

The Press & Dakotan

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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We Say**Wage Against The Machine**

THUMBS DOWN to the South Dakota Legislature for passing a youth minimum wage that will be lower than the new minimum wage approved by voters last November. The youth wage would be set at \$7.50 an hour and would not be tied to the rate of inflation or other variables. While we recognize a certain logic to establishing this wage for people under 18 and who, thus, probably won't be supporting families, the fact is this legislation flies in the face of what the voters proclaimed rather convincingly at the polls in November. Just more than three months later, lawmakers are already whittling away at it. (As of this writing, Gov. Dennis Daugaard has yet to say whether he would veto the legislation.) One has to wonder now what other bills will be introduced in future sessions to water down the initiated measure that the public embraced at the polls.

Running Time

THUMBS UP to the Yankton United Way and the EMBE program out of Sioux Falls, which holds the state charter for the national program, for sponsoring the "Girls On The Run" program at Yankton's Beadle and Lincoln Elementary schools. The new program, for 3-5 grade girls, focuses on healthy living and exercise as keys to a bright future. In addition, the Connecting Kids Youth Scholarships provided by the United Way made it possible for all who were interested to be able to participate. United Way organizers say they already are planning on expanding the program to other schools in Yankton next fall. What a great way to support the youth of the community.

Video Links

THUMBS UP to the video visit program at Mike Durfee State Prison in Springfield. The program, the only one of its kind among South Dakota corrections facilities, allows inmates to remain connected with their loved ones using Skype and computer stations at the prison. According to prison officials, the continued connection with family and friends will better prepare inmates for their release. The program also seeks to increase the likelihood the prisoners won't re-offend after their release and return to prison. The program, implemented in February 2014, has grown during its first years and looks to expand the amount of available time for visits. The program could also be implemented at other South Dakota prisons, according to MDSP officials.

Young Volunteers

THUMBS UP to two area high school seniors, Allie Thiesse of Yankton and Katie Winckler of Scotland, for their outstanding volunteerism. Thiesse was chosen the first of this year's three recipients from across the nation to receive the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) scholarship. The application requires a minimum of 250 hours of service — and Thiesse has doubled it with more than 500 hours. She has completed a wide variety of projects, but she has shown a particular passion for helping children and teenagers with cancer. Winckler, who and orthotics, along with donations, to benefit others. The projects has exceed her expectations, as she has collected approximately 30 artificial legs, orthotics and \$3,000 in donations.

ONLINE OPINION

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

LATEST RESULTS:**Should South Dakota legislators receive a pay increase?**

No.....	79%
Yes.....	16%
Not sure.....	5%
TOTAL VOTES CAST	375

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:

Should high school transgender athletes be allowed to choose which sports they wish to participate in?

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, March 6, the 65th day of 2015. There are 300 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On March 6, 1857, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Dred Scott v. Sandford* that Scott, a slave, was not an American citizen and could not sue for his freedom in federal court.

On this date: In 1834, the city of York in Upper Canada was incorporated as Toronto.

In 1836, the Alamo in San Antonio, Texas, fell to Mexican forces after a 13-day siege.

In 1853, Verdi's opera "La Traviata" premiered in Venice, Italy.

In 1933, a national bank holiday declared by President Franklin D. Roosevelt aimed at calming panicked depositors went into effect. Chicago Mayor Anton Cermak, wounded in an attempt on Roosevelt's life the previous month, died at a Miami hospital at age 59.

In 1935, retired Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., died in Washington two days before his 94th birthday.

In 1944, U.S. heavy bombers staged the first full-scale American raid on Berlin during World War II.

In 1953, Georgy Malenkov was named premier of the Soviet Union a day after the death of Josef Stalin.

In 1965, actress Margaret Dumont, perhaps best remembered for playing the foil in Marx Brothers comedies, died in Hollywood at age 82.

In 1967, the daughter of Josef Stalin, Svetlana Alliluyeva (ah-lee-loo-YAY'-vah), appeared at the U.S. Embassy in New Delhi and declared her intention to defect to the West.

In 1970, a bomb being built inside a Greenwich Village townhouse by the radical Weathermen accidentally went off, destroying the house and killing three group members.

In 1983, in a case that drew much notoriety, a woman was gang-raped atop a pool table in a tavern in New Bedford, Massachusetts, called Big Dan's; four men were later convicted of the attack.

In 1995, "The Jenny Jones Show" taped an episode on same-sex crushes during which Jonathan Schmitz learned his secret admirer was an acquaintance, Scott Amedure; three days later, Schmitz fatally shot Amedure. (Schmitz is serving a 25- to 50-year prison sentence for second-degree murder; the episode was never included in the "Jenny Jones" syndication package, but did air on Court TV.)

