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OPINION | OUR VIEW

We Need County,
PDIII On Same Page

So, what's the deal between the Yankton County Commis-
sion and Planning and Development District III (PDIII)?
That's the most straightforward way to address an in-
creasingly clouded relationship — or so it seems — be-
tween the county board and the planning consultant, who
have been partnering on a number of projects with the county for
many years.

What should be a cooperative and open relationship has
turned frosty of late, despite claims by county commissioners that
they aren't "mad" or out to undercut PDIII.

The latest episode occurred last week when the County Com-
mission decided to no longer utilize PDIII to handle the E911 ad-
dressing after more than a decade of providing that service. This
fairly raised some questions from supervisors of county emer-
gency agencies, who are concerned that the level of clarity and
preciseness that has been provided by PDIII, at a very reasonable
price, would be undermined. What's more, District III officials ap-
parently weren't involved in any of the discussions leading up to
this decision.

During the same meeting, the county commissioners did ap-
prove using PDIII for the Highway 52 Corridor Planning Project,
but they spent an inordinate amount of time debating what limits
should be allowed for mileage, lodging and meals in the contract.
Perhaps that may be normal, but it also suggested, perhaps inad-
vertently, that there may be a level of distrust among the commis-
sioners.

As near as we can tell, the relationship between the county and
District III seemed to pivot earlier this year when some commis-
sioners grew visibly agitated when PDIII executive director Greg
Henderson brought forward a proposed ag study that the district
was contracted to offer all its member counties by the state De-
partment of Agriculture. Not long after — in a move that commis-
sioners say was unrelated — the commission agreed to have
Yankton County Planning and Zoning Administrator Patrick Gar-
rity do an analysis to determine what the county receives for the
membership dues it pays PDIII annually through the Zoning Office.
All additional fees paid to PDIII outside of the membership dues
have also been scrutinized.

While any such audit never seems unreasonable, this matter
was also carried out without much input from PDIII.

All this has led to some frayed communications and emotions
between the two entities. While both say that nothing is wrong
and everyone wants to work together, what we've been seeing
lately seems to suggest otherwise.

This is an important issue, as anyone who has used District III
for its planning and projections can tell you. In fact, because of its
contract with the county, PDIII has in turned provided discounted
(and quite vital) services to the City of Yankton, the Yankton
School District and numerous governing bodies and non-profit
agencies in this region.

So, there is more on the line here than simply the county board
working with the planning group. It subsequently impacts thou-
sands of people throughout the county who are able to tap PDIII's
expertise on a variety of issues.

PDIII offers a lot of benefits and knowledge to the county, and
from our understanding at a very reasonable price. If the county
has some concerns with the district, it should sit down with PDIII
officials and hash them out, not simply look for ways to work
around them. This is a very beneficial, productive relationship for
the public that must not be poisoned.

knh

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 8, the 281st
day of 2013. There are 84 days left in
the year.

Today's Highlight in History: On
Oct. 8, 1871, the Great Chicago Fire
erupted; fires also broke out in
Peshigo, Wis., and in several commu-
nities in Michigan.

On this date: In 1869, the 14th
president of the United States,
Franklin Pierce, died in Concord, N.H.
In 1918, U.S. Army Cpl. Alvin C.
York led an attack that killed 25 Ger-
man soldiers and captured 132 others
in the Argonne Forest in France.

In 1934, Bruno Hauptmann was
indicted by a grand jury in New Jersey
for murder in the death of the son of
Charles A. Lindbergh.

In 1944, "The Adventures of Ozzie
and Harriet," starring Ozzie and Har-
riet Nelson, made its debut on CBS
Radio.

In 1945, President Harry S. Tru-
man announced that the secret of the
atomic bomb would be shared only
with Britain and Canada.

In 1956, Don Larsen pitched the
only perfect game in a World Series to
date as the New York Yankees beat
the Brooklyn Dodgers in Game 5, 2-0.

In 1957, the Brooklyn Baseball
Club announced it was accepting an
offer to move the Dodgers from New
York to Los Angeles.

In 1962, Chuck Hiller of the San
Francisco Giants became the first Na-
tional Leaguer to hit a World Series
grand slam; the shot came in Game 4
against New York Yankees pitcher
Marshall Bridges. (The final score of
the game was Giants 7, Yankees 3.)

In 1967, former British Prime Min-
ister Clement Attlee died in London at
age 84.

In 1970, Soviet author Alexander
Solzhenitsyn was named winner of
the Nobel Prize for literature.

