

# 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](http://www.yankton.net)**SUBSCRIPTIONS/****CIRCULATION**

Extension 104

[mike.hrycko@yankton.net](mailto:mike.hrycko@yankton.net)**CLASSIFIED ADS**

Extension 108

[tera.schmidt@yankton.net](mailto:tera.schmidt@yankton.net)**NEWS DEPT.**

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Extension 136

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Extension 129

[kathy.larson@yankton.net](mailto:kathy.larson@yankton.net)

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**Published Daily  
Monday-Saturday**

Periodicals 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 &amp; Dakotan,

319 Walnut, Yankton, SD

57078.

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The Yankton Daily

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ated Press, the Inland

Daily Press Association

and the South Dakota

Newspaper Association.

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**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

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**MAIL IN RETAIL***Trade Zone*

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## Johnson Deserves Thanks For Service

AMERICAN NEWS, Aberdeen (Nov. 16): At year's end, we will be saying farewell and good luck to U.S. Sen. Tim Johnson, who has served South Dakota in one capacity or another for a remarkable 36 years.

The Democrat — who has never lost a race — will be retiring. Johnson overcame remarkable odds to proudly represent South Dakota, embodying strong Midwest values in the process.

He was first elected to the South Dakota House of Representatives in 1978. In 1986, he took the show on the road and began representing the state in the U.S. House of Representatives.

During his tenure, he served on more than 10 committees or subcommittees, including Energy and Natural Resources, Appropriations, Banking and Housing and Urban Affairs.

In 2004, in a rare showing of bipartisan cooperation, Johnson, Democratic Rep. Stephanie Herseth and Republican Sen. John Thune worked hand-in-hand to prevent the Pentagon from closing Ellsworth Air Force Base near Rapid City. Built in 1942, the base is currently 8,000 members strong.

In 2006, he experienced bleeding in the brain caused by a cerebral arteriovenous malformation. It would take 10 months but, not one to lose, Johnson returned to a full schedule in the Senate.

And in 2008, while still recovering from his brain hemorrhage, he beat Republican challenger Joel Dykstra with 62.5 percent of the vote, though because of his slurred speech resulting from the hemorrhage, he did not debate his opponent.

In a Republican state, Johnson managed to win each election in which he was involved, including against popular GOP members Thune and Larry Pressler. His 2002 race against Thune, won by roughly 500 votes, was close throughout and closely watched nationwide.

Johnson deserves applause for the determination it took to overcome such a life-changing event, even though South Dakota was without half of its Senate representation for far too long.

Some might say that his hesitant manner of speaking as a result of the hemorrhage inhibited him in representing the best interests of South Dakota — that we need a fighter, an individual with strong verbal skills. But because he uses his words selectively and slowly, when he does speak, people listen. "Silent Cal" Coolidge was a man of few words, and Franklin Roosevelt was elected to a historic four terms as president in spite of being confined to a wheelchair after contracting polio as an adult.

Loss of integrity is a greater handicap to any politician and, once lost, cannot be regained with confidence. Johnson's integrity has never been in question.

So, as Johnson finishes his political career travelling South Dakota on his farewell "Tour of Thanks," we say goodbye to a man who has worked diligently to best represent the interests of our farmers, our military and our environment. He's done it with decency and quiet effectiveness despite his health issues. For that, we offer our gratitude.

**IN HISTORY****By The Associated Press**

Today is Monday, Nov. 24, the 328th day of 2014. There are 37 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On Nov. 24, 1944, during World War II, U.S. bombers based on Saipan attacked Tokyo in the first raid against the Japanese capital by land-based planes.

**On this date:** In 1784, Zachary Taylor, the 12th president of the United States, was born in Orange County, Virginia.

In 1859, British naturalist Charles Darwin published "On the Origin of Species," which explained his theory of evolution by means of natural selection.

In 1864, French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec was born in Albi.

In 1922, Irish nationalist and author Robert Erskine Childers was executed in Dublin by Free State forces.

In 1939, British Overseas Airways Corp. (BOAC) was formally established.

