

# 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  
jim.gevens@yankton.net

## CLASSIFIED ADS

Extension 116  
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  
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Michele Schievelbein  
*Advertising Director*

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\*\*\*

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## We Say

### Light Touch



**THUMBS UP** to the new holiday lighting along Yankton's Broadway Ave. These new decorations have gone up during the last two weeks and are a big improvement: The fact that we can't really tell you what we had up there previously says a lot. The new snowflake lights provide a nice accent along Broadway. The garland wrapped around the historic-style lamps are a very nice and elegant touch, as well. As a historic town, the Christmas season offers some prime lighting possibilities for Yankton, especially in the downtown district and with some of the older buildings. It's something to think about going forward in this marvelous season of good cheer and sparkling light.

### Final Bow



**THUMBS DOWN** to the loss of an old friend: Scotland's Wilbur Foss, who passed away Wednesday at age 94. Foss was a little bit of everything throughout his long life: a state lawmaker, a teacher, a banker, a store owner and a baseball player. But he is known across the region as musician. He was the founder of the South Dakota Fiddlers Association and was a driving force behind the Old-Time Fiddlers and the annual Old-Time Fiddle Jamboree held in Yankton. He didn't start playing the fiddle until he was in his 50s, and excelled at it despite missing three fingers on one hand due to a farm accident when he was a child. Foss is a fixture in several halls of fame and a Scotland booster to the very end: Just last weekend, he was part of a fundraiser for the Scotland Youth Center. Foss filled many ears with music, and this is one silence that will be sad as well as deafening.

### Vive La France!



**THUMBS UP** to the good people and country of France. There's always been a persistent myth amongst Americans that France is a weak nation in the face of great challenge. This country has time and again proven that to be untrue. During World War I, the French lines bent but did not break and none of the Kaiser's men set foot in Paris. During World War II, when certain leaders chose the easy path of capitulation, the people of France supported a vast resistance network while their armed forces in exile fought alongside the Allies to eventually retake their country from the Nazis. A week ago, a coordinated terrorist attack in Paris left nearly 130 dead and hundreds injured. And rather than run in the other direction, France is facing down ISIS. Meanwhile, in spite of a heightened sense of Islamophobia across the Western world, French President Francois Hollande announced this week that his country will take in 30,000 Syrian refugees driven from their homes by the very same entity that attacked them. That is displaying the greatest courage in the face of fear. Meanwhile, officials in this country — including the governor and congressional delegation of South Dakota and Nebraska — have sacrificed American values in trying to block 10,000 heavily vetted Syrian refugees from entering this country, in turn, stoking the fear ISIS hoped to provoke in the free peoples of the world. France is setting an example to the world by not surrendering in the face of terror.

## ONLINE OPINION

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

### LATEST RESULTS:

Should the U.S. bar Syrian refugees from entering the country?  
Yes.....75%  
No.....21%  
Not sure.....4%  
**TOTAL VOTES CAST.....352**

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:

**How much of your holiday shopping do you plan to do online this season?**  
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

### The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Nov. 20, the 324th day of 2015. There are 41 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On Nov. 20, 1945, 22 former Nazi officials went on trial before an international war crimes tribunal in Nuremberg, Germany. (Almost a year later, the International Military Tribunal sentenced 12 of the defendants to death; seven received prison sentences ranging from 10 years to life; three were acquitted.)

**On this date:** In 1620, Peregrine White was born aboard the Mayflower in Massachusetts Bay; he was the first child born of English parents in present-day New England.

In 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights.

In 1910, the Mexican Revolution of 1910 had its beginnings under the Plan of San Luis Potosi issued by Francisco I. Madero.

In 1925, Robert F. Kennedy was born in Brookline, Massachusetts.

In 1947, Britain's future queen, Princess Elizabeth, married Philip Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, at Westminster Abbey.

In 1959, the United Nations issued its Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

In 1967, the U.S. Census Bureau's Population Clock at the Commerce Department ticked past 200 million.