In 1982, all labor organizations in
Poland, including Solidarity, were
banned.

In 1992, former West German
Chancellor Willy Brandt died in Unkel,
Germany, at age 78.

Ten years ago: A day after being
elected governor of California, Arnold
Schwarzenegger said he was prom-
ised "a very smooth transition" by
ousted Gov. Gray Davis and vowed to
"open up the books" in dealing the
state's ailing economy. Americans
Peter Agre and Roderick MacKinnon
won the Nobel Prize in chemistry;
American Robert Engle and Briton
Clive Granger won the Nobel Prize in
economics. Jarome Iginla of the Cal-
gary Flames was tabbed to become
the first black captain in NHL history.

Five years ago: After a day of
bouncing higher and lower, Wall
Street plunged again. The Dow Jones
industrial average lost another 189

points to close at 9,258 — the sixth
straight day of losses for the Dow.
German farmer Karl Merk, who re-
ceived the world's first complete dole
arm transplant, told reporters that
incredulity gave way to joy when he
woke from surgery to discover he had
arms again. Japan's Osamu Shimom-
ura and Americans Martin Chalfie
and Roger Tsien won the Nobel Prize
in chemistry. Stage and TV actress
Eileen Herlie died in New York at age
90.

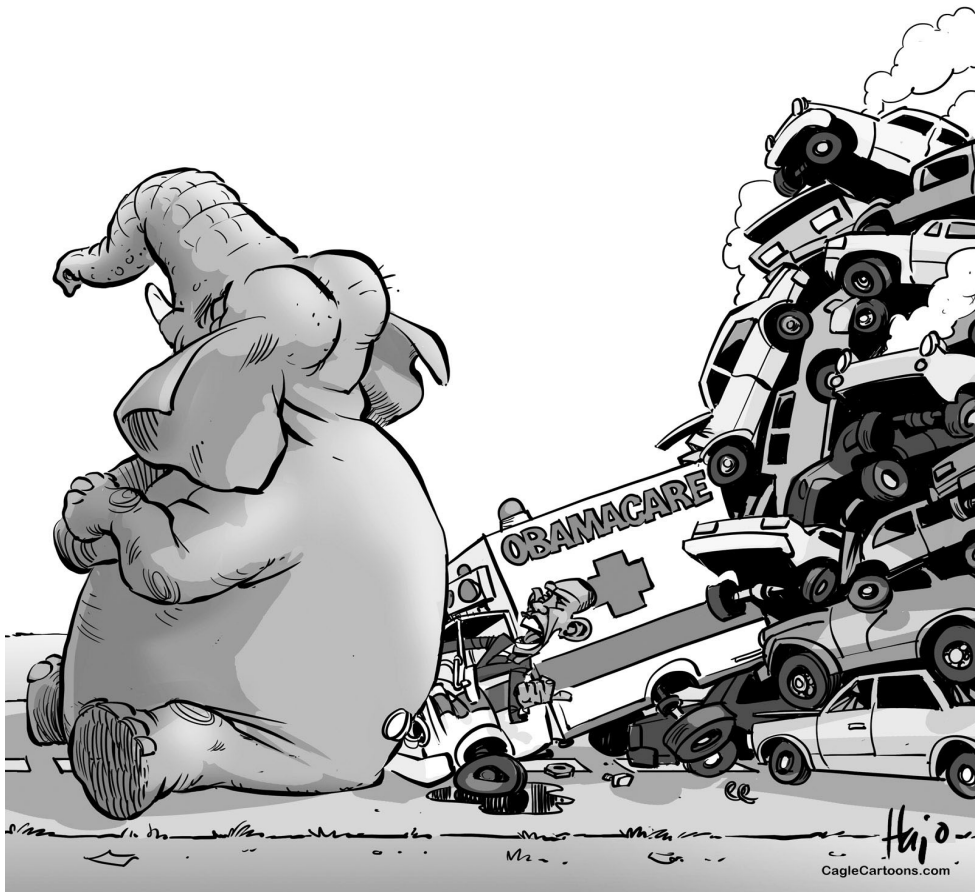
One year ago: Republican presi-
dential nominee Mitt Romney accused
President Barack Obama of being too
passive in his dealings with conflicts
in the Middle East. Speaking at Vir-
ginia Military Institute, Romney called
for the U.S. to work with other coun-
tries to arm the rebels in Syria. Obama
declared a national monu-
ment at the Keene, Calif., home of
Cesar Chavez, the late founder of the
United Farmworkers Union. Auto club
AAA said the average price for a gal-
lon of regular gasoline in California
had climbed to \$4.67, the highest in
the nation, amid refinery disruptions
and corrosion issues in an important
pipeline.