In 1950, the musical "Guys and Dolls," based on the writings of Damon Runyon and featuring songs by Frank Loesser, opened on Broadway.

In 1963, Jack Ruby shot and mortally wounded Lee Harvey Oswald, the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy, in a scene captured on live television.

In 1969, Apollo 12 splashed down safely in the Pacific.

In 1971, a hijacker calling himself "Dan Cooper" (but who became popularly known as "D.B. Cooper") parachuted from a Northwest Orient Airlines 727 over the Pacific Northwest after receiving \$200,000 dollars in ransom — his fate remains unknown.

In 1974, the bone fragments of a 3.2 million-year-old hominid were discovered by scientists in Ethiopia; the skeletal remains were nicknamed "Lucy."

In 1989, Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu was unanimously re-elected Communist Party chief. (Within a month, he was overthrown in a popular uprising and executed along with his wife, Elena, on Christmas Day.)

In 1992, a China Southern Airlines Boeing 737 crashed in southern China, killing all 141 people on board.

**Ten years ago:** Ukraine's election officials declared that Kremlin-backed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich had won Ukraine's bitterly disputed presidential runoff balloting; thousands of oppo-

sition supporters demonstrated in Kiev. Popular author Arthur Hailey died in New Providence, Bahamas, at age 84.

**Five years ago:** President Barack Obama played host at the first state dinner of his presidency to visiting Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, an event marked by two gatacrashers, Tareq and Michael Salahi. Kentucky officials said census worker Bill Sparkman, found bound and hanging from a tree with the word "fed" scrawled across his chest, had in fact committed suicide. Albert Pujols won the National League MVP unanimously, becoming the first player to repeat since Barry Bonds won four in a row from 2001-04.

**One year ago:** Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu harshly condemned the international community's nuclear deal with Iran, calling it a "historic mistake" and saying he was not bound by the agreement. The Vatican publicly unveiled a handful of bone fragments purportedly belonging to St. Peter, the first pope. Taylor Swift took home four American Music Awards, including top honor artist of the year for the third time.

**Today's Birthdays:** Basketball Hall of Famer Oscar Robertson is 76. Country singer Johnny Carver is 74. Former NFL Commissioner Paul Tagliabue is 74. Rock drummer Pete Best is 73. Actor-comedian Billy Connolly is 72. Former White House news secretary Marlin Fitzwater is 72. Former Motion Picture Association of America Chairman Dan Glickman is 70. Singer Lee Michaels is 69. Actor Dwight Schultz is 67. Actor Stanley Livingston is 64. Rock musician Clem Burke (Blondie; The Romantics) is 60. Record producer Terry Lewis is 58. Actor/director Ruben Santiago-Hudson is 58. Actress Denise Crosby is 57. Actress Shae D'Lyn is 52. Rock musician John Squire (The Stone Roses) is 52. Rock musician Gary Stonadge (Big Audio) is 52. Actor Conleth Hill is 50. Actor-comedian Brad Sherwood is 50. Actor Garret Dillahunt is 50. Actor-comedian Scott Krinsky is 46. Rock musician Chad Taylor (Live) is 44. Actress Lola Glaudini is 43. Actress Danielle Nicolet is 41. Actor/writer/director/producer Stephen Merchant is 40. Olympic bronze medal figure skater Chen Lu is 38. Actor Colin Hanks is 37. Actress Katherine Heigl is 36. Actress Sarah Hyland is 24.

**Thought for Today:** "I don't comment. I record." — Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec (1864-1901).

**FROM THE BIBLE**

*Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see My day. He saw it and was glad. John 8:56.* Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR****SHARE Support****Yankton SHARE**

