

THE DAKOTAS' OLDEST NEWSPAPER | FOUNDED 1861

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SUBSCRIPTIONS/ CIRCULATION Extension 104 CLASSIFIED ADS: Extension 108 NEWS DEPARTMENT: Extension 114 SPORTS DEPARTMENT: Extension 106 ADVERTISING OFFICE: Extension 122 **BUSINESS OFFICE:** Extension 119 NEW MEDIA: COMPOSING DESK: Extension 129

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Published Daily Monday-Saturday

Periodicals postage paid at Yankton, . South Dakota, under the act of March 3,

Weekly Dakotian established June 6, 1861 Yankton Daily Press and Dakotian established April 26, 1875.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, 319 Walnut, Yankton, SD 57078.

MEMBERSHIPS

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan is a member of the Associated Press, the Inland Daily Press Association and the South Dakota Newspaper Association. The Associated Press is entitled exclusively to use of all the local news printed in this newspaper.

SUBSCRIPTION

RATES* (Payable in advance)

CARRIER DELIVERY 1-month \$12.09 3 months\$36.27 6 months\$72.53 1-year\$133.09 MOTOR ROUTE (where available)

1 month \$14.51 3 months\$43.53 $6 \ months \ \dots.\$87.05$ 1 year\$139.14 MAIL IN RETAIL

TRADE ZONE 1-month \$16.93 3 months\$50.79 6 months ...\$101.57

1-year\$148.82 MAIL OUTSIDE RETAIL TRADE ZONE $1\ month \ldots .\$19.35$ 3 months\$58.05 6 months ...\$116.09 1-year \$186.33 * Plus applicable sales tax for all rates

OPINION | WE SAY

On The Road



Although we understand the rules and the reasoning behind it, a disappointed **THUMBS DOWN** to this week's decision to finish Yankton's homecoming football game, which was halted last week due to stormy weather, on Oct. 6 in Aberdeen — which, at four hours away, makes it one of the longest homecoming trips ever. The game was stopped at halftime on Sept. 19 with Aberdeen Central leading the Bucks 20-17. Ac-

cording to the rules, the game could have counted as official right there, with the Golden Eagles victorious. When it came time to discuss resuming again, Aberdeen officials had little incentive to resume the game and absolutely no incentive to come back to Yankton — or meet at a neutral site like Huron or Mitchell. So, Yankton had to agree to go to Aberdeen or take the loss. It's a bitter pill for football fans here to swallow, but it's what the state rules prescribe. Now, if the Bucks are able to use the circumstances as a sort of motivation for the game ... well, so be it. Hopefully, none of this has distracted the team (or the fans) too much from the more immediate issue at hand: facing Sioux Falls O'Gorman tonight (Friday). Go Bucks!

Honored Duo



THUMBS UP to Yankton County Commissioner Allen Sinclair and Register of Deeds Brian Hunhoff for winning awards recently at the South Dakota Counties Association convention. Sinclair, a 12-year veteran on the commission, was presented the Outstanding Service by a County Commissioner Award, while Hunhoff — who also served for several years as a

county commissioner — was lauded with the Outstanding Service by a County Official Award for his work filling in for the auditor and recording commission minutes last year. Both men bring a lot of experience and insight to their jobs, and our county benefits greatly for it. Congratulations for both of them for jobs well done.

Strike Up The Bands!



THUMBS UP to Menno's Band Day festivities, which takes place today (Friday) in the Hutchinson County town 30 miles north of Yankton. This eighth annual event, which sprang from a similar event held more than 40 years ago, allows marching bands to have the stage — or in this case, the streets — for themselves to showcase their talents. The performances

are critiqued, and then pointers are offered via a visiting college band (this year, from Northern State University). Hundreds of musicians will be on hand at 10 a.m. today for this event, which fills the streets with music and showcases some impressive young talent.

ONLINE OPINION

The results of the most recent Internet poll on the Press & Dakotan's Web

LATEST RESULTS:

| Do you think Hillary Clinton will run for president in 2016? |
|---|
| Yes |
| Not sure/don't care |
| No |
| TOTAL VOTES CAST |
| 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:

Do you think the Minnesota Twins should retain manager Ron Garden-

To vote in the *Press & Dakotan's* Internet poll, log on to our website at www.yank-

ON THIS DATE

By The Associated Press Today is Friday, Sept. 26, the 269th day of 2014. There are 96 days

Today's Highlight in History: On Sept. 26, 1789, Thomas Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate to be the first United States secretary of state; John Jay, the first chief justice: Edmund Randolph, the first attorney general.