Today's Birthdays: Entertainment
reporter Rona Barrett is 77. Actor Paul
Hogan is 74. Rhythm-and-blues singer
Fred Cash (The Impressions) is 73.
Civil rights activist Rev. Jesse Jackson
is 72. Comedian Chevy Chase is 70.
Author R.L. Stine is 70. Actor Dale
Dye is 69. Country singer Susan Raye
is 69. TV personality Sarah Purcell is
65. Actress Sigourney Weaver is 64.
Rhythm-and-blues singer Robert
"Kool" Bell (Kool & the Gang) is 63.
Producer-director Edward Zwick is 61.
Country singer-musician Ricky Lee
Phelps is 60. Actor Michael Dudikoff is
59. Comedian Darrell Hammond is 58.
Actress Stephanie Zimbalist is 57.
Rock musician Mitch Marine is 52. Ac-
tress Kim Yaris is 52. Rock singer
Steve Perry (Cherry Poppin' Daddies)
is 50. Actor Ian Hart is 49.
Gospel/rhythm-and-blues singer
CeCe Winans is 49. Rock musician
C.J. Ramone (The Ramones) is 48.
Actress-producer Karyn Parsons is
47. Singer-producer Teddy Riley is 47.
Actress Emily Procter is 45. Actor
Dylan Neal is 44. Actor-screenwriter
Matt Damon is 43. Actress Kristanna
Loken is 34. Rhythm-and-blues singer
Byron Reeder (Mista) is 34. Actor Nick
Cannon is 33. Actor Max Crumm is
28. Singer-songwriter-producer Bruno
Mars is 28. Actor Angus T. Jones is 20.
Actress Molly Quinn is 20.

Thought for Today: "There is an
abiding beauty which may be appre-
ciated by those who will see things as
they are and who will ask for no re-
ward except to see." — Vera Brittain,
British author (1893-1970).

FROM THE BIBLE

Yet another said, "I will follow You, Lord, but let me first say
farewell to those at my home." Luke 9:61. Portals of Prayer, Concor-
dia Publishing House, St. Louis



The Rez Of The Story

The Columbus Lie

BY VINCE TWO EAGLES

Hau Mitakuepi (Greetings My Relatives),
This month will once again remind us of
the annual "celebration" of Christopher
Columbus Day. This one-sided, outrageous
recognition of a so-called hero of
American history leaves many Native
people and other Americans who
have half a conscience wondering
why?

Kirkpatrick Sale is an independ-
ent scholar born in 1937 and author
of the 1990 book entitled "The Con-
quest of Paradise: Christopher
Columbus and the Columbian
Legacy." Kirkpatrick once wrote:
"Columbus is above all the figure
with whom the modern age—the age
by which we may delineate these
past 500 years — properly begins,
and in his character as in his exploits
we are given an extraordinary insight into
the patterns that shaped the age at its start
and still for the most part shape it today."

It is unbelievable that in 2013 this country
would continue to commemorate what has
been elucidated beyond any question to be
one of the most sordid moments in human his-
tory. Year after year, the outcry demands a se-
rious act of humanity to recall and strike from
the list of "holidays," Columbus Day. What bet-
ter beginning gesture to reconcile the differ-
ences between Native and non-Native people
would there be? It would be a grand beginning
of a great moment that would help to right-
fully underscore the American identity for pur-
suing and supporting the interests of
furthering the agenda toward addressing
human rights issues and honoring its own for-
mal support of the United Nations Declaration
on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

In the national bestseller, "Lies My Teacher
Told Me," author James W. Loewen begins the
conversation like this: "In fourteen hundred
and ninety-two, Christopher Columbus sailed
in from the blue. American history books pre-
sent Columbus pretty much without precedent,
and they portray him as America's first great
hero. In so canonizing him, they reflect our na-
tional culture. Indeed, now that President's
Day has combined Washington's and Lincoln's
birthdays, Columbus is one of only two people
the United States honors by name in a national
holiday. The one date that every schoolchild
remembers is 1492, and sure enough, all 12
textbooks I surveyed include it. But they leave

Vince
TWO EAGLES

out virtually everything that is important to
know about Columbus and the European ex-
ploration of the Americas. Meanwhile, they
make up all kind of details to tell a better story
and to humanize Columbus so that readers
will identify with him.

