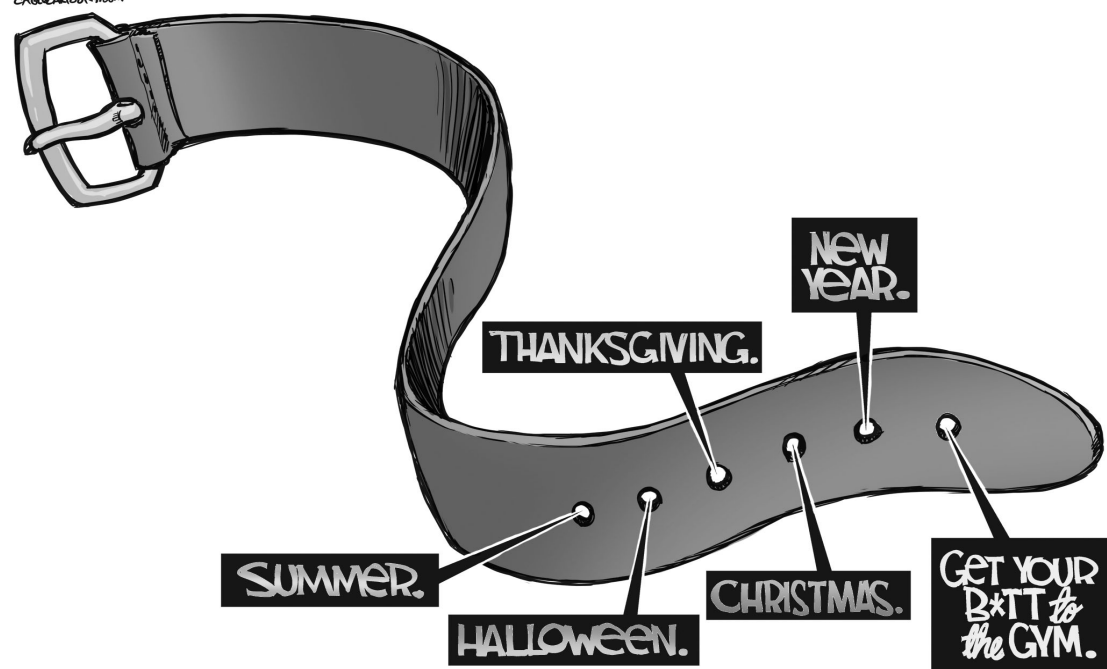


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The Rez of the Story

Reasons For Being Thankful

BY VINCE TWO EAGLES

Hau Mitakuepi (Greetings My Relatives), Here we are, (many of us) putting to rest another "Turkey Day." It is a good time to choose to remind ourselves of, and to be thankful for, the many blessings in our lives. Reflecting on the good things in our lives with family members is a powerful way to strengthen our family ties and to counter the effects of our personal encounters with harmful stress.

As for the myths surrounding the so-called "First Thanksgiving," I've already said my piece and offered my own two cents about its historic significance or lack thereof in past columns. I am certain many other columnists will fill in the blanks and either reinforce the "Thanksgiving" myths or dispel them. I say it is time to move on realizing there are those among us Native people who have not drawn any conclusions or come to terms with "Thanksgiving Issues." In other words, there is no "official" Indian position or one opinion that fits all.

I have said much more than I wanted or intended to this year about the official holiday, but there is something to be said about being in a state of thankfulness and to that point, I wanted to address myself.

There is a Navajo saying that goes like this, "When I look at ugliness, I see beauty. When I am far from home, I see old friends. When there is noise, I hear a robin's song instead. When I am in a crowd, it is the mountain's peace I feel. In the winter of my sorrow, I remember the summer of my joy. In the nighttime of my loneliness, I breathe the day of my thanksgiving. But when the sadness spreads its blanket and that is what I see, I take my eyes to some high place until I find a reflection of what lies deep inside of me."

In Dakotah culture, thankfulness is closely tied to generosity, it seems. If, for example, one is honored in some way like being publicly recognized for a heroic deed, that person would be expected to put up a "wopida," or a thankfulness feed and a giveaway. This lets the community know you appreciate the honor and that it is an opportunity to demonstrate your generosity. This is left up to you. I know that if a particular family is having

a hard time financially, no one expects a big commotion, but a small donation to the singers for singing you an honor song would be expected.

