last month and a half, 16 people have been killed in American mass shootings while attending church, doing their jobs and going to the movies. That's not even including the thousands more in that same time span killed in gang violence, domestic violence or at their own hand. Why do we strongly advocate for justice for a lion we never heard about more vigorously than our own citizens?

### The Ag Classroom



**THUMBS UP** to the South Dakota Agricultural and Rural Leadership (SDARL) group which visited the Yankton region last week. The 32 class members and two staff members attended seminars and made field trips, including the Freeburg Hay fields and headquarters. Amy Freeburg, herself an SDARL alumnus, hosted the group as members checked out the operation and the quality of the product from one of the prime hay areas of the nation. The class members are not only learning more about agriculture — they are also learning how to become better advocates for the state's number one industry.

### Breaking Ground



**THUMBS UP** for the groundbreaking of Westbrook Estates. Though some dirt work has already been occurring on the west side of West City Limits Road for some time, Thursday marked the official groundbreaking on the new housing development. With jobs expected to come to the community by the hundreds over the next few years, it's great to see progress being made on the effort to house the new residents that will be streaming into Yankton.

## ABOUT THIS PAGE

The View page provides a forum for open discussion of issues and interests affecting our readers. Initialed editorials represent the opinion of the writer, but not necessarily that of the **PRESS & DAKOTAN**. Bylined columns represent the view of the author. We welcome letters on current topics. Questions regarding the Views page should be directed to Kelly Hertz at [kelly.hertz@yankton.net](mailto:kelly.hertz@yankton.net).

## ONLINE OPINION

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

### LATEST RESULTS:

**Who do you think will win the Democratic nomination for president in 2016?**

Lincoln Chafee.....	3%
Hillary Clinton .....	58%
Martin O'Malley .....	1%
Bernie Sanders.....	34%
Jim Webb.....	4%
<b>TOTAL VOTES CAST .....</b>	<b>241</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:

**Would you support a measure decriminalizing the possession of one ounce or less of marijuana in South Dakota?**  
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, July 31, the 212th day of 2015. There are 153 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On July 31, 1715, a fleet of Spanish ships carrying gold, silver and jewelry sank during a hurricane off the east Florida coast, scattering most of their treasure along the ocean floor. Of some 2,500 crew members, more than 1,000 died.

**On this date:** In 1777, the Marquis de Lafayette, a 19-year-old French nobleman, was made a major-general in the American Continental Army.

In 1875, the 17th president of the United States, Andrew Johnson, died in Carter County, Tennessee, at age 66.

In 1919, Germany's Weimar Constitution was adopted by the republic's National Assembly.

In 1930, the radio character "The Shadow" made his debut as narrator of the "Detective Story Hour" on CBS Radio.

In 1933, the radio series "Jack Armstrong, the All-American Boy," made its debut on CBS radio station WBMB in Chicago.

In 1942, Oxfam International had its beginnings as the Oxford Committee for Famine Relief was founded in England.

In 1954, Pakistan's K2 was conquered as two members of an Italian expedition, Achille Compagnoni and Lino Lacedelli, reached the summit.

In 1964, the American space probe Ranger 7 reached the moon, transmitting pictures back to Earth before impacting the lunar surface.

In 1972, Democratic vice-presidential candidate Thomas Eagleton withdrew from the ticket with George McGovern following disclosures that Eagleton had once undergone psychiatric treatment.

In 1973, Delta Air Lines Flight 723, a DC-9, crashed while trying to land at Boston's Logan International Airport, killing all 89 people on board.

In 1989, a pro-Iranian group in Lebanon released a grisly videotape showing the body of American hostage William R. Higgins, a Marine lieutenant-colonel, dangling from a rope.

In 1991, President George H.W. Bush and Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty in Moscow.

**Ten years ago:** Police arrested seven people during a raid on an apartment in southern England, bringing to 21 the number in custody in the relentless hunt

for accomplices in the failed July 21 transit bombings in London. Jeong Jang shot a 3-under 69 to win the Women's British Open by four strokes.

**Five years ago:** Chelsea Clinton married investment banker Marc Mezvinsky in the upstate New York village of Rhinebeck. Orchestra leader Mitch Miller died in New York at age 99. Tom Mankiewicz, 68, a screenwriter of James Bond films such as "Diamonds Are Forever" and "Live and Let Die," and the first two "Superman" movies, died in Los Angeles.

