

# THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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## PRESS & DAKOTAN

Friday, 9.13.13

ON THE WEB: www.yankton.net

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## Good Catch



**THUMBS UP** to the effort by the Bon Homme Bass League and other area outdoor enthusiasts to raise money for expanded dredging at the Springfield Boat Basin and Marina. The sportsmen are seeking to raise between \$50,000 and \$100,000 this month to continue a South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks dredging project under way at the site. The Bon Homme Bass League, comprised of bass clubs from Springfield, Tyndall and Scotland, fully supports the GF&P project. However, the organization doesn't feel the dredging goes far enough to make the basin and marina fully functional. By raising the money, they want to take advantage of the dredging crew already on site. The area residents believe the additional work will pay huge dividends.

## Farewell To A Friend



**THUMBS DOWN** to the death of former University of South Dakota basketball coach and athletic director Jack Doyle. He grew up in New York City, but Doyle found a lifetime connection to the Old West. He graduated from the University of Wyoming and taught at Faith and Lead before launching his career at the Vermillion campus. During his tenure, Doyle led a team of South Dakota basketball players on a historic trip to Cuba. Known for his warmth, he remained a class act throughout his life.

## Syrian Saga



**THUMBS DOWN** to the Obama administration's overall handling of the Syrian crisis, which has been notably slipshod of late — and yet has somehow lurched in recent days toward a possible diplomatic solution. The whole concept of taking military action against the Syrian government for the apparent use of chemical weapons has not been popular with the U.S. public, and Obama and his team have been clumsily walking a tightrope to explain the motivation. When Secretary of State John Kerry's apparent off-hand remark about Syria turning over its chemical weapons was seized upon by Syria and its ally, Russia, as a way out of this mess, the White House at first back away from the idea, then tried to claim they were in on it a few weeks ago. Huh? None of this instills a lot of confidence in the current process, although it is heartening to know that the president appears willing to give these diplomatic channels a chance to work. Nevertheless, the Obama administration's performance in this messy matter has been unspectacular and is definitely ripe for criticism.

## Tied Together



**THUMBS DOWN** to Rep. Kristi Noem (R-S.D.) for her press release issued Wednesday, which was Patriot Day, headlined "Noem Statement on Anniversary of September 11." That's fair enough and expected enough, but in the opening sentence, it's revealed that her statement addressed not only the 12th anniversary of 9/11 but also last year's American Embassy attack in Benghazi, Libya. Thereafter, the press release offered 62 words of reflection on the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, which is why we now have Patriot Day. She then devoted 122 words to the Benghazi attack in which four Americans, including Ambassador Chris Stevens, were killed. This has become a favorite Republican hammering point, as reflected with Noem's remark that the "U.S.) House will continue to hold oversight and investigation hearings while putting pressure on the Administration to take action." We understand the nature of political theater, but to tie these two events together — to in effect equate them, which her press release did in the opening sentence — is inexcusable political grandstanding. On that day, of all days, this couldn't be done in separate press releases? Regrettably not, it appears.

## ON THIS DATE

### By The Associated Press

Today is Friday, Sept. 13, the 256th day of 2013. There are 109 days left in the year. The Jewish Day of Atonement, Yom Kippur, begins at sunset.

**Today's Highlight in History:** On September 13, 1788, the Congress of the Confederation authorized the first national election, and declared New York City the temporary national capital.

**On this date:** In 1759, during the final French and Indian War, the British defeated the French on the Plains of Abraham overlooking Quebec City.

In 1803, Commodore John Barry, considered by many the father of the American Navy, died in Philadelphia.

In 1912, a state funeral was held in Japan for Emperor Meiji.

In 1948, Republican Margaret Chase Smith of Maine was elected to the U.S. Senate; she became the first woman to serve in both houses of Congress.

In 1959, Elvis Presley first met his future wife, 14-year-old Priscilla Beaulieu, while stationed in West Germany with the U.S. Army. (They married in 1967, but divorced in 1973.)

In 1962, Mississippi Gov. Ross Barnett rejected the U.S. Supreme Court's order for the University of Mississippi to admit James Meredith, a black student, declaring in a televised address, "We will not drink from the cup of genocide."

In 1970, the first New York City Marathon was held; winner Gary Muhroke finished the 26.2-mile run, which took place entirely inside Central Park, in 2:31:38.

In 1971, a four-day inmates' rebellion at the Attica Correctional Facility in western New York ended as police and guards stormed the prison; the ordeal and final assault claimed the lives of 32 inmates and 11 employees.

In 1989, Fay Vincent was elected commissioner of Major League Baseball, succeeding the late A. Bartlett Giamatti.

In 1993, at the White House, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and PLO chairman Yasser Arafat shook hands after signing an accord granting limited Palestinian autonomy. "Late Night with Conan O'Brien" premiered on NBC.