In 1969, the Nixon administration announced a halt to residential use of the pesticide DDT as part of a total phaseout. A group of American Indian activists began a 19-month occupation of Alcatraz Island in San Francisco Bay.

In 1975, after nearly four decades of absolute rule, Spain's Generalissimo Francisco Franco died, two weeks before his 83rd birthday.

In 1985, the first version of Microsoft's Windows operating system, Windows 1.0, was officially released.

In 1992, fire seriously damaged Windsor Castle.

In 1995, Olympic figure skating champion Sergei Grinkov died of a heart attack in Lake Placid, New York. BBC Television broadcast an interview with Princess Diana, who admitted being unfaithful to Prince Charles.

**Ten years ago:** Israel's Prime Labor Party vowed to pull out of domestic Minister Ariel Sharon's government in the opening salvo of an election campaign. A gunman opened fire at a crowded shopping mall in Tacoma, Washington, wounding seven people and taking four hostages before surrendering. (Dominick Maldonado was later convicted of 15 charges, including attempted murder, assault and kidnapping; he was sentenced to just over 163

years in prison.)

**Five years ago:** In comments released by the Vatican, Pope Benedict XVI opened the door on the previously taboo subject of condoms as a way to fight HIV, saying male prostitutes who used condoms might be beginning to assume moral responsibility. Notre Dame returned to the Bronx for the first time in 41 years and sent the subway alumni home happy as the Irish beat Army 27-3 in the first football game at the new Yankee Stadium.

**One year ago:** Spurning furious Republicans, President Barack Obama unveiled expansive executive actions on immigration during a televised address that would spare nearly 5 million people who were in the U.S. illegally from deportation and refocus enforcement efforts on "felons, not families." MLB Commissioner Bud Selig announced that baseball owners had unanimously approved a five-year term for his successor, Rob Manfred.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress-comedian Kaye Ballard is 90. Actress Estelle Parsons is 88. Comedian Dick Smothers is 77. Singer Norman Greenbaum is 73. Vice President Joe Biden is 73. Actress Veronica Hamel is 72. Broadcast journalist Judy Woodruff is 69. Actor Samuel E. Wright is 69. Singer Joe Walsh is 68. Actor Richard Masur is 67. Opera singer Barbara Hendricks is 67. Former U.N. Ambassador John Bolton is 67. Actress Bo Derek is 50. Actress Callie Thorne is 46. Actress Sabrina Lloyd is 45. Actor Joel McHale is 44. Actress Marisa Ryan is 41. Country singer Dierks Bentley is 40. Actor Joshua Gomez is 40. Actress Laura Harris is 39. Olympic gold medal gymnast Dominique Dawes is 39. Country singer Josh Turner is 38. Actress Nadine Velazquez is 37. Actress Andrea Riseborough is 34. Actor Jeremy Jordan (TV: "Supergirl") is 31. Actor Dan Byrd is 30. Actress Ashley Fink is 29. Rock musician Jared Followill (Kings of Leon) is 29. Actor Cody Linley is 26. Pop musician Michael Clifford (5 Seconds to Summer) is 20.

**Thought for Today:** "No man remains quiet what he was when he recognizes himself." — Thomas Mann, German author (1875-1955).

## FROM THE BIBLE

*Blessed are you among women, and blessed in the fruit of your womb! Luke 1:42.* Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis.

MAJORITY OF U.S. GOVERNORS OPPOSE  
HOSTING SYRIAN REFUGEES...

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R. Hertz



## Kelly Hertz

# ISIS's Greatest Asset?

BY KELLY HERTZ

kelly.hertz@yankton.net

The one thing I've encountered that has resonated with me most strongly since last Friday's attacks in Paris was the observation by Pope Francis that the attacks were part of a "piecemeal third world war." I understand this even though I don't really agree with it. But as we're drifting into otherwise uncharted seas in this war against the Islamic State, anything that offers a decent reference point serves a purpose.