**One year ago:** The CIA's insistence that it did not spy on its Senate overseers collapsed with the release of a stark report by the agency's internal watchdog documenting improper computer surveillance and obstructionist behavior by CIA officers. The death toll from the worst recorded Ebola outbreak in history surpassed 700 in West Africa.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Don Murray is 86. Jazz composer-musician Kenny Burrell is 84. Actress France Nuyen is 76. Actress Susan Flannery is 76. Singer Lobo is 72. Actress Geraldine Chaplin is 71. Former movie studio executive Sherry Lansing is 71. Singer Gary Lewis is 70. Actor Lane Davies is 65. International Tennis Hall of Famer Evonne Goolagong Cawley is 64. Actor Barry Van Dyke is 64. Actor Alan Autry is 63. Jazz composer-musician Michael Wolff is 63. Actor James Read is 62. Actor Michael Biehn is 59. Former Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick is 59. Rock singer-musician Daniel Ash (Love and Rockets) is 58. Actor Dirk Blocker (TV: "Brooklyn Nine-Nine") is 58. Entrepreneur Mark Cuban is 57. Rock musician Bill Berry is 57. Actor Wally Kurth is 57. Actor Wesley Snipes is 53. Country singer Chad Brock is 52. Musician Fatboy Slim is 52. Rock musician Jim Corr is 51. Author J.K. Rowling is 50. Actor Dean Cain is 49. Actor Jim True-Frost is 49. Actor Ben Chaplin is 46. Actor Loren Dean is 46. Actress Eve Best is 44. Retired NFL quarterback Gus Frerotte is 44. Actress Annie Parisse is 40. Actor Robert Teller is 38. Country singer-musician Zac Brown is 37. Actor-producer-writer B.J. Novak is 36. Actor Eric Lively is 34. Country singer Blaire Stroud (3 of Hearts) is 32. Singer Shannon Curfman is 30. Actor Reese Hartwig is 17. Actor Rico Rodriguez is 17.

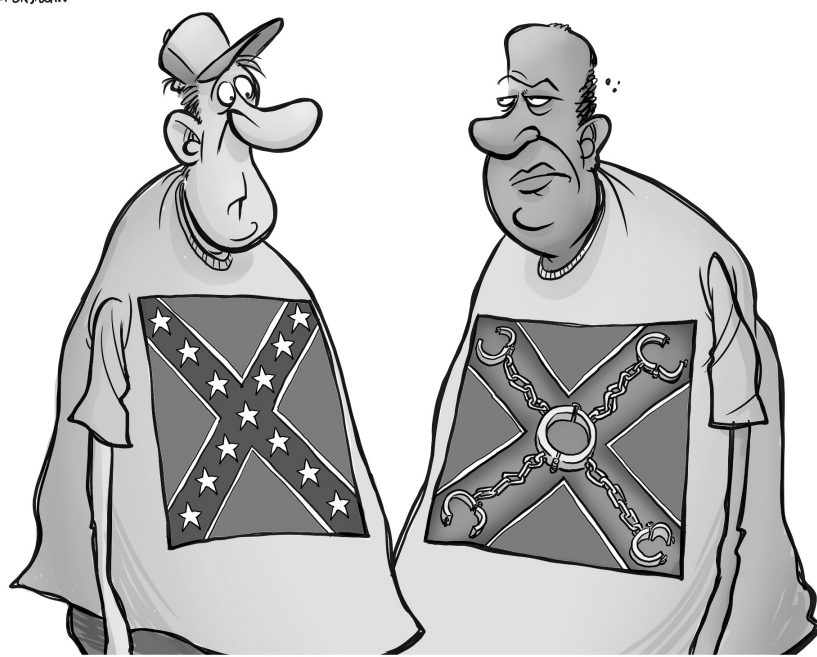
**Thought for Today:** "The trouble with the public is that there is too much of it." — Don Marquis, American journalist, poet and dramatist (1878-1937).

## FROM THE BIBLE

*He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Luke 3:16. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.*



## 'HERITAGE.'



## Writer's Block

# Our Boldest Adventures Should Start Here In S.D.

BY ROB NIELSEN  
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Everyone living on Earth over the last few weeks were the first to see something quite spectacular.

On July 14, after traveling for nine 1/2 years, the New Horizons probe made a flyby of the dwarf planet Pluto traveling at a little north of 36,000 mph. For the last few weeks, it has been sending us photos and data that were previously impossible to gather with our current technology. In the time that the probe has been in transit, it has traveled more than 3 billion miles and Pluto was demoted from being the solar system's ninth planet to a dwarf planet.

