

THE PRESS DAKOTAN

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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CONTACT US

PHONE: (605) 665-7811 (800) 743-2968 NEWS FAX: (605) 665-1721 ADVERTISING FAX: (605) 665-0288 WEBSITE: www.yankton.net EMAIL ADDRESS: news@yankton.net

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Table with columns for Carrier Delivery (1-month to 1-year), Motor Route (where available), and Mail in Retail Trade Zone (1-month to 1-year) with corresponding rates.

Working Out



THUMBS UP to Sapa's National Health and Safety Day Fair held Thursday in Yankton. The local manufacturing company not only showed it cared about its own employees but also others by inviting employees from companies in the area. Area manufacturing employees were able to get educated on their person well being, get health screenings, learn about safety training and develop team work skills with the foot race and mini bike competition.

Contributing



While on the subject of local workers, THUMBS UP to National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) 2014 Conference. Wednesday's conference was attended by a number of Yankton area businesses that have taken the initiative of giving those with disabilities a chance to succeed in employment. It's great to see these businesses stepping up and showing others how they can take steps to further their own workforces. It puts a spotlight on a group of workers who can really do a lot for a business and a community, if they are given the chance.

New Digs



THUMBS UP to the Ponca Tribe for completion of its new headquarters along Nebraska Highway 12 in Niobrara, Nebraska. The tribe will host an open house from 2-4 p.m. Saturday to celebrate the opening. The public is encouraged to attend. The new headquarters consists of approximately 9,000 square feet. The facility covers more than double the size of the old building, which was located at the same site and had been used for more than 20 years. The new headquarters should meet the tribe's needs for years to come.

Panic Mode



THUMBS DOWN to the panic over an Ebola patient being diagnosed in Texas. This isn't to say Ebola isn't a serious disease that should be treated like the common cold. However, things get a bit overboard when people suggest we ought to break out "zombie apocalypse plans" in South Dakota. It's important to remember the virus's transmission requires direct contact with an infected person's bodily fluids and spread in Africa is largely exacerbated by conditions not present in the United States. There is reason for concern and action, to be sure — but more importantly, cool heads must prevail.

ONLINE OPINION

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

LATEST RESULTS: Do you think researchers will find a cure for Alzheimer's disease in your lifetime? No...73%, Yes...27%. TOTAL VOTES CAST 284. Includes text: The Press & Dakotian Internet poll is not a scientific survey and reflects the opinions only of those who choose to participate.

CURRENT QUESTION: Would you support doing away with lifetime terms for U.S. Supreme Court justices? To vote in the Press & Dakotian's Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yankton.net.

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press Today is Friday, Oct. 3, the 276th day of 2014. There are 89 days left in the year. The Jewish Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, begins at sunset. Today's Highlight in History: On Oct. 3, 1944, during World War II, U.S. Army troops cracked the Siegfried Line north of Aachen, Germany. On this date: In 1789, President George Washington declared Nov. 26, 1789, a day of Thanksgiving to express gratitude for the creation of the United States of America. In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day. In 1922, Rebecca L. Felton, D-Ga., became the first woman to be appointed to the U.S. Senate (however, she ended up serving only a day). In 1932, Iraq became independent of British administration. In 1951, the New York Giants captured the National League pennant by a score of 5-4 as Bobby Thomson hit a three-run homer off the Brooklyn Dodgers' Ralph Branca in the "shot heard 'round the world." In 1954, the family comedy "Father Knows Best," formerly an NBC radio show, premiered on CBS-TV with Robert Young reprising his role of Jim Anderson. In 1962, astronaut Wally Schirra became the fifth American to fly in space as he blasted off from Cape Canaveral aboard the Sigma 7 on a 9-hour flight. In 1974, Frank Robinson was named major league baseball's first black manager as he was placed in charge of the Cleveland Indians. In 1981, Irish nationalists at the Maze Prison near Belfast, Northern Ireland, ended seven months of hunger strikes that had claimed 10 lives. In 1990, West Germany and East Germany ended 45 years of postwar division, declaring the creation of a reunified country. In 1995, the jury in the O.J. Simpson murder trial found the former football star not guilty of the 1994 slayings of his former wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and Ronald Goldman (however, Simpson was later found liable in a civil trial). In 2008, O.J. Simpson was found guilty of robbing two sports-memorabilia dealers at gunpoint in a Las Vegas hotel room. (Simpson was later sentenced to nine to 33 years in prison.) Ten years ago: National security adviser Condoleezza Rice, interviewed on ABC's "This Week" program, defended her characterization of Saddam Hussein's nuclear capabilities in the months before the Iraq invasion. Actress Janet Leigh died at age 77. The comedy-drama series "Desperate Housewives" premiered on ABC. Five years ago: Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad hit back at President Barack Obama's accusation that his country had sought to hide its construction of a new nuclear site, arguing that Tehran reported the facility to the U.N. even earlier than required. Eight U.S. soldiers were killed, 22 wounded, when their outpost in Afghanistan's Nuristan province was attacked by hundreds of militants. One year ago: A Connecticut woman driving a black Infiniti with her 1-year-old daughter inside tried to ram a White House barricade, then led police on a chase toward the U.S. Capitol, where police shot and killed her. (The unarmed woman, 34-year-old Miriam Carey, had been diagnosed with postpartum depression and psychosis; her child was unharmed.) President Barack Obama canceled a trip to Asia to stay in Washington and push for an elusive funding agreement that would end a partial government shutdown. A smugglers' ship packed with African migrants sank off the coast of a southern Italian island, killing more than 365 people. Today's Birthdays: Basketball Hall of Famer Marques O. Haynes is 88. Composer Steve Reich is 78. Rock and roll star Chubby Checker is 73. Actor Alan Rachins is 72. Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., is 71. Magician Roy Horn is 70. Singer Lindsey Buckingham is 65. Jazz musician Ronnie Laws is 64. Blues singer Keb' Mo' is 63. Former astronaut Kathryn Sullivan is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Dave Winfield is 63. Baseball Hall of Famer Dennis Eckersley is 60. Civil rights activist Rev. Al Sharpton is 60. Actor Hart Bochner is 58. Actor Peter Frechette is 58. World Golf Hall of Famer Fred Couples is 55. Actor-comedian Greg Proops is 55. Actor Jack Wagner is 55. Rock musician Tommy Lee is 52. Actor Clive Owen is 50. Actress Janel Moloney is 45. Singer Gwen Stefani (No Doubt) is 45. Pop singer Kevin Richardson is 43. Rock singer G. Love is 42. Actress Keiko Agena is 41. Actress Neve Campbell is 41. Singer India.Arie is 39. Rapper Talib Kweli is 39. Actress Alanna Ubach is 39. Actor Seann William Scott is 38. Actress Shannyn Sossamon is 36. Rock musician Josh Klinghoffer (Red Hot Chili Peppers) is 35. Actor Seth Gabel is 33. Rock musician Mark King (Hinder) is 32. Actor Erik Von Detten is 32. Singer-musician Cherrill Green (Edens Edge) is 31. Actress Tessa Thompson is 31. Actress- singer Ashlee Simpson is 30. Thought for Today: "No one can build his security upon the nobleness of another person." — Villa Cather, American author (1873-1947).