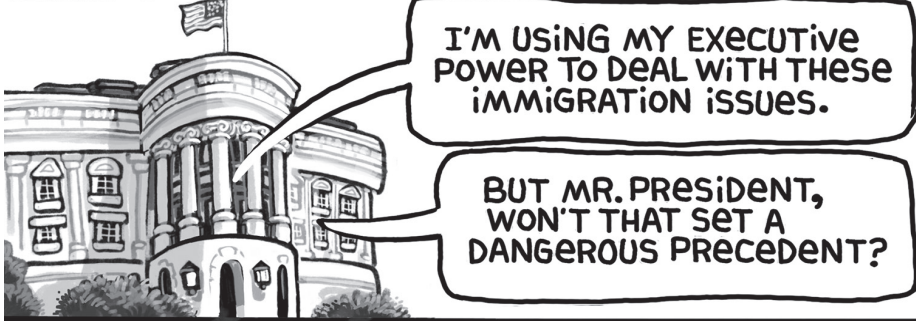
Yankton SHARE recently enlisted the help of local businesses, individuals and community services to provide Thanksgiving dinner packages to families needing a hand up. Packages valued at \$31 include a 10-12 pound turkey, stuffing mix, baking mix, pumpkin pie, gravy mix, green beans, potatoes, sweet potatoes, celery, carrots, apples and oranges. Thanks to the generosity of our community, 18 families are being provided with a great meal.

Yankton SHARE would like to recognize and thank the follow-

ing businesses and individuals who contributed one or more dinners: The Nutmegs (a group of employees from a local business), Jake's Landscaping, Affordable Storage, Dorothy Davenport, Beth Nohr, David and Sherri Conti, LOV Chapters Yankton, LOV Chapters Mitchell, American Family Insurance, Eugene Kocer Agency, Greg Andersh Carpentry, Mary Uhrich.

A similar effort to provide Christmas ham dinners is now under way. If you or your business would like to participate, please call Trinity Clark 760-5857 or Fran Livingston 760-4712 for further information.

S&amp;K

**Michelle Malkin**

## On Ebola 'Amnesty'

**BY MICHELLE MALKIN**

Creators.com

When it rains, it pours. Just before unveiling his colossal administrative amnesty for millions of "undocumented" aliens and foreign tech workers on Thursday, President Obama separately ordered up to 8,000 more executive pardons and special work passes for Liberians, Sierra Leoneans and Guineans illegally in this country.

Strange, isn't it? The same administration that refused to enact travel bans from Ebola-plagued West African nations to protect Americans is now granting "temporary protected status" (TPS) to West Africans on American soil so they don't have to go back.

It's not really about public health, of course. It's about political pandering and electoral engineering.

Here's the dirty open secret: There's nothing "temporary" about TPS benefits. Under both Democratic and Republican administrations, the program has become an endless, interminable residency plan for unlawful border-crossers, visa overstayers and deportation evaders from around the world.

TPS golden ticket holders live here, work here, travel freely and are immune from detention or deportation. They are eligible to apply for an "adjustment of status," which puts them on the path to green cards and eventual citizenship.

In theory, TPS is a short-term humanitarian program built on good intentions. The secretary of homeland security "may designate a foreign country for TPS due to conditions in the country that temporarily prevent the country's nationals from returning safely, or in certain circumstances, where the country is unable to handle the return of its nationals adequately." Those conditions include hurricanes, environmental catastrophes, civil war, epidemics and other "extraordinary and temporary conditions."

In October, the White House extended TPS status and employment permits for an estimated 90,000 illegal alien Hondurans and Nicaraguans "for an additional 18 months, effective Jan. 6, 2015, through July 5, 2016." Who are these TPS winners? Well, they've been here since 1998 — when Hurricane Mitch hit their homeland. That was 16 years ago. Their "temporary" status has been renewed a dozen times since the Clinton administration first bestowed it.

Last October, the Obama administration extended TPS to an estimated 3,000 Syrian illegal aliens; the status will be up for renewal next March. At least 3,700 Liberians who have

**Capitol Notebook**

## Laws Don't Stop Election Funding Merry-Go-Round

**BY BOB MERCER**

State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — People used the word corruption many times during South Dakota's 2014 election campaigns. Yet many acts involving large sums of money were legal, so long as they happened as part of the campaigns.

Consider this: If you and your spouse each gave \$4,000 to a statewide elected official to act in your favor, you could stand accused of bribery.

But if you and your spouse each gave \$4,000 as campaign contributions to the same official, you would be participating in electoral democracy.