However, this current conflict does have some intriguing parallels to other world wars we have known.

For instance, this war apparently made the U.S., Great Britain, France and Russia allies again. It's an uncomfortable fit, of course, but so it was as well in World War II, when Russia was part of the Allies right up to the instant the Axis was defeated. Now, Russia has cranked up its fight against ISIS thanks to a commercial jet liner brought down by an apparent terrorist bomb recently. Although there's still plenty of distrust to go around, it does appear that those four former World War II allies are together once more.

We also have a pre-World War II-style refugee crisis on our hands. This was driven home this week by a terribly unfortunate cartoon, published by the *Daily Mail* out of England, showing throngs of Muslims — some looking ominous, others just plain foreign-looking — walking into Europe, with rats scurrying at their feet. Some Internet commentators quickly noticed its similarity to an Austrian cartoon published in 1939 that depicted the Jews as rats being swept away from Germany's doorstep, then being barred from entering democratic countries that criticized German treatment of the Jews.

Nevertheless, we're in a different universe where everything that's happening — and everything that we rage to do — seems counterintuitive to what we know of war.

President Obama has been criticized, with some justification, for his overly cautious approach to ISIS. He continually seems a step or two behind, whether it was referring to the group as a "junior varsity" terrorist organization as it was on the ascent, or when he said, just hours before the Paris attacks, that ISIS was being "contained." (This was more of a geographic reference rather than to the group's reach, but it still sounded lost.) He needs to catch up — fast — with the current situation. However, if you want to feel even worse about

## Kathleen Parker

BY KATHLEEN PARKER

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WASHINGTON — We shouldn't be surprised that many Americans fear the fresh arrival of Syrian refugees in the wake of last week's Paris slaughter by jihadists, including at least one who appears to have entered Europe posing as a refugee.

It's pretty natural. Horrified by the savagery perpetrated on hundreds of civilians enjoying a Friday night, people think: No Syrians need apply here.

What they mean, of course, is no jihadists here. Agreed. There's no guarantee that there are none here now, but why take a chance? If ever there were a case for abundant caution, it would seem to be now.

Except for the fact that what is being proposed by several governors and politicians, including a few presidential candidates, is morally reprehensible, un-American and in some instances, legally untenable. If I may be blunt.

Fear does strange things to people. What happened to our admiration for Franklin Delano Roosevelt's call to courage: "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself?"

By recent counts, at least 27 governors have vowed to not allow any of the 10,000 expected Syrian refugees to settle in their states. Legally, governors can't prevent the free movement of people once they are granted refugee status by the federal government. So this is political posturing, unless the governors intend to take up arms against the feds, which would be especially interesting to the Islamic State.

Meanwhile, several contenders for the presidency have resorted to some rather bizarre interpretations of the Constitution, showing either a worrisome lack of understanding or some unremarkable "thinking."

Ted Cruz, who presumably knows better, has suggested that we should allow only Christian Syrians and not Muslims to enter the U.S. Cruz promises to introduce legislation along these lines. As President Obama pointed out, we don't do religious testing here.

Not to be outdone — ever — Donald Trump has said he would even consider shutting down mosques, presumably because they might be preaching un-American values. Where was he when Westboro Baptist Church was spewing hatred toward gays? Or when Terry Jones, "pastor" of the Dove World Outreach Center, wanted to burn Qurans?

The great thing about America? We'll let any old crank preach his own gospel from any fruit crate or

the conflict, just listen to what Obama's critics are offering. They loudly demand 20th century remedies for a 21st century disease.

These critics, some of whom want to be president, would "bomb the (expletive)" out of ISIS, as Donald Trump bellowed — except that's what the Islamic State appears to be banking on as a means of demonstrating the west's hatred of Islam and, thus, winning more converts. One analysis, reported in the *Jerusalem Post* this week, stated: "The Islamic State aims to provoke an intensification of coalition operations against it, in support of its narrative of an apocalyptic confrontation ..."