Sometimes it takes a whole year to get ready to put up a "wopida," like when someone gets what's called an "Indian Name." In the Dakota way, this name is to be considered sacred and is not for use in everyday conversation or greetings. These names are usually given by Tribal Elders or older relatives of the one receiving the name. Careful thought and much prayer goes into honoring such a request by the one who has been asked to come up with the name. Sometimes one's Indian Name is one that was once carried by a deceased relative. However, usually the one receiving the name is usually observed for a period time to notice certain traits or propensities that characterize that individual or these names come to the name giver in dreams.

If you have your health, a good and supportive partner, family, good friends and know the meaning of unconditional love, you have been the recipient of many gifts and therefore can take the time to reflect on your good fortune.

Perhaps you finally got that promotion you been working hard for, or that dream job you've been looking for has finally been found, these are time to be thankful. If your children are all healthy, it is time to give thanks for that health.

The Pulitzer Prize winning journalist and American writer Harrison Salisbury, who made his journey to the Spirit world in 1993 once said, "... What is in one's life stays there to the end of one's days." The American authors Karen Casey and Martha Vanceburg tell us that "people try to change their hair color, their body shape or their voice; trying on identities, escaping from themselves. It's natural to play around with external signs of who we are. We all look for a style that will let us express who we want to be. But we're indelibly marked, by our genes and our upbringing."

We have an opportunity to use Turkey Day to be thankful for who we are and to make the most of what we have, whether we have turkey dinner or not. And now you know the rez of the story.

Doksha (later) ...



Vince
TWO EAGLES

Petraeus: The Comeback General

BY DOYLE MCMANUS

© 2012, Los Angeles Times

Gen. David H. Petraeus, long the most famous over-achiever in the U.S. Army, is already on his way to a new career distinction: breaking the land speed record for rehabilitation from a scandal.

It was only two weeks ago that Petraeus resigned from his job as director of the CIA after it became clear that his affair with his biographer, Paula Broadwell, couldn't be kept under wraps.

The dust hasn't settled yet on the chaos kicked up by the FBI's discovery of the affair, touched off by Broadwell's jealousy of another woman who liked men in uniform. Did Petraeus allow Broadwell to put unauthorized hands on classified information? Did the U.S. commander in Afghanistan, Marine Gen. John Allen, say anything indiscreet in emails to Tampa socialite Jill Kelley? Does the shirtless FBI agent get away scot-free? And did all this madcap socializing affect anyone's performance on their day jobs?

Never mind. We're a fast-moving society — and, it appears, a forgiving one. At home in suburban Virginia, Petraeus is no doubt still making amends to his high-achieving wife. But in the larger world, the retired general is already contending with an avalanche of opportunities for his next big job.

He's had offers to teach from at least four universities and had conversations about seats on corporate boards. He's thinking about giving speeches, writing a book on leadership or even becoming a talking head on television. And that's not all.

"Down the road, a return to public service isn't out of the question," a friend who talked with Petraeus told me last week. Not as an elected politician but as a potential Cabinet officer in a future administration.

"He just doesn't see himself as a politician," the friend said. "He sees himself in the vein of George C. Marshall more than Dwight D. Eisenhower." That would be Gen. Marshall, who was Army chief of staff during World War II, became secretary of state under Harry S. Truman and won the Nobel Peace Prize for rebuilding postwar Europe.

So Petraeus is still aiming high. And, characteristically, he's being strategic. He hired Washington superlawyer Robert B. Barnett, who helped Bill Clinton and George W. Bush make the transition to the private sector.

He's getting encouragement from politicians too. "He is one of our brightest and our best," Sen. Dianne Feinstein, a California Democrat and chairwoman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, said last week. "There is

no counter to that."

The public seems to agree. Petraeus' esteem among ordinary Americans was knocked down a peg by the revelation of the affair, Gallup reported last week, but it's still solidly in positive territory, better than philanderers John Edwards or Tiger Woods — and even a little better than Mitt Romney, who merely lost an election.

But Petraeus isn't entirely out of the woods yet. The FBI is still investigating whether Broadwell was given unauthorized access to classified documents by Petraeus or his staff in Afghanistan. The CIA's inspector general is quietly looking into whether Petraeus did anything else untoward during his 14 months at the head of the agency, aimed mostly at averting any unpleasant surprises. And Congress, in its wisdom, may yet find something in the scandal to chew over.

But Petraeus appears likely to go down in history as a beneficiary of what you might call the Bill Clinton rule: Adultery is no longer a disqualifier in American politics. Petraeus already understood that; he didn't resign until it became clear that the affair would become public and lead to months of investigations. Even then, he didn't resign until his titular boss, National Intelligence Director James R. Clapper, told him to.

