

THE PRESS & DAKOTAN

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**OPINION | OTHER THOUGHTS**  
**If Only We Could Create Workers ...**

**CAPITAL JOURNAL, Pierre (Sept. 3):** South Dakota Pulse Processors, which is still finalizing details for its planned processing plant at Harrold, is taking the attitude that it might have to compete for employees by offering high starting pay and benefits. Company CEO and President Steven Brown says the plant will start production line employees at \$15 an hour. The company is also considering innovative ideas such as a four-day workweek, guaranteeing its workers less travel expense for their 40 hours at work while assuring them of three-day weekends.

It's precisely what economists say should happen. The simple law of supply and demand is driving the cost of labor higher. And there's no doubt that labor is in demand here in central South Dakota. It's a common complaint among businesses that they can't find enough workers, and no wonder, since unemployment data in July showed a mere 2.3 percent of the workforce in Hughes County was without a job.

Where South Dakota Pulse Processors and company CEO Steve Brown are be commended is in thinking beyond wages. There are rewards that have nothing to do with pay, but with quality of life, and quality of life is an inherent advantage we have in central South Dakota.

Some of the rest of us in the business community will have to think up similar ways of setting ourselves apart from the crowd if we're to attract the talent we need in this lean labor market. Like it or not, it's a situation that can't be fixed by economic development projects to create jobs; what we need are workers to fill those jobs.

**OUR LETTER POLICY**

The **PRESS & DAKOTAN** encourages its readers to write letters to the editor, and it asks that a few simple guidelines be followed.  
■ Please limit letters to 300 words or less. Letters should deal with a single subject, be of general interest and state a specific point of view. Letters are edited with brevity, clarity and newspaper style in mind.  
■ In the sense of fairness and professionalism, the **PRESS & DAKOTAN** will accept no letters attacking private individuals or businesses.  
■ Specific individuals or entities addressed in letters may be given the opportunity to read the letter prior to publication and be allowed to answer the letter in the same issue.  
■ Only signed letters with writer's full name, address and daytime phone number for verification will be accepted. Please mail to: Letters, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078, drop off at 319 Walnut in Yankton, fax to 665-1721 or email to views@yankton.net.

**ON THIS DATE**

**By The Associated Press**  
Today is Monday, September 15, the 258th day of 2014. There are 107 days left in the year.  
**Today's Highlights in History:** On September 15, 1789, the U.S. Department of Foreign Affairs was renamed the Department of State. Author James Fenimore Cooper was born in Burlington, New Jersey.  
**On this date:** In 1776, British forces occupied New York City during the American Revolution.  
In 1857, William Howard Taft — who served as President of the United States and as U.S. chief justice — was born in Cincinnati, Ohio.  
In 1887, the city of Philadelphia launched a three-day celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Constitution of the United States.  
In 1935, the Nuremberg Laws deprived German Jews of their citizenship.  
In 1949, "The Lone Ranger" premiered on ABC-TV with Clayton Moore as the masked hero and Jay Silverheels as Tonto.  
In 1950, during the Korean conflict, United Nations forces landed at Incheon in the south and began their drive toward Seoul.  
In 1954, as raucous fans looked on, Marilyn Monroe filmed the famous billowing-skirt scene for "The Seven Year Itch" over a Lexington Ave. subway grate in Manhattan (however, little, if any, of the footage ended up in the movie; the scene was later reshot on a Hollywood set).  
In 1963, four black girls were killed when a bomb went off during Sunday services at the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. (Three Ku Klux Klansmen were eventually convicted for their roles in the blast.)  
In 1964, the prime-time soap opera "Peyton Place" premiered on ABC-TV.  
In 1972, a federal grand jury in Washington indicted seven men in connection with the Watergate break-in.  
In 1989, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Robert Penn Warren, the first poet laureate of the United States, died in Stratton, Vermont, at age 84.  
In 1994, a tape recording of John Lennon singing with his teen-age band, The Quarrymen, in a Liverpool club on July 6, 1957, was sold at Sotheby's for \$122,500 (it was at this gig that Lennon first met Paul McCartney).  
**Ten years ago:** Three Americans were found guilty in Kabul, Afghanistan, of torturing Afghans in a private jail and were sentenced to prison. (Edward Caraballo, a freelance cameraman, was released in May 2006; Brent Bennett was freed in September 2006; Jack Idema, a former Green Beret, was pardoned in June 2007.) National Hockey League owners agreed to lock out the players. Johnny Ramone, guitarist and co-founder of the seminal punk band The Ramones, died in Los Angeles at age 55.  
**Five years ago:** Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said the worst recession since the 1930s was "very likely over," although he cautioned that pain — especially for nearly 15 million unemployed Americans — would persist. An unrepentant Muntadhar al-Zaidi, the Iraqi reporter who'd thrown his shoes at President George W. Bush in December 2008, was freed from prison.  
**One year ago:** Hundreds of people, black and white, many holding hands, filled the Alabama church that was bombed by the Ku Klux Klan 50 years earlier to mark the anniversary of the blast that killed four little girls and became a landmark moment in the civil rights struggle. Norway's Suzann Pettersen beat teen star Lydia Ko of New Zealand by two shots to win the Evian Championship and clinch the second major title of her career. Miss New York Nina Davuluri was crowned Miss America at the pageant in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Jackie Lomax, 69, a singer-songwriter who'd worked with the Beatles and had a long solo career, died in Wirral, England.  
**Today's Birthdays:** Actor Forrest Compton is 89. Comedian Norm Crosby is 87. Actor Henry Darrow is 81. Baseball Hall-of-Famer Gaylord Perry is 76. Actress Carmen Maura is 69. Opera singer Jessye Norman is 69. Writer-director Ron Shelton is 69. Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 68. Movie director Oliver Stone is 68. Rock musician Kelly Keagy (Night Ranger) is 62. Rock musician Mitch Dorge (Crash Test Dummies) is 54. Football Hall-of-Famer Dan Marino is 53. Actor Danny Nucci is 46. Rap DJ Kay Gee is 45. Actor Josh Charles is 43. Singer Ivette Sosa (Eden's Crush) is 38. Actor Tom Hardy is 37. Pop-rock musician Zach Filkins (OneRepublic) is 36. Actor Dave Annable is 35. Actress Amy Davidson is 35. Britain's Prince Harry is 30. TV personality Heidi Montag is 28. Actress Kate Mansi (TV: "Days of Our Lives") is 27.  
**Thought for Today:** "The lack of a sense of history is the damnation of the modern world." — Robert Penn Warren (1905-1989).