In 1996, rapper Tupac Shakur died at a Las Vegas hospital six days after he was wounded in a drive-by shooting; he was 25.

In 1998, former Alabama Gov. George C. Wallace died in Montgomery at age 79.

**Ten years ago:** Angry mourners swarmed Fallujah, Iraq, a day after eight Iraqi police were killed in a friendly fire incident involving U.S. troops; the U.S. military apologized for the deaths. The California Democratic Party voted to endorse Lt. Gov. Cruz

Bustamante while continuing to support Gov. Gray Davis in the October 7 recall election. Indiana Gov. Frank O'Bannon died at age 73. In Las Vegas, Sugar Shane Mosley beat Oscar De La Hoya, winning a close but unanimous decision to take the WBC and WBA 154-pound titles.

**Five years ago:** Rescue crews ventured out to pluck people from their homes in an all-out search for thousands of Texans who had stubbornly stayed behind overnight to face Hurricane Ike. After wild conjecture over who would play Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin on "Saturday Night Live," writer-performer Tina Fey returned to her old show for an opening sketch featuring her and Fey's former "Weekend Update" co-host Amy Poehler as Sen. Hillary Clinton.

**One year ago:** Chanting "death to America," hundreds of protesters angered by an anti-Islam film stormed the U.S. Embassy compound in Yemen's capital and burned the American flag. New York City's Board of Health passed a ban on the sale of big sodas and other sugary drinks, limiting the size sold at restaurants, concession stands and other eateries to 16 ounces.

**Today's Birthdays:** Actress Barbara Bain is 82. Actress Eileen Fulton ("As the World Turns") is 80. TV producer Fred Silverman is 76. Former White House spokesman Larry Speakes is 74. Actor Richard Kiel is 74. Rock singer David Clayton-Thomas (Blood, Sweat & Tears) is 72. Actress Jacqueline Bisset is 69. Singer Peter Cetera is 69. Actress Christine Estabrook is 63. Actress Jean Smart is 62. Singer Randy Jones (The Village People) is 61. Record producer Don Was is 61. Actor Isaiah Whitlock Jr. is 59. Actress-comedian Geri Jewell is 57. Country singer Bobbie Cryner is 52. Rock singer-musician Dave Mustaine (Megadeth) is 52. Radio-TV personality Tavis Smiley is 49. Rock musician Zak Starkey is 48. Actor Louis Mandylor is 47. Olympic gold medal runner Michael Johnson is 46. Rock musician Steve Perkins is 46. Actor Roger Howarth is 45. Actor Dominic Fumusa is 44. Actress Louise Lombard is 43. Tennis player Goran Ivanisevic is 42. Country singer Aaron Benward (Blue County) is 40. Country musician Joe Don Rooney (Rascal Flatts) is 38. Actor Scott Vickaryous is 38. Singer Fiona Apple is 36. Contemporary Christian musician Hector Cervantes (Casting Crowns) is 33. MLB pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka is 33. Actor Ben Savage is 33. Rock singer Niall Horan (One Direction) is 20. Actor Mitch Hilleman ("Reba") is 18.

**Thought for Today:** "Better to be without logic than without feeling." — Charlotte Bronte, English author (1816-1855).

## FROM THE BIBLE

He went about doing good. Acts 10:38. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



# The Children Of War

BY KELLY HERTZ

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Solemn scenes graced various Yankton schoolyards this week as students paid homage to the victims of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

At each school, a ceremony was held at which an American flag designed with the nearly 3,000 names of the victims murdered 12 years ago this week was raised up, words of praise were said, and patriotic music filled the late-summer air.

Most or all of these ceremonies were morning events, and after the proceedings were completed, the kids retired to their classes and to the everyday normalcy dictated by the new school year.

For so many of us who remember that awful day a dozen years ago, each Sept. 11 is a day haunted by ghosts and rage. It still feels so fresh sometimes, as if it were yesterday.

But to many of the students who participated in ceremonies this week, every Sept. 11 is just that — a day of ceremony and ritual. It's a day to remember those who died on another day that most of these kids cannot even recall.

It always startles me to realize how much time has passed since 9/11. The most conspicuous yardstick now is the fact that there are kids entering *high school* who remember nothing of that day or of life before the attacks. For them, 9/11 has always been a fact of their lives, something they inherited, the only reality they have ever known.

This state of existence seems coincidentally pressing this week as we struggle with the Syrian situation. Americans are mostly against military action, in part because we are simply tired of war, or so the polls also say. We have, after all, been warring for 12 years now. But as far as many of the kids attending the ceremonies this week are concerned, we've been at war *forever*. They do not know a time when we weren't fighting and dying somewhere on the other side of the planet.

This is where most adults may own some sort of advantageous perspective this week — or a grim burden, depending on your point of view.

We remember what life was like on Sept. 10, 2001 — the notion of peace and the idea of not feeling wounded or not living in a state of gnawing siege. We believed ourselves to be genuinely free back then, not at risk and constantly surveilled. War was so terribly far from our minds on that long-ago last day.