Ten years ago: Italian journalist Giuliana Sgrena said American soldiers gave no warning before they opened fire on the car carrying her to the Baghdad airport, killing

the Italian agent who'd just won her freedom after a month in captivity. The White House called the shooting a "horrific accident" and restated its promise to investigate fully. Actress Teresa Wright died in New Haven, Connecticut, at age 86. Hans Bethe, the winner of the 1957 Nobel Prize in physics who'd played a central role in the building of the atomic bomb, died in Ithaca, New York, at age 98.

Five years ago: Voters in Iceland resoundingly rejected a \$5.3 billion plan to repay Britain and the Netherlands for debts spawned by the collapse of an Icelandic bank. The Louisville Cardinals gave Freedom Hall a memorable send-off by upsetting No. 1 Syracuse 78-68.

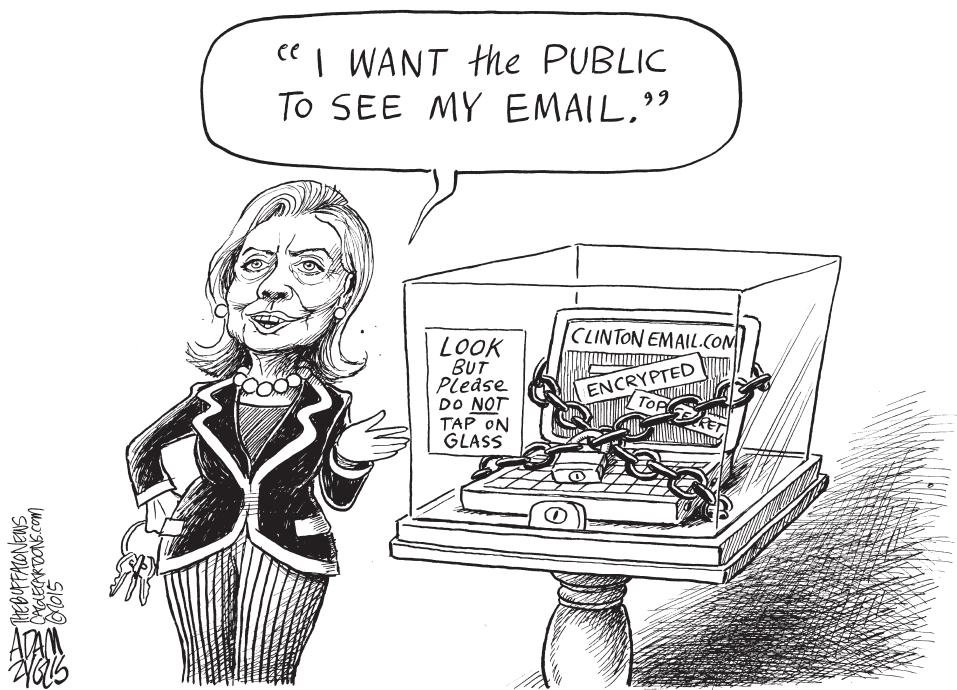
One year ago: Ukraine lurched toward breakup as lawmakers unanimously declared they wanted to join Russia and planned to put the decision to voters; President Barack Obama condemned the move and the West imposed the first real sanctions against Russia. Actress-singer Sheila MacRae, 92, died in Englewood, New Jersey.

Today's Birthdays: Former FBI and CIA director William Webster is 91. Former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is 89. Former Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova is 78. Former Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond, R-Mo., is 78. Actress-writer Joanna Miles is 75. Actor Ben Murphy is 73. Opera singer Dame Kiri Te Kanawa is 71. Singer Mary Wilson (The Supremes) is 71. Rock musician Hugh Grundy (The Zombies) is 70. Rock singer-musician David Gilmore (Pink Floyd) is 69. Actress Anna Maria Horsford is 68. Actor-director Rob Reiner is 68. Singer Kiki Dee is 68. Fox News reporter John Stossel is 68. Composer-lyricist Stephen Schwartz is 67. Rock singer-musician Phil Alvin (The Blasters) is 62. Sports correspondent Armen Keteyian is 62. Actor Tom Arnold is 56. Former child actress Suzanne Crough is 52. Actor D.L. Hughley is 51. Country songwriter Skip Ewing is 51. Actor Shuler Hensley is 48. Actress Connie Britton is 48. Actress Moira Kelly is 47. Actress Amy Pietz is 46. Rock musician Chris Broderick (Megadeth) is 45. Former NBA player and College Basketball Hall of Famer Shaquille O'Neal is 43. Country singer Trent Willmon is 42. Country musician Shan Farmer (Ricochet) is 41. Rapper Beanie Sigel is 41. Rapper Bubba Sparxxx is 38. Rock musician Chris Tomson (Vampire Weekend) is 31. Actor Eli Marienthal is 29. Actor Jimmy Galeota is 29. Rapper/producer Tyler, the Creator is 24. Actor Dillon Freasier (Film: "There Will Be Blood") is 19. Actress Savannah Stehlin is 19.

