

The Press & 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
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
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
Sarah Lynde
Circulation District Manager

DAILY STAFF
Reilly Biel
Cassandra Brockmoller
Brandi Bue
Rob Buckingham
Caryn Chappelcar
Randy Dockendorf
Jeannine Economy
Jeremy Hoeck
Sarah Lynde
Nicole Myers
Robert Nielsen
Diana Smallwood
David Stephenson
Cathy Sudbeck
JoAnn Wiebelhaus
Brenda Willcuts

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.....\$14.51
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

OPINION OTHER VIEWS

SD Needs New Math Test For Teachers

ARGUS LEADER, Sioux Falls (May 23): South Dakota school administrators, who are struggling to find qualified teachers, have had to adopt unique approaches to fill classroom openings.

One such approach is to allow a teacher who is not certified to teach high school math courses the opportunity to gain that certification.

Currently, that teacher would have to pass a math test. It is the same test whether the teacher needs to acquire math credentials in order to assist a special education student or hopes to teach calculus to high school seniors.

And almost half of the teachers who take the required exam fail it. It's the same story in other states, many of whom also use the same Praxis series tests from the Educational Testing Service.

South Dakota education officials are hoping to find a way to make math credentialing more attainable for instructors.

The state's Board of Education is studying a plan to provide separate credentialing tests for different levels of math instruction.

For example, if you are a high school science teacher but want to be able to teach algebra as well, you would be given a credentialing exam suitable to that level of instruction. You would not be required to pass the exam needed to teach higher-level math or calculus.

Creating a separate "intermediate level of math endorsement," as a state official described it, to credential teachers for some high school math courses is a good idea.

In a perfect world, skilled math teachers would be abundant and parceling out credentials for different levels of instruction would not be needed.

But South Dakota doesn't have that luxury, and at least for the time being, must be creative. A survey of school administrators this past school year revealed dwindling numbers of applicants for teaching jobs across the state — with math instructors the hardest to find.

In many cases, the person seeking the math credentialing would be helping to fill a particular instructional need in a school district.

This process would make sure the person met the requirements to teach algebra or general math, for instance, without requiring that he or she also master high-level mathematics or calculus.

Right now there is no such intermediate test available in the Praxis series, so education officials must work to find an appropriate testing vehicle.

Overall, this is a practical step that will help districts struggling to fill math teaching positions. The board of education should adopt this plan and proceed with finding an appropriate math credentialing test.

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/.

OUR 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/.

IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press
Today is Monday, June 1, the 152nd day of 2015. There are 213 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On June 1, 1915, the T.S. Eliot poem "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock" was first published in "Poetry: A Magazine of Verse" in Chicago.

On this date: In 1533, Anne Boleyn, the second wife of King Henry VIII, was crowned as Queen Consort of England.

In 1792, Kentucky became the 15th state of the Union.

In 1796, Tennessee became the 16th state.

In 1813, the mortally wounded commander of the USS Chesapeake, Capt. James Lawrence, gave the order, "Don't give up the ship" during a losing battle with the British frigate HMS Shannon in the War of 1812.

In 1868, James Buchanan, the 15th president of the United States, died near Lancaster, Pennsylvania, at age 77.

In 1933, in a bizarre scene captured by news photographers, Lya Graf, a female circus dwarf, sat in the lap of financier J.P. Morgan Jr. during a recess of a Senate hearing on the stock market crash of 1929.

In 1943, a civilian flight from Portugal to England was shot down by Germany during World War II, killing all 17 people aboard, including actor Leslie Howard.

In 1955, the romantic comedy "The Seven Year Itch," starring Marilyn Monroe and Tom Ewell, had its world premiere in New York.

In 1968, author-lecturer Helen Keller, who'd earned a college degree despite being blind and deaf almost all of her life, died in Westport, Connecticut, at age 87.

In 1980, Cable News Network made its debut.

In 1990, President George H.W. Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev signed the foundation of a landmark treaty for the first-ever cuts in strategic nuclear missiles and a pact to slash chemical weapons stockpiles.

In 2009, Air France Flight 447, an Airbus A330 carrying 228 people from Rio de Janeiro to Paris, crashed into the Atlantic Ocean with the loss of everyone on board.

lion-dollar houses crashing down a hill in Laguna Beach, California. Peruvian doctors separated the fused legs of Milagros Cerron, a 13-month-old baby girl known as Peru's "mermaid." The U.S. version of "Dancing with the Stars" made its debut on ABC-TV (the winners were actress Kelly Monaco and professional partner Alec Mazo).