I won't list names because they didn't do anything illegal. But there were some couples who gave \$8,000 combined during 2014 to a candidate and some individuals who gave \$4,000.

Then there are organizations such as businesses that can't give one cent legally to a candidate.

But they can give unlimited amounts to a ballot measure campaign.

And they can give up to \$10,000 to a political action committee.

Earlier this year, a business formed a political action committee. The PAC then gave \$6,000 to a statewide candidate and smaller amounts to several other candidates for state offices.

There must be a reason the Legislature doesn't allow organizations such as a business to directly contribute to candidates.

Yet the use of a PAC allowed a business to flank right around the law, giving its money to an intermediary run by a member of the business, to do what the business cannot.

Again, no names, because it doesn't appear there was anything illegal.

Then we have candidate committees that can give unlimited amounts to other candidates or political parties or political committees.

been here since 1991 on TPS won deferred deportations in September before securing renewed TPS status this week. And several hundred Somalis remain in the country with TPS first granted in 1991, along with some 700 Sudanese who first secured TPS benefits in 1997. TPS for both the Sudanese and Somalis was extended in September and lasts until May 2016.

An estimated 250,000 illegal aliens from El Salvador first won TPS golden tickets after an earthquake struck the country in January 2001. Their latest extension was granted last May and lasts until March 2015.

In addition, 60,000 illegal alien Haitians received TPS after earthquakes in their homeland in 2010. Their "temporary" status was renewed in March and extended "for an additional 18 months, effective July 23, 2014, through Jan. 22, 2016."

As I've reported previously, TPS beneficiaries are supposed to provide proof that they arrived here on an eligible date, committed no more than two misdemeanors and no felonies, and maintained a continuous presence in the country. But the feds' past experience with amnesties dating back to 1986 shows that the programs are dangerously rife with unchecked document fraud.

A homeland security source pointed out to me recently that the agency is still failing to check biometric records (or, even worse, ignoring them) before granting immigration benefits to aliens who had been put into removal proceedings but then gamed the system by using new, unvetted aliases. Moreover, after more than two decades, the federal government still doesn't have an entry-exit database in place to track legal short-term visa holders.

The dictionary informs us of the origin of the term "amnesty." It comes from the Greek word "amnestia," which means "to forget." And that is exactly what America is suffering from when it comes to learning amnesty history lessons. There is no such thing as a "temporary" pardon from immigration law-breaking.

Each new infusion of indiscriminate, unskilled foreign labor begets more of the same — all while backstabbing politicians bemoan stagnant wages, high unemployment and the beleaguered plight of American workers paying a steep price for D.C.'s bottomless "compassion" for the rest of the world.

*Michelle Malkin is the author of "Culture of Corruption: Obama and his Team of Tax Cheats, Crooks and Cronies" (Regnery 2010). Her e-mail address is [malkinblog@gmail.com](mailto:malkinblog@gmail.com).*

A candidate can accept hundreds of four-figure contributions and in turn donate tens of thousands of those dollars to another purpose such as a political party.

This happened in the 2013 and 2014 election cycle.

Another device is formation of a separate political action committee by a candidate, or for a candidate.

These can be used several ways.

Organizations such as businesses can contribute to the candidate's PAC, and the PAC then can contribute to the candidate's campaign committee.

This happened during the 2014 election campaign.

Another variation occurs when a state official wants to run for federal office.

The candidate transfers a large amount of money from his state campaign committee to a PAC. The PAC contributes to other state candidates. Those candidates in some instances then contribute to the candidate's federal campaign committee.

This happened in the 2012 and 2014 election campaigns.

Again, no names, because it doesn't appear these maneuvers were illegal.

Sometimes something illegal does happen but a state official looks away.

In the 2012 election campaign, a business from outside South Dakota had an issue pending in South Dakota. The business had its South Dakota lawyer form a PAC. The business sent money to the PAC.

But it exceeded \$10,000.

The lawyer reported the amount on a form filed with the secretary of state.

The report was accepted. No red flag was raised. A newspaper reporter found it. The lawyer eventually pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor.

His mistake?