FROM THE BIBLE

May [you] have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge. Ephesians 3:18-19. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



When Gardy Arrived

BY KELLY HERTZ, kelly.hertz@yankton.net

If you're a fan of a bad baseball team, the end of the season is an odd pivot. You feel at once so unburdened and yet so lost. There's no more daily anguish and the old storylines are done. But there's also no more following the team day in and day out, embracing the sweet torture that comes with the ritual. This is doubly true right now for fans of the Minnesota Twins. They said good-bye to their summer-long torment Sunday with 2014's finale, then waved good-bye to manager Ron Gardenhire Monday as he was fired for the team's failings. It's an inevitable consequence of being a coach or manager in professional sports, but Gardenhire served for 13 years — a lifetime as such things go — and got Minnesota's boys of summer to October several times, which says something. But he hadn't done it lately, which said something else. I don't follow the Twins closely enough to tell you if this was the right move or not; most fans I've talked to seemed to think something had to change, and this was the place to begin. For me, Gardenhire's departure brings to mind another time when things were far darker for the Twins — darker even than these past four seasons. That time was when Gardenhire was hired as manager back in the bleak winter of 2002. The promotion of the former third-base coach to the manager's slot was a moral victory for Twins fans because it meant they still had a team. Those were the days when contraction was the embarrassing buzzword around the bigs. Major League Baseball (MLB), then reportedly mired in debt and with 25 of its 30 teams losing money, decided to take the bold step of buying out and shutting down two of its franchises. In November 2001, MLB owners voted 28-2 to contract — the consequence of two rounds of ill-advised expansion the previous decade that left the majors a bloated mess. Early rumors suggested the Montreal Expos and Florida Marlins were likely to be cut, but other whispers started to circulate. Then came the cruelest cut of all. It was learned that Twins' owner Carl Pohlad offered to sell the team to Major League Baseball for \$150 million as part of the contraction buyout. Even to a non-Twins fan like me, that seemed cold. I was actually angry about it, since listening to