On this date: In 1777, British troops occupied Philadelphia during the American Revolution. In 1892, John Philip Sousa and

his newly formed band performed publicly for the first time, at the Stillman Music Hall in Plainfield, New Jer-

sey. In 1914, the Federal Trade Commission was established. Fitness guru Jack LaLanne was born in San Fran-

In 1918, the Meuse-Argonne of-fensive, resulting in an Allied victory against the Germans, began during World War I In 1933, the James Hilton novel

"Lost Horizon" was first published in London by Macmillan & Co. Ltd. and in New York by William Morrow & Co. In 1937, the radio drama "The Shadow," starring Orson Welles, pre-miered on the Mutual Broadcasting

In 1954, the Japanese commercial ferry Toya Maru sank during a typhoon in the Tsugaru Strait, claiming more

In 1960, the first-ever debate between presidential nominees took place in Chicago as Democrat John F. Kennedy and Republican Richard M. Nixon faced off before a national TV

audience. In 1964, the situation comedy 'Gilligan's Island" premiered on CBS-

TV.
In 1986, William H. Rehnquist was sworn in as the 16th chief justice of the United States, while Antonin Scalia ioined the Supreme Court as its 103rd member.

In 1990, the Motion Picture Association of America announced it had created a new rating, NC-17, to re-

place the X rating.
In 1991, four men and four women began a two-year stay inside a sealed-off structure in Oracle, Arizona, called Biosphere 2, (They emerged from Biosphere on this date

Ten years ago: Hurricane Jeanne struck near Stuart, Florida, with 120 mph winds, resulting in five U.S. deaths. Pakistani forces killed Amjad Hussain Farooqi, a suspected top al-Qaida operative wanted for his alleged role in the 2002 kidnapping and beheading of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl. Israel assassinated Izz Eldine Subhi Sheik

Khalil, a Palestinian militant from Hamas, with a car bomb in Damascus. Svria.

Five years ago: Film director Roman Polanski was arrested by Swiss police on an international warrant as he arrived in Zurich to receive a lifetime achievement award from a film festival. (Polanski had fled the U.S. in 1978, a year after pleading guilty to unlawful sexual intercourse with a 13-year-old girl. Polanski spent two months in a Swiss jail and served seven months of house arrest before Switzerland's government decided against extraditing him to the United States.) Pope Benedict XVI began a three-day pilgrimage to the Czech Re-

One year ago: It was revealed that some workers at the National Security Agency had misused the government's secret surveillance systems at least 12 times over the previous decade, including instances where they spied on spouses, boyfriends or girlfriends, according to embarrassing new details disclosed by the agency's inspector general. The U.S. and its international partners emerged from a U.N. meeting with Iran declaring a 'window of opportunity" had opened to peacefully settle their nuclear standoff. Bud Selig announced plans to retire as baseball commissioner in January 2015.

Today's Birthdays: Retired baseball All-Star Bobby Shantz is 89. Actor Philip Bosco is 84. Actress Donna Douglas is 82. Actor Richard Herd is South African nationalist Winnie Madikizela-Mandela is 78. Country singer David Frizzell is 73. Actor Kent McCord is 72. Television host Anne Robinson is 70. Singer Bryan Ferry is 69. Actress Mary Beth Hurt is 68. Singer Lynn Anderson is 67. Singer Olivia Newton-John is 66. Actor James Keane is 62. Rock singer-musician Cesar Rosas (Los Lobos) is 60. Country singer Carlene Carter is 59. Actress Linda Hamilton is 58. Country singer Doug Supernaw is 54. Rhythmand-blues singer Cindy Herron (En Vogue) is 53. Actress Melissa Sue Anderson is 52. Actor Patrick Bristow is Rock musician Al Pitrelli is 52 Singer Tracey Thorn (Everything But The Girl) is 52. TV personality Jillian Barberie is 48. Contemporary Christian guitarist Jody Davis (Newsboys) Actor Jim Caviezel is 46. Actor Ben Shenkman is 46. Singer Shawn Stockman (Boyz II Men) is 42. Jazz musician Nicholas Payton is 41. Actor Mark Famiglietti is 35. Singer-actress Christina Milian is 33. Tennis player Serena Williams is 33.

Thought for Today: "A child educated only at school is an uneducated child." — George Santayana, Amer

FROM THE BIBLE

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. 1 Peter 5:8 Portals of Prayer, Concordia Publishing House, St. Louis



Scams And Who We Are

Kelly

HERTZ

BY KELLY HERTZ

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We get these things all the time. One that I'd never encountered before came to us a few weeks ago by phone, from someone associated with Yankton's Riverboat Days celebration. He told us that there

have been a rash of phone calls being made about prizes that had been won, and there was a suggestion that the winnings were connected with a Riverboat Days drawing. All that was needed to help complete the transaction was a Social Security number ... You know how the rest of the story

goes. If you were smart or lucky, such solicitations are your cue to hang up the phone, trash the email or do whatever you need to do to discard this attempted scam.

Not everyone does, however. Some people fall for it — probably not many, but just enough to make this blatant attempt at theft worthwhile.

Honestly, I lost my sense of anger or worry over these scams so long ago.

That's not to say that I don't see them as brazen attempts at robbery, because that's exactly what they are. However, I've been inundated by so many of

these hit-and-run lures through the years that the shock I initially felt when I encountered my first scam emails has melted into numb resigna-Every day, my email at work is filled with

myriad unsolicited emails — and it's gotten worse than ever. Of these, a small but steady percentage of these missives tell me about a prize I've won, or that my computer system needs updating or that people are inquiring about me and wouldn't I like to know who they are. (Sometimes, when I am exposed to a creatively new and despicable attempt at a swindle, I actually

get almost excited about it.)
That's the first level of scam inundation that I

The second level are the warnings from others, like the Riverboat Days call. In truth, that was the second local scam alert I received that week. The two were completely unrelated scams, although they basically shared the same objective. I get a call or an email or a verbal warning at least once a month on these things.