Thought for Today: "Le sens commun n'est pas si commun." (Common sense is not so common.) — Voltaire, French author and philosopher (1694-1778).

FROM THE BIBLE

By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive ... since she considered Him faithful who had promised. Hebrews 11:11. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.



Emails, Transparency ... And Excitement!

BY KELLY HERTZkelly.hertz@yankton.net

It was actually kind of exciting this week when the *New York Times* broke the story that Hillary Clinton used her own personal email account instead of a government account during her time as secretary of state.

By using her own account, she effectively placed an untold number of electronic missives beyond the reach of public scrutiny and historical archiving. She in effect did public government business beyond public access and behind a veil of protective and convenient secrecy. (She has since requested that the State Department release all her emails for public inspection.)

This revelation resulted in an explosion of headlines and social media outbursts working hard to fan the flames of controversy with a presidential election cycle already cranking up. And it's been quite odd to hear people tossing around words like "transparency" and "accountability" like they were either new-found toys or handy new weapons.

But it was "exciting" (or about as exciting as such things can possibly get) because people usually don't get so amped up about open government issues, which is probably why we keep having issues with open government. (I realize, too, most of this was due to the fact that Clinton was involved. If the same story came out about Ag Secretary Tom Vlsack ... well, you know.)

I was glad to see so many people talking about this while they had the chance. This will probably be mostly forgotten by next week because that's the way open government issues usually play out.

But it is important. It's not because Clinton is likely to be running for president any moment now. It's not because a government official — either accidentally or deliberately — tried to skirt matters of government transparency. Instead, this incident puts a focus on electronic communication, a realm in which restlessly evolving technology is far outpacing our static laws that cover it.

For South Dakotans paying attention to what's going on in Pierre, this should at least mildly ring a bell. And it should sound a lot like House Bill 1153, a measure that would expand the reach of open meeting laws to cover emails and texts that government officials use while conducting public business. It's an effort to

**Kelly
HERTZ**

upgrade the law to address modern, real-time issues. HB 1153 passed the state House this week and is due to be considered by the Senate State Affairs Committee today (Friday).

So, serving as a convenient case study if nothing else, Clinton's problem this week is nicely timed. Granted, she may have not have realized she was actually breaking the federal rules — although whenever a spokesperson says their boss followed the "spirit" and the "letter" of the rule or law, it's usually a sign they knew *precisely* where the sunlight ended and the gray shadows of ambiguity commenced. The fact is, she should have known better.

Clinton has left herself at the mercy of the eyes of various beholders: allies and enemies, conspiracy mongers and character assassins who can take this misstep and shape it any way they want.

Perhaps that's only fair. After all, the use of a private email account potentially allowed Clinton — or anyone else who uses private electronic communications to do business — to potentially shape the reality of those messages and manipulate the information however one sees fit.

That should tell you just how undeniably precious public information really is. It's why laws addressing open meetings and government transparency are so essential. They're the only leverage the people have in finding out what's really going on behind closed doors or beyond public view.

As I said, this will fade away in a few days, except for those who wish to keep it alive to further a political narrative. For the rest of us, it will vanish with the changing news cycles as we become obsessed by, say, the color of the next dress that overwhelms the Internet.

But for this fleeting moment, please appreciate how important government transparency really is to all of us — and how much it matters in Washington, in Pierre, in Lincoln or in the chambers of government just down the street. The information that our lawmakers work with is ours to see, not theirs to hide. The laws protecting that information are important, because the consequences are, too.

You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**What's Going On?****Donna Rumbaugh, Parker**

I want to address changes to the Turner County zoning regulations. It appears to me, after comparing the 2008 and 2014 regulations, that something "fowl" is going on here.

While Matt Olson, Turner County State's Attorney, has claimed the county decided to do a complete revision of the zoning ordinances, apparently the sections regarding concentrated animal feeding operations and the housing eligibilities got more attention than the rest. Actually, the section regarding concentrated animal feeding operations regulations was mutilated. What was seven pages long could now probably fit on three. Is this coincidental that all these changes came about after Sonstegard Foods showed interest in building a CAFO to house 6 million chickens and locating it only a couple miles outside of Parker?

Sonstegard claims he chose the site in August, at which time the old zoning laws were in place and his CAFO would not meet the standards. The regulations that would allow it to meet the zoning laws were changed in September. If Mr. Sonstegard knew our zoning laws wouldn't permit him to build his chicken empire at the time, why choose that site, unless he knew that changes were coming?

Items in the zoning laws that were put there to protect the people and natural resources of Turner County apparently were no longer necessary. One of these deletions was the requirement to protect ground and surface waters. Deleted from the regulations were conditions relating to the disposal of dead animals. Also deleted were regulations regarding the requirement of trees and shrubs to reduce wind

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