We recall 9/11. There still don't seem to be enough words to do that nightmare day justice.

## YOUR LETTERS

### Similarities

Douglas Sall, Yankton

We've heard this before. Not too long after the cessation of hostilities in 1945, an idea was put forward to limit the use of nuclear weapons and to control atomic energy. Known as the Truman-Atlee-King proposal, it called for international control of nuclear weapons and it was to have been presented at the first meeting of the United Nations General Assembly in January, 1946. Among other things, the agreement called for control of atomic energy ... for peaceful purposes and the elimination from national armaments ... atomic weapons and all other weapons adaptable to mass destruction. A system of inspection would be established to protect complying states from violations and evasions.

As history clearly shows, this idea never took root but it was an interesting one, nonetheless, and seems amazingly similar to that which the Russians have put forward regarding Syria and chemical weapons, although there was no talk 67 years ago of destroying or eliminating nuclear weapons altogether.

Of course, once the Soviets got the "bomb," everything changed and the arms race began in earnest. This fascinating account is spelled out in vivid detail in John Lewis Gaddis' 1972 Bancroft prize winning book, entitled "The United States and the Origins of the Cold War."

### Good Show!

Allen and Jan Dozler, Lincoln, Neb.

On Saturday, Sept. 7, my husband and I road tripped from Lincoln, Neb., to Schiferl's WJ Ranch, located approximately 7 miles south of Yankton. For the past 10 years, Greg and Jan Schiferl and their sponsors, have hosted a yearly event of various performers.

The entertainment this year was performed by John Berry, who gave an outstanding performance. We have attended several of these concerts and have enjoyed each one im-

And we also MAY recall what the world was like in the immediate wake of the attacks. The anxiety. The paranoia. The ironically quiet skies as all flights were grounded. The candles. The tears. The prayers. The angry resolve.

It has long been said that we were asleep on the day before 9/11, or that we saw the world through a distorting prism; but on the next day, our eyes were torn open. However, the years since might indicate that, on 9/11, we traded one distortion for another. The fact that we chose to wage a broad "war on terror" instead of a mission specifically targeted at those who perpetrated that genocide might suggest how distorted our wounded thinking was, and what it has delivered to us since.

But again, many kids now have nothing to gauge it against in their lives, other than detached stories, documentaries and textbook accounts.

They are children of war. They can only dream of peace; they have no memory of it.

How many of them are tired of war? After all, this is normal to them, just as, for my generation, living with the specter of the Cold War was normal for us. I don't recall being "tired" of it because I could not remember anything else. In retrospect, that was a sad way to live. Looking around now, it still is.

Perhaps it's time for all of us, especially the post-9/11 Americans, to look at life through a new prism — through the angles and colors of peace. Granted, this would not be an easy thing to achieve or maintain, as so much of our history can attest. But peace, not war, must be our overriding goal, for the sake of these kids and for our own sanity.

We shouldn't forget 9/11; in fact, we should build on it. Perhaps we cannot really build a world of peace — which sounds too idealistic, I suppose — but we can at least strive for a world in which war is again the rare exception, not the constant, drum-beating ritual of life.

We need to find peace again. Among many reasons, we must because I fear that some of those who only know a life of war will become comfortable with and unafraid of the prospect of it, believing it's an easy, faceless thing (like a drone strike) unfettered by consequences (like a video-game simulation of a drone strike). It may become a normal matter for them. And that's no way to live.

These kids — and our future — deserve more and better than that.

You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at [twitter.com/kelly\\_hertz/](https://twitter.com/kelly_hertz/). Discuss this story at [www.yankton.net/](http://www.yankton.net/).

## Online Opinion

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

### LATEST RESULTS:

Would you support your school district if it chose to train and arm its personnel?  
Yes . . . . .51%  
No . . . . .42%  
Not sure . . . . .7%  
**TOTAL VOTES CAST . . . . .368**  
*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:

Should the Minnesota Twins replace manager Ron Gardenhire?  
To vote in the *Press & Dakotan's* Internet poll, log on to our Web site at [www.yankton.net](http://www.yankton.net).

mensely. Greg and Jan are offering a wonderful evening of fun and entertainment for the entire family.

For those of you that were there, you know what I mean.

For those who weren't there, you missed a great evening of fun and entertainment and I highly recommend that you go to their show in 2014. This is true country entertainment at its finest.

We sincerely want to thank Greg and Jan and the sponsors that help make this entertainment possible!

## Back Pack Project Wrap-Up

The Contact Center staff

Vouchers for school back packs were handed out to 212 Yankton County children, grades K through 8th at the Contact Center. The Yankton community has always been so very supportive of the Contact Center and the Back Pack Project. We wish to thank everyone that contributed to this very important project.

## WRITE US

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