Five years ago: Attorney General Eric Holder said federal authorities had opened criminal and civil investigations into the BP oil spill. A divided U.S. Supreme Court ruled, 5-4, that criminal suspects had to explicitly invoke their right to remain silent, and that simply remaining silent was not sufficient to stop police questioning. Former Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, announced their separation after 40 years of marriage.

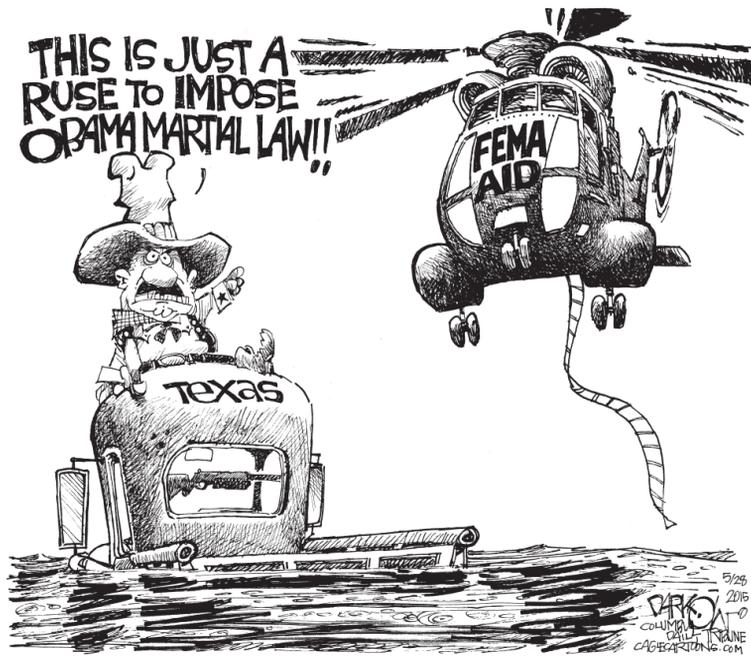
One year ago: Freed American soldier Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl entered the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany, a day after he was released by the Taliban in exchange for five Guantanamo terrorism detainees. (Bergdahl was later charged with desertion.) Ann B. Davis, 88, who became America's favorite and most famous housekeeper as the devoted Alice Nelson on television's "The Brady Bunch," died in San Antonio, Texas.

Today's Birthdays: Actor Richard Erdman is 90. Singer Pat Boone is 81. Actor-writer-director Peter Masterson is 81. Actor Morgan Freeman is 78. Actor Rene Auberjonois is 75. Opera singer Frederica von Stade is 70. Actor Brian Cox is 69. Rock musician Ronnie Wood is 68. Actor Jonathan Pryce is 68. Actor Powers Boothe is 67. Actress Gemma Craven is 65. Blues-rock musician Tom Principato is 63. Country singer Ronnie Dunn is 62. Actress Lisa Hartman Black is 59. Actor Tom Irwin is 59. Singer-musician Alan Wilder is 56. Rock musician Simon Gallup (The Cure) is 55. Country musician Richard Comeaux (River Road) is 54. Actor-comedian Mark Curry is 54. Actor-singer Jason Donovan is 47. Actress Teri Polo is 46. Basketball player-turned-coach Tony Bennett is 46. Actor Rick Gomez is 43. Model-actress Heidi Klum is 42. Singer Alanis Morissette is 41. Actress Sarah Wayne Callies is 38. TV personality Damien Fahey is 35. Pop singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile is 34. Actor Johnny Pemberton is 34. Tennis player Justine Henin is 33. Actor Taylor Handley is 31. Actress Willow Shields is 15.

Thought for Today: "Our age knows nothing but reaction, and leaps from one extreme to another." — Reinhold Niebuhr, American theologian (1892-1971).

FROM THE BIBLE

Every good gift ... is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. James 1:17. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



Capitol Notebook

Counties, Wheel Taxes And State Aid

BY BOB MERCER
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — The big set of tax and fee increases that took effect April 1 for funding highway and bridge projects in South Dakota included an option for counties to increase their wheel taxes to as much as \$5 per wheel and a total of \$60 per vehicle.

The previous limits were \$4 per wheel and a total of \$16 per vehicle. The Legislature granted counties more leeway to raise money for their local roads and bridges and to collect more for vehicles with more than four wheels.

In a few months, the wheel tax becomes important in a new way, as counties compete with each other for slices from a new \$15 million bridge-grant program that will be administered through the state Transportation Commission.