**FROM THE BIBLE**

*But even the hairs of your head are all numbered.* Matthew 10:30. Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis

**YOUR LETTERS**

**Another View**  
**Duane Kolda, Yankton**  
Recently, an assistant professor at USD penned a column (*Press & Dakotan*, Sept. 4) on his opinion of Kolda vs. City of Yankton. I would like to point out that although his expertise is the law, he should have taken more time to research some other facts that pertain to these acts.  
Although Officer Kolda was told of the chainsaw theft, it was while both individuals had been drinking and Kolda did not



**Capitol Notebook**  
**Is A Return For Larry Pressler In The Cards?**

**BY BOB MERCER**  
State Capitol Bureau

PIERRE — Democratic candidate Rick Weiland had the perfect chance to prevent Republican Mike Rounds from being elected as South Dakota's next U.S. senator. Weiland needed only to write a letter to the secretary of state and declare he was withdrawing before the Aug. 5 deadline. Instead he stayed on the ballot. That's not surprising. Admirably, and sadly, Weiland entered the race when no other Democrat would. Now we have a four-candidate contest. Weiland very likely won't win. Rounds very well might.

So who might have beaten Rounds if Weiland can't? Larry Pressler, the U.S. senator who lost the seat to Johnson in 1996. Back then, Pressler was a Republican. Now he is running as an independent. He is doing surprisingly well. Consider the results released in the past week from a SurveyUSA poll conducted for the Aberdeen American News, KSFY TV in Sioux Falls and KOTA TV in Rapid City. The survey found Rounds in the lead with 39 percent, followed by Weiland at 28 percent and Pressler at 25 percent. Next came undecided at 5 percent and last was Gordon Howie, a former Republican legislator running as an independent, at 3 percent. Turn those numbers around and 56 percent of the people in that survey supported someone other than Rounds, a former governor. Scratch the survey results a little deeper and you find two points of interest. Rounds, Weiland and Howie are essentially one-party candidates, while Pressler has support across the spectrum.



**Bob MERCER**

The survey found Pressler with 21 percent of Republicans, 29 percent of Democrats and 31 percent of independents. The survey asked two intriguing secondary questions. They found that if Pressler wasn't in the race, Rounds would lead Weiland by only 44 to 42 percent. And if Howie was out of the race, Rounds would pick up four of every five Howie supporters. The survey didn't ask what would happen if Weiland wasn't in the race. The assumptions are Pressler would get most of the 56 percent of Democrats who support Weiland; and Pressler and Rounds would split the 24 percent of Weiland's independents. If the four candidates had submitted resumes as part of an application process, the human resources office probably would look closest at Pressler as the most qualified. University of South Dakota, Harvard Law, Oxford. Served in Vietnam. Two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives 1975-79. Three terms in the U.S. Senate 1979-1996. His past seniority could be important if he won election again. With Senate control up for grabs he would be sought, as an independent, by both major parties. He's playing that card with his TV ad where he aligns with both Republican President Ronald Reagan and Democratic President Bill Clinton. At age 72, Pressler is promising to serve only one six-year term in the Senate. Rounds reaches 60 on Oct. 24. Weiland turned 56 on July 26. Howie became 65 on July 23. Short of some confidence-shattering event, Mike Rounds is the front-runner to win Nov. 4. But Larry Pressler is this election's big story and big surprise.