There was a time when an extramarital affair was almost automatically the end of the high-ambition trail. Gary Hart had to abandon a presidential campaign in 1988 after he spent a weekend on a yacht with a model. He's done useful work since, notably as co-chairman of a commission that warned — before Sept. 11, 2001 — that terrorist attacks against the United States were likely. But he's never been nominated to a Cabinet job.

By this year, though, Newt Gingrich could run for the Republican presidential nomination without his tangled personal history standing in the way. Gingrich's three marriages didn't help him among social conservatives, but they weren't the main reason he fell short: He got out-debated and outspent by Romney.

Does this mean voters — or senators voting to confirm a Cabinet nominee — no longer care about a candidate's private life?

Hardly. Human curiosity still knows no bounds. And powerful people whose misbehavior exceeds garden-variety adultery — John Edwards, I'm thinking of you — still face disqualification.

In short, we're not France — yet. But we're no longer Puritan America either. Petraeus' second chance, if he gets it, will prove the point.

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. Readers may send him email at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.

Dec. 3 — Cedar Village at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.
 Dec. 10 — Autumn Winds East at 7 p.m.
 Dec. 10 — Autumn Winds West at 8 p.m.
 Dec. 17 — Yankton Care Nursing Home at 7 p.m.
 Dec. 17 — Sunrise Apts at 8 p.m.

The Sweet Adelines would like to invite you to attend any of these concerts and enjoy the music and sing along if you like. Help us and these friends to enjoy this lovely Christmas season.

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OPINION | OUR VIEW

Egyptian Leader Goes From Hero To Villain

Absolutely nothing is ever easy in the Middle East. The latest in an exhaustingly long line of examples is currently on display in Egypt, where new President Mohammed Morsi is simultaneously playing the role of hero and villain. Morsi was a crucial mediator in the recently brokered cease fire between Israelis and Palestinians in the eight-day Gaza offensive. The deal, announced last Wednesday, was helped along greatly by the United States, but relied heavily on Morsi's ability to reach out to both the Israeli government and to the ruling Palestinian Hamas faction. According to some analysts, the accord allowed all sides to claim a victory of sorts in the brief but bloody outburst of violence that has become so typical in that region.

But as Morsi was being held up as a new key player in the elusive quest for regional stability, the Egyptian leader turned into a new player of another bent in his homeland. Late last week, Morsi, who won office in a democratic election following the ouster of longtime ruler Hosni Mubarak during last year's "Arab Spring," announced new decrees that consolidated his power and established himself as a virtual dictator. This belies the spirit of the revolution that exploded across Egypt last year and gave impetus to the a wave of freedom that swept across the region. Old images became new again as Egyptians took to the streets to protest Morsi's power play. National strikes have been called for, and a nation that is crucial to regional order seems once more to be flirting with chaos.

So it goes in the Middle East — crisis after crisis, year after year, decade after decade.

You can add to that, leader after leader. Morsi's decrees were a surprise to many. His claim that the consolidation of power is only a temporary measure sings an old refrain heard too many times before. According to the *Wall Street Journal*, Morsi, who is a member of the Muslim Brotherhood religious group, is now assuming more power than Mubarak ever held.

However, despite the apparent betrayal of the cause that indirectly swept him to power, Morsi's work in the Gaza mess cannot be overlooked.

But that effort cannot serve as a cover to consolidate power in Egypt. All this leaves the Obama administration and other western leaders once again on the horns of a dilemma, as the events of the Mideast frequently seem to do. Judging from the White House's restrained response to Morsi's decrees thus far, it appears the U.S. is content to keep a cautious eye on the situation, at least until after the Israeli elections in January.

But the larger question is, will the Egyptians themselves wait? Washington may be content to wait and see what happens next in Cairo and with its newest hope for stability in the region, but the people of the region may not. And if the latter happens, there are two possible outcomes, neither of which would be a plus: Either a new potentate is removed from power and a void is again left in Cairo, or Morsi asserts his domination and Egypt loses all the gains it has made the last two years. But this would buck the tide of popular sentiment in that region, and such tides can turn into angry tsunamis.

Clearly, there are more difficult days ahead with this story and for this area of the world.

So what else is new?

kmh

ONLINE OPINION

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

LATEST RESULTS:

What are your spending plans for the holiday season?	
Spend less than last year	54%
Spend about the same	34%
Spend more than last year	8%
Not sure	4%
TOTAL VOTES CAST	523

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 lawmakers will strike a deal before reaching the "fiscal cliff" deadline?