These critics also demand that the U.S. keep out Syrian refugees — see the previous, uncomfortable cartoon comparison — which ISIS will surely point to as a demonstration of western antipathy toward Islam. To be fair, this impulse to bolt the doors in the wake of Paris is understandable. But in so doing, we open the door for another Islamic State PR triumph. The fact that it would also undermine our own principles (at least as they applied when OUR ancestors came here as immigrants) may be important for us to reckon with as a nation at some point, but for now, it represents a victory of fear over security.

ISIS is a well-armed death cult that revels in chaos and ignores conventional pragmatism. Its aim is Armageddon. It invites military aggression. Its goal is to goad cultural persecution and incite division. It attacks not for strategic gain but to ignite a retaliatory hatred that winds up creating new disciples atop the dismembered corpses of the old recruits.

So, how do you defeat an enemy that has no desire to negotiate, no use for peace, no regard for life and no tolerance for anything but its own rigid, self-destructive mindset?

You do it with great numbers. You do it not only with military power but also law enforcement and vigorous intelligence. You do it by building coalitions: The West is going to need Muslim nations to help win this battle with ISIS, otherwise this "war" could be cast as something completely different and destructively polarizing.

You don't do it by playing right into your enemy's hands by operating out of myopic fear and knee-jerk bravado.

Unless we are very careful and level-headed as we proceed in this war, we may wind up becoming ISIS's greatest asset.

Follow @kelly\_hertz on Twitter.

mosque (though not on college campuses, where privileged children hide from mean ideas in "safety zones").

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, apparently intent on displaying just how tough he is, said he wouldn't even let in Syrian orphans under age 5. Both he and Ben Carson say they don't trust our government to properly vet refugees.

Into this moral morass wanders at least one rational man, South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham, who has suggested only that we temporarily pause our refugee program — perhaps to recover from the horror and clear our minds. Being lowest in the polling frees one to be rational about this.

Obviously, political polling indicates that the Republican base, already unhappy about ineffective immigration policies, approves of such draconian measures. They figure if the government can't prevent millions of people from entering the U.S. illegally or staying past their visas, then how can we be sure it won't let in a few jihadists among the refugees?

It's a fair question that deserves a serious, responsible answer. But it is unfair to label people as anti-immigrant or Islamophobic when their legitimate concerns are about rule of law and staying alive. Anyone who isn't concerned about the promised Islamic caliphate at the point of a spear, possibly with your head on it, has better drugs than I do.

From Turkey on Monday, President Obama defended his policy in Syria and said he won't engage in another ground war in the Middle East. Obviously referring to our attempt to impose democracy in Iraq, he said that freedom from ideological extremism has to come from within "unless we're prepared to have a permanent occupation of these countries."

Only the most hawkishly delusional would disagree with this assessment. But freedom from slaughter is something else, is it not? Thus far, more than 200,000 Syrians have died. How many does it take to bestir our moral outrage? When does someone else's civil war become our problem? And, pointedly, does helping victims by killing Muslim "warriors" reduce or increase the likelihood that radicalism will cease or decrease?

These are all tough questions without clear answers, but our values and principles can help guide us through deliberations. Once we retreat from those values, we will have compromised, and potentially lost, what there is left to protect.

Kathleen Parker's email address is [kathleen-parker@washpost.com](mailto:kathleen-parker@washpost.com).

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Boy Scout Food Drive

The Contact Center (Jennifer Adamson, Kelli Stanage, Liz Lynch, Dionne Hento and Donna Madson)

The Contact Center would like to thank each and every one of you who helped with this year's Boy Scout Food Drive.

We would like to say a big Thank You to

Jim Lehl and all the Boy Scouts and volunteers who picked up and delivered all the food to our location, and for helping us go through all the items and putting them away.

Without each and every one of you, it would not have been such a great success and a much needed one to fill our shelves.