**Protecting The Freedom To Warn**

**BY MICHELLE MALKIN**  
Creators.com

"If you see something, say something." That's what our homeland security apparatchiks incessantly preach. But 13 years after the 9/11 attacks, the freedom to warn is in danger and vigilant whistleblowers are under fire. Listen to Robert MacLean. He's a former Air Force nuclear weapons specialist and Border Patrol agent recruited by the government to serve as one of the first federal air marshals after 9/11. In 2003, MacLean underwent emergency training to prepare for a new round of al-Qaida hijacking threats. Jihadists exploiting visa and screening loopholes had planned to target East Coast airliners, according to intelligence analysts. For unknown reasons, however, the Transportation Security Administration abruptly called off air marshals from duty on nonstop, long-distance flights — just two days before the anticipated hijacking. How did they notify the air marshals? Cue the Keystone Cops. "TSA chose to send the unlabeled text message to our unsecured Nokia 3310 cellular phones instead of our \$22 million encrypted smart phone system. There were no markings or secrecy restrictions on the message," MacLean recounted to Congress this week. "We all thought it was a joke given the special training we had just received and the post-9/11 law that nonstop long-distance flights were a priority."



**Michelle MALKIN**

A supervisor told MacLean the agency was broke and there was nothing he could do. Appalled at both the dangerous pullback and the reckless way in which the feds notified the air marshals, MacLean then contacted his department's inspector general hotline and was warned he would be "cutting (his) career short if (he) pursued the issue further." Instead, he went to the press and made his homeland security concerns public. In 2006, MacLean was fired. More than a decade later, the dedicated security expert has battled the feds who retaliated against him. He was forced into bankruptcy and shut out of law enforcement jobs. His legal case heads to the Supreme Court this fall. God bless him. Despite the consequences, MacLean would do it all again in a heartbeat. "I blew the whistle because I had to," he testified this week. "I could not live with the tragedy risked if I had been the cynical silent observer."

MacLean is not alone. Do you remember 10 years ago when then-Federal Air Marshal Service Director Thomas Quinn refused to allow his employees to dress undercover? Quinn, a former Secret Service agent, insisted that air marshals abide by military-style grooming standards and a rigid business dress policy regardless of weather, time of year or seating arrangement. Yes, really. Marshals were ordered to dress like characters straight out of "Men in Black" — leaving them vulnerable to terrorist identification. Critics of the code dubbed Quinn the Captain Queeg of homeland security. He even assigned fashion police to enforce the rules his own spokesman denied existed. Homeland security bureaucrats in Washington back then downplayed the marshals' complaints about the dress policy and other directives and leaks that undermined the marshals' anonymity. Officials at headquarters smeared the messengers inside and outside the agency and denied any wrongdoing. One top special agent in charge of the marshals' Atlanta office, Don Strange, was fired after criticizing the dress code and boarding procedures that made the marshals' identities obvious. Another agent, Frank Terreri, faced retaliation for whistleblowing and was forced to sue to protect his job. Today, the Federal Air Marshal program remains riddled with mismanagement, corruption and neglect. In April, FAM Director Robert Bray resigned amid an embarrassing gun scheme probe. And earlier this year, six of 24 air marshal offices closed, and hiring was frozen in Las Vegas, Seattle and Denver. Yet, according to one of my sources, "the last class of air marshals graduated from the academy in 2012. The service has not hired any mission-flying FAMS since. In that same time frame, they have promoted or hired over 300 people, and continue to do so, for supervisory and administrative duties. Almost every supervisory position includes a paid move and a yearly salary of \$100,000." Every 9/11, pundits talk about how "everything changed" after the attacks. But the homeland security bureaucracy is as petty, vindictive, wasteful and stupid as ever.

*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.*

our taxes are being spent on. Every employee of the city is an investment in our city, especially police officers. When we spend tax money to educate and equip them, it should be for the long term investment, not at the whim of one or two people that may have a disagreement. I put off writing this letter and had hoped that I would not have to, but in order to clear up this matter and stop rumors, I felt that my side had to be heard. Officer Kolda did not commit any crimes. He just failed to turn on a friend and it cost him.