If you live where the wheel tax wasn't yet \$4 prior to April 1, those days might soon be over. Any county commission would be in a less competitive position for the new BIG funding — that's Bridge Improvement Grant — unless the tax is \$5 per wheel.

The BIG money comes from two sources: \$7 million in the transportation legislation known as Senate Bill 1; and \$8 million redirected by the state Transportation Commission.

The Transportation Commission members saw funding gradually dry up for many of their discretionary programs for assisting local projects during the past decade, when the Rounds administration and then the Daugaard administration for its first four years refused to support any tax or fee increases for roads and bridges.

The Transportation Commission had to shift money from the discretionary programs into what essentially became a bare-boned

preservation approach by the state Department of Transportation during those lean years.

So the Transportation Commission members know what it was like to scrimp. In turn, they now want to see county commissions put some money on the table — probably 20 percent — when applying for BIG aid for local bridge projects.

County commissions will need to have accomplished two things to qualify for BIG aid.

They will need to provide to the state Department of Transportation a completed county plan for the county's highways and bridges, with top priorities for five years identified.

And they need some level of wheel tax. When counties are competing for BIG money, the counties that collect the highest possible wheel taxes likely will be in the best position to come out on top.

Cities, for what it's worth, probably won't have to meet those criteria. But a city official probably will have some explaining to do if her or his county commission hasn't met the planning and wheel-tax criteria.

The Transportation Commission probably will begin to consider rules for the BIG program at its late June meeting. State DOT officials already are working with a cluster of county commissioners and other county officials on possible rules.

National condition ratings are in place for bridges throughout South Dakota. State Transportation Secretary Darin Bergquist expects county demand to greatly exceed the \$15 million that will be available each year. The first round of BIG decisions comes this fall.

Let's see how county commissions respond.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Pool Problem?

Joan Steffen, Randolph, Neb.
We've enjoyed using the Summit Activities Center on the weekends for several years as my grandson has Down Syndrome and this is favorite place to swim.

Recently he has been able to swim more and requested to go more often. Several weekends, we have driven to Yankton to find that the pool was not accepting child swimmers for open swim even though it is advertised on your Website as having the pool open. This was met by tears from my grandson. We told your Summit Center manager that we had driven 45 minutes to use the pool. We went out to eat and went home with dry swimming suits. We learned to call first.

Recently, we called and got your manager, who told us that the pool will not be open on any weekend throughout the summer (because) no lifeguards are on staff for the weekends.

I told her that we will be making the trip to Norfolk, where the YMCA pool is open for children and we will also be making the trip to Norfolk to go on the outdoor water slide. These are trips that would have been made to Yankton where we utilize your excellent medical facilities, pharmacy, Hy-Vee grocery store and most of your restaurants. We also visit a number of stores within your city limits. When we told your manager we would be going to Norfolk, she said good.

I am writing this letter to see if you and other people also feel that the fact we will be making a trip to Norfolk instead of Yankton is a good thing.

I am very curious to read your response. Thank you for saving us 15 minutes travel time as we point our car south instead of north. I wonder how many other employed parents will be else where on the weekends since if they like I do feel very unwelcome to come to South Dakota to swim indoors and use a fabulous water slide with my grandson and the

other friends we usually like to bring along.

This is a response from Todd Larson, director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Yankton.

The City apologizes if there was a miscommunication between the website information and the actual hours of operation over Memorial Day weekend. The Summit Center is Open from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. on weekends. However, the pool in the facility during "the summer" does have a limited schedule. This will be made more clear on the website and in our publications of Public Service Announcements, Summer Recreation Brochure, Facebook Page, and other marketing efforts in the future.

The SAC pool does have open swim in the summer months on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 6:30-7:45 p.m. and is open for youth swim during that time. The SAC pool is also open for swimming through the summer months when the outdoor facility is closed or unavailable due to inclement weather or when there are swim meets held at that facility. Apart from those specific times and reasons, the outdoor pool is open seven days a week from 12:30-8 p.m. In the past, the SAC had very few people utilizing the indoor pool in the summer months. Therefore, a decision was made many years ago to minimize expenses at the SAC and encourage people to utilize the outdoor facility which is only available for a short three months a year. Additionally, part of the recreation philosophy is to encourage people of all ages to recreate outside whenever possible.

The City management team is disappointed one of the SAC staff responded the way they did on the phone or in person. This has been addressed with the SAC staff and it will be made clear to the staff to treat customers appropriately. It is important to the City that all departments provide a high quality of customer service and encourage, not discourage, patronage.

EMPOWERMENT: "Were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter." — Thomas Jefferson

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