Kelly HERTZ

Twins games on the radio had been a summertime ritual for me for as long as I could remember. And now, their own owner wanted to nuke them? The wheels were in motion, but in late 2001, a Minnesota judge ordered the team to honor the final year of its lease at the Metrodome. Major League Baseball filed an appeal; in the meantime, there was still a theoretical future for the Twins. Thus, the team had to make plans as though they were going to play. With manager Tom Kelly departing, the Twins turned to Gardenhire to take the reins — perhaps for only one more season, perhaps not. He was hired on Jan. 4, 2002. The hiring of Gardenhire, then, was a symbol of hope, perhaps against all corporate odds. Eventually, the lower court's decision was upheld by Minnesota's Supreme Court. Commissioner Bud Selig announced that contraction wouldn't happen in 2002, and despite plans by league owners to revisit the issue, the matter died there, fortunately. By court, by lease and by time running out, the Twins thwarted the self-preserving designs of others and survived. What happened next seemed miraculous at the time, and it reads like a bad movie script even now. Those 2002 Twins — who weren't even supposed to be around anymore — made the playoffs and reached the American League Championship Series. Gardenhire finished third in the Manager of the Year voting. Suddenly, a seemingly doomed franchise had found a wind at its back. The rest isn't history; it's present-day reality. Gardenhire guided the Twins to six division titles, and now the team that was nearly scrunched plays in a new \$522 million ballpark built especially for them. Rightly or not, that's what Gardenhire will always represent to me — a step back from the abyss; a small flicker of hope. Today, many Twins fans may be happy with Gardenhire's departure, or at least see it as a necessary move on the path toward better days. But at least there ARE days, good and bad, to be had during the baseball season in Minnesota. Gardenhire deserves at least a nod of respect for having helped to guide this franchise out of the cold darkness of contraction to some genuinely brighter times. You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly\_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

Michael Reagan

'Security Breaches 'R Us'

BY MICHAEL REAGAN, CagleCartoons.com

The White House sprayed by bullets. A hospital guard with a criminal record and a gun the Secret Service didn't know about riding on an elevator with the president in Atlanta. The fence-jumper who made it all the way into the East Room of the White House. Secret Service Director Julia Pierson had no choice but to resign on Wednesday afternoon. She did it a week or two late, but she did the right thing. The vaulted federal agency — whose core duty is to protect the president of the United States, his family and his home — has become just another bungling Washington bureaucracy led by incompetents and political appointees. Earlier this week we saw Pierson on TV being upbraided by lawmakers from both parties who couldn't believe how the Secret Service has turned into the Keystone Cops. Aka, "Security Breaches 'R Us." Pierson was at times evasive, uninformed and self-contradictory during her testimony. She had been appointed to head the Secret Service in the spring of 2013 after agents on an advance team were caught drinking excessively and procuring prostitutes in Colombia. That was shame enough. But under her brief reign, the Secret Service's standards apparently fell so low they couldn't be counted on to keep the president or the inside of his house safe. Pierson, a veteran agent who owed her directorship to political correctness, was clearly not up to the task of reforming or running the Secret Service. But like a typical Washington "executive," she spent half of her time before Congress whining about how cuts in funding had hurt her agency's ability to operate. The other half was spent covering her own you-know-what. The White House complex is protected by the Secret Service's 1,300-person uniformed division, which became part of the agency in 1930. The personnel who didn't notice the White House fence-hopper were not highly trained agents like the heroes who threw their bodies in front of my father when he was shot. Those elite agents — members of the PPD, or presidential protection division — travel with the president wherever he goes. They also provide protection 24/7 for the president's wife and children. That why, for eight years I, my kids and my home in L.A. had con-

stant Secret Service protection. The agency did a great job in the 1980s. But today the Secret Service has become dangerously careless or complacent about basic security measures at the White House. "The People's House" isn't an airtight fortress surrounded by minefields and machine gun nests. It's had a few lone intruders before. Presidents Hoover and FDR each found themselves in the White House in the presence of strangers. Some guy followed the Marine Band into the White House after my father's second inauguration and wasn't discovered for 15 minutes. And remember those Obama White House party crashers a few years back? But in 2014 the Secret Service has gotten sloppier than a bunch of drunk rent-a-cops at a stag party. It's the age of terrorism. Every major building, airport concourse and ballpark in America is on guard against terrorists. Yet the White House, despite untold millions that have been spent to fortify it since 9/11, is still vulnerable to intrusions by individuals who are curious, crazy or intent on doing serious harm. Sixteen idiots have jumped the White House fence since 2009 — six this year. President Obama supposedly has had three times as many death threats as any other president. Yet when bullets were fired at the White House in 2011, the Secret Service didn't learn about it for months? It's pathetic, even by Washington standards. Pierson's isn't the only head that should roll over "Intruder Gate." The president should fire the head of the Secret Service's uniformed division. Then he or Michelle should find someone who has enough sense to keep the White House front door locked. My neighbor's teen-age baby-sitter is available. Michael Reagan is the son of President Ronald Reagan, a political consultant, and the author of "The New Reagan Revolution" (St. Martin's Press). He is the founder of the email service reagan.com and president of The Reagan Legacy Foundation. Visit his websites at www.reagan.com and www.michaelreagan.com. Send comments to Reagan@caglecartoons.com. Follow @reaganworld on Twitter.

YOUR LETTERS

Celebrating Grandparents

Missouri Valley Christian Academy, Yankton We would also like to thank all the grandmas and grandpas for attending the Grandparents Celebration at our chapel in September. Thanks to also to Pastor Ralph Porter, Cal-

vary Baptist for his message on how decisions we make when we are young can affect our whole lives and for sharing with us about his grandchildren. We all enjoyed a delicious brunch prepared for us by Hy-Vee.