"Columbus, like Christ, was so piv-
otal that historians use him to divide
the past into epochs, making the
Americas before 1492 'pre-
Columbian.' American history text-
books recognize Columbus's
importance by granting him an aver-
age of eight hundred words—two and
a half pages including a picture and a
map — a lot of space, considering all
the material these books must cover.
The heroic collective account goes
something like this: 'Born in Genoa,
Italy, of humble parents, Christopher
Columbus grew up to become an ex-
perienced seafarer. He sailed the At-
lantic as far as Iceland and West Africa. His
adventures convinced him that the world
must be round. Therefore the fabled riches of
the East — spices, silk, and gold — could be
had by sailing west, superseding the overland
route through the Middle East, which the
Turks had closed off to commerce.

"To get funding for his enterprise, Colum-
bus beseeched monarch after monarch in
Western Europe. After at first being dismissed
by Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain, Columbus
finally got his chance when Queen Isabella de-
cide to underwrite a modest expedition.

"Columbus outfitted three pitifully small
ships, the Nina, the Pinta, and the Santa Maria,
and set forth from Spain. The journey was dif-
ficult, the ships sailed west into the unknown
Atlantic for more than two months. The crew
almost mutinied and threatened to throw
Columbus overboard. Finally they reached the
West Indies on October 12, 1492.

"Although Columbus made three more
voyages to America, he never really knew he
had discovered a New World. He died in ob-
scurity, unappreciated and penniless. Yet with-
out his daring, American history would have
been very different, for in a sense Columbus
made it all possible."

"Unfortunately, almost everything in this
traditional account is either wrong or unveri-
fiable. The authors of history textbooks have
taken us on a trip of their own, away from the
facts of history, into the realm of myth ..."

Next week, part two of Columbus.

YOUR LETTERS

Unwilling To Negotiate

Roger Meyer, Yankton

To blame only one party for the shut down of
this government is in the words of this editor,
just plain stupid (*Press & Dakotan*, Oct. 2).

The position of the President and the Senate
majority has been from the beginning that we
will not negotiate this continuing resolution (not
a budget but a temporary method of funding the
government until permanent appropriations can
be legislated). They have taken the position that
it is "our way or the highway."

Republicans in the House have sent to the
Senate at least three versions of the continuing
resolution, all of which have been rejected out of
hand without any attempt at compromise or ne-
gotiation. In fact the Senate Democratic lead-
ership has voted to not negotiate with the House
and its Republican leadership. I don't see this as
being reasonable or constructive. I see it as the
exact strategy it is — bring the government to a
shutdown and then blame the other side.

The issue is Obamacare, which has proved
not ready for prime time. Thus, the exemptions
and one-year delay for large corporations. Re-
publicans have asked for the same delay for in-
dividuals — not to be, say the Democrats — only
big business and maybe labor unions. Republi-
cans propose that Members of Congress and
their staffs be covered by the same rules and
regulations as the rest of the country. Are these
unreasonable requests and negotiating points?
Evidently, as the Democrats choose not to talk
about them.

There was an election. The President was re-
elected. However so were 435 members of the
House of Representatives and they are listening
to their constituents when attempting changes
to the law. This would not be the first time a law
has been changed.

Online Opinion

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

LATEST RESULTS:

Which party do you think bears the most blame
for the federal government shutdown?
Republicans35%
Both are equally to blame34%
Democrats31%
TOTAL VOTES CAST510

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 con-
strued as an accurate representation or scientific meas-
urement of public opinion.

CURRENT QUESTION:

Who would support in a hypothetical South
Dakota U.S. Senate race between Mike Rounds and
Rick Welland?

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

Bibles In Schools

Matt Craft, Yankton

Letting Bibles back into public schools is a
HUGE struggle today because people can be
non-religious or be a different religion, so
therefore we have to suffer because somebody
doesn't believe in God or they are a different
religion.

This is WRONG. It says in our very own Cit-
izens Rule Book, in the articles section, that
religious freedom can be established as a well,
free exercise, and that we have a right to have
any religious item in the U.S. public schools!
So we are going to change this. When? NOW!

WRITE US

■ Make your feelings known! Write to the **PRESS & DAKOTAN** on a topic of the day, in re-
sponse to an editorial or story. Write us at: Letters, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078, drop off at
319 Walnut in Yankton, fax to (605) 665-1721 or email to views@yankton.net.