To vote in the *Press & Dakotan's* Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Nov. 27, the 332nd day of 2012. There are 34 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On Nov. 27, 1942, during World War II, the Vichy French navy at Toulon scuttled its ships and submarines to keep them out of the hands of German troops.

On this date: In 1839, the American Statistical Association was founded in Boston.

In 1901, the U.S. Army War College was established in Washington, D.C.

In 1910, New York's Pennsylvania Station officially opened.

In 1911, the stage comedy "The Playboy of the Western World" by J.M. Synge received a hostile reception in New York because of its portrayal of Irish characters. Theatrical producer David Merrick was born in St. Louis.

In 1937, the musical revue "Pins and Needles," produced by the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, opened in New York.

In 1939, the play "Key Largo," by Maxwell Anderson, opened at the Ethel Barrymore Theater in New York.

In 1962, the first Boeing 727 was rolled out at the company's Renton Plant.

In 1970, Pope Paul VI, visiting the Philippines, was slightly wounded at the Manila airport by a dagger-wielding Bolivian painter disguised as a priest.

In 1973, the Senate voted 92-3 to confirm Gerald R. Ford as vice president, succeeding Spiro T. Agnew, who'd resigned.

In 1978, San Francisco Mayor George Moscone and City Supervisor Harvey Milk, a gay-rights activist, were shot to death inside City Hall by former supervisor Dan White.

In 1983, 181 people were killed when a Colombian Avianca Airlines Boeing 747 crashed near Madrid's Barajas airport.

In 1989, a bomb blamed on drug traffickers destroyed a Colombian Avianca Boeing 727, killing all 107 people on board and three people on the ground.

Ten years ago: U.N. specialists began a new round of weapons inspections in Iraq. President George W. Bush appointed former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger

to lead an investigation into why the government had failed to foil the September 11 attacks. (The following month, Kissinger stepped down, citing controversy over potential conflicts of interest with his business clients.) President Bush gave the go-ahead to open U.S. highways to Mexican trucks.

Five years ago: Israeli and Palestinian leaders at a Mideast conference in Annapolis, Md., agreed to formally restart peace talks. A Somali immigrant (Nuradin Abdi) was sentenced to 10 years in prison for plotting to blow up an Ohio shopping mall. Washington Redskins safety Sean Taylor died after being shot in his Florida home by an intruder. Bill Willis, a Hall of Fame guard with the Cleveland Browns and Ohio State's first black football All-American, died in Columbus, Ohio, at age 86. Dr. J. Robert Cade, inventor of Gatorade, died at age 80.

One year ago: In an unprecedented move, the Arab League approved economic sanctions against Syria, to pressure Damascus to end its deadly suppression of an 8-month-old uprising against President Bashar Assad. British movie director Ken Russell, 84, died in Lyngington, England.

Today's Birthdays: Author Gail Sheehy is 75. Actor James Avery is 64. Academy Award-winning director Kathryn Bigelow (Film: "The Hurt Locker") is 61. TV host Bill Nye ("Bill Nye, the Science Guy") is 57. Actor William Fichtner is 56. Caroline Kennedy is 55. Academy Award-winning screenwriter Callie Khouri (Film: "Thelma and Louise") is 55. Rock musician Charlie Burchill (Simple Minds) is 53. Former Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty is 52. Rock musician Charlie Benante (Anthrax) is 50. Rock musician Mike Bordin (Faith No More) is 50. Actor Fisher Stevens is 49. Actress Robin Givens is 48. Actor Michael Vartan is 44. Rapper Skoob (DAS EFX) is 42. Actor Kirk Acevedo is 41. Rapper Twista is 40. Actor Jaleel White is 36. Actor Arjay Smith (TV: "Perception") is 29. Actress Alison Pill is 27.

Thought for Today: "In youth we feel richer for every new illusion; in maturer years, for every one we lose." — Anne Sophie Swetchine, Russian-French author (1782-1857).

FROM THE BIBLE

His sister stood at a distance to now what would be done to him. Exodus 2:4. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

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YOUR LETTERS

Holiday Plans

Yankton Area Sweet Adelines

The Yankton Area Sweet Adelines would like to thank our faithful sponsors and many friends who attended our October concert.

In November we have been reviewing our Christmas music and planning our Christmas concerts. Our concerts will be at the:

Nov. 27 — Majestic Bluffs Assisted Living at 2 p.m.