But that demotion and the long journey preceded this week were forgotten these last few weeks as we got our first close-up look at a world at the very edge of our solar system. It got me to thinking of the amazing feat the men and women who worked on the New Horizons Project accomplished. They stand on the shoulders of men and women who, over just a bit more than a half century, have given their time, effort and sometimes even their lives in the name of perfecting spaceflight and exploring our universe. They, in turn, stand on a foundation built by philosophers, scientists, mathematicians and others that dared to expand our understanding of the cosmos and humanity's place in the universe.

And then I was reminded of an idea I had a year ago. An idea of how this state could make our own noble contributions to better understanding the universe. We just recently wrapped up Onward Yankton — a search for the next big idea to help this city move forward. In that spirit, perhaps this could be the opening entry for "Onward South Dakota."

About a year ago I had the strangest dream. South Dakota had a facility capable of launching heavy-lift rockets into space. I woke up thinking, like many dreams about such grandiose ideas, I'd just brush it off by the end of the day. Instead, I spent much of it thinking about the possibilities. I asked myself, "Why shouldn't this state get involved in space exploration? Why can't this state be a major contributor to the ultimate movement in human exploration?" I envisioned creating a culture of cooperation between all the colleges, universities and tech schools in the state to begin adding programs and sharing research pertinent to scientific exploration of outer space. As these programs produce graduates, we could then begin building research facilities across the state that would contribute to both private and public space endeavors. From there we could advance on to a potential spaceport

capable of launching probes and, perhaps one day, humans. These would require manufacturing facilities and new infrastructure which could create jobs in areas they are desperately needed. It could create a perpetual cycle of education, job creation and exploration that benefits future generations in ways we can only imagine today.

Of course, a lot needs to happen before such endeavors are possible. We're currently in the middle of a shortage of teachers that can be classified as a crisis. Many universities across the state are seeing cuts as well. In order to facilitate this idea, the trend would need to be reversed. I don't believe in restoring the education budget to the level it was before some of these deep cuts occurred — I believe in exceeding it. There will be many who say there are more pressing needs at home dealing with joblessness and poverty than looking to the heavens. I understand that position — I was there once and a quick look through the archives of the Volante at the University of South Dakota will prove that — but this idea is a tool that could provide many new opportunities across the state. I call upon Gov. Dugaard, our state legislators, tribal leaders and our congressional delegation to explore these possibilities.

In time, men and women of science will stand on the shoulders of those responsible for the New Horizons project, Orion and other projects sending us across the Solar System. Wouldn't it be great if we could say many of those people were born, raised, educated, perfected their craft, researched and launched bold new missions of discovery in the state of South Dakota?

This state has already played host to great adventures — some that ultimately helped lead us to Pluto. Long before the United States of America was even a thought, Native Americans began migrating into the region from the west to build a great civilization on previously untamed lands. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark and their Corps of Discovery traveled across the future Dakotas studying flora and fauna never before seen by white settlers on their way to the Pacific Ocean. And in the 1930s, Capt. Albert Stevens, Capt. Orvil Anderson and Maj. William Kepner used South Dakota to launch the Explorer balloon series that took them to over 74,000 ft. above the Earth and gave them mankind's first sight of their planetary home curving away from them.

The state of South Dakota can be, and should be, the stage for great adventures again.

Follow @RobNielsenPandD on Twitter.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bypassing Yankton

FRANK KLOUCEK

If you have not signed the petition in support of the concept of a truck bypass around Yankton it is not too late. You can contact Dave Voeltz at the South Dakota DOT by email [Dave.Voeltz@state.sd.us](mailto:Dave.Voeltz@state.sd.us) with your comments in support of such a bypass. Please consider doing so this weekend. The deadline is Monday August 3rd at 5 pm.

Thank you to those of you that have expressed strong support for such a proposal.

Talking points in support of the Yankton bypass are public safety — including pedestrian and bicycles — reduce traffic congestion downtown (18,500 vehicles on Broadway/

Hwy. 81 daily, 10,000 vehicles daily including 1000 trucks on current 4th St. route), increase efficiency of freight moving in area by avoiding costly delays, smooth manageable traffic flow, reduced cost to taxpayers over time with proposed bypass and many others.

There will be a Dept. of Transportation meeting in Tyndall on Monday evening at 7 pm at the Tyndall community center to discuss changing five four-lane crossings into two lane crossings with a turning lane: on Highway 50 at Tabor, Highway 25 Jct., Tyndall, Highway 37 crossing by Country Ford and the Highway 37 crossing by Terry Schuurmans farm. This would be an excellent opportunity to visit with the DOT about the Yankton Bypass as well.

## 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](mailto:kelly.hertz@yankton.net).

DISSIDENCE: "Acceptance by government of a dissident press is a measure of the maturity of a nation." — William O. Douglas

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