I notice that scams have evolved through the years, growing more daring and vicious. When you get calls or emails about a relative

being in trouble and needing money for a doctor, that's more than hunting for some easy money. That's preying on fear. Odds are, these kinds of inquiries won't tempt most people, but all it takes are a few people — maybe 1 in 10,000 — for whom the circumstances portrayed may be possible, and the score is made.

A quick Internet search recently

showed reports of numerous scams. A story noted that the Federal Trade Commission is warning businesses about 'masquerading" scams, in which hackers posing as senior corporate executives ask employees to complete sensitive financial transactions.

 \bullet Another masquerade scam involves eople posing as IRS employees.

There is also something called a *72 scam, in which the scammer tells a target that there is a serious accident and that by calling a number that starts with *72, it will go directly to, say, the nurse's station at a hospital. But *72 is a call-for-

ward function that sends your phone call else-There's also a jury duty scam, in which an individual is contacted and told he/she missed jury

duty (or a court date) and must pay a fine — but for a fee, the transgression can be taken care of

This is the world I see when I open up my work email most every day, or when I get calls about a new phone or email scam making the rounds.

This, then, is who we are. Computer technology, the information superhighway and digital dissemination offer so much potential to society, and we are seeing it realized in amazing ways. We can interconnect as never before; we can offer distance learning and telemedicine to remote places; we can bring people, ideas and visions together as never before.

Or, we can screw people out of their life savings, or trick them into exposing their credit card numbers to prying eyes, or entice unsuspecting kids to lurid websites.

We always seem to find a way to pervert our advancements. Maybe it's not you or me or anyone we know, but there are always people somewhere who do.

And the rest of us, as ever, must be on our

That's a weary truth that we face in a world

filled with faceless, tireless predators. You can follow Kelly Hertz on Twitter at twitter.com/kelly_hertz/. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net/.

Cry, You're On Hidden Camera

Kathleen

PARKER

BY KATHLEEN PARKER

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WASHINGTON — Without prior knowledge or intent, I recently was inducted into a club I had no interest in joining, especially in light of the \$200 initiation fee.

In fact, I had no idea I had joined until the bill arrived notifying me that a camera had caught me exceeding the speed limit somewhere along the route between downtown Washington and the Maryland border. My aggravation at being charged, judged and sentenced without the courtesy of a human exchange was made worse by the realization that I had been denied the opportunity to adequately appreciate that on at least one day, the city's eastbound traffic was actually

To a fan of eye contact under almost any circumstance, the feeling was of having been observed without permission. There is a reason our justice system

allows the accused to face his accuser. Notwithstanding these common understandings, speed and red light cameras are becoming increasingly prevalent as reflected by the bulging coffers of participating towns and municipalities. In Washington alone, traffic citations total about

\$179 million a year. So what's wrong with that? Drive too fast or run a red light, and take your medicine, non-drivers contemptuously intone. (See the comments

Well, yes, but not really. Here's the relevant question: Are the cameras designed to increase public safety, or are they just a means to trap citizens and make money?

The conclusion of an audit earlier this month by the District of Columbia inspector general suggests the latter. In one revealing quote cited in the report, a senior district official commented on the effrontery and efficacy of the parking ticket system:

'One of the beauties of parking, it's like the [Internal Revenue Service]. If you get a parking ticket, you are guilty until you have proved yourself innocent. ... And that's worked well for us.' Ditto can be said of camera-caught speeders,

which resulted in 745,875 tickets in 2013 As a consequence, annoyed citizens have begun challenging speed cameras on issues of property rights and home rule. In Ohio, 29 state lawmakers and two civil liberties groups joined a motorist in a court challenge claiming that the

city of Toledo violated his constitutional rights

to due process.

The argument basically questioned whether the city was attempting to exact property from Ohio drivers without access to a judge authorized by and accountable to duly elected legisla-

It all gets rather weedy — and does seem like picking a nit to cure a plague — but so goes American jurisprudence. The Ohio motorist's case points to the more general concern that gotcha cameras, by eliminating the middle man (that being a human being), violate our sense of fair

What was that camera's name, anyway, and what was he doing in my business? Did the camera bother to wonder why I might be driving faster than I'm supposed to? Excuse me, but could I speak to a human, please?

Bottom line: Mr. Camera doesn't

Which brings us to my own rather metaphysical perspective. While not on an existential par with events in Syria and Iraq, someone has to worry about our self-inflicted war on ourselves and our submission to dystopian efficiency over humanity.

There may well be reason to install cameras at red lights to catch those who fail to stop. But exceeding the speed limit often means keeping pace with traffic, which is sometimes safer. One car pulled aside by a traffic officer is usually sufficient to slow the herd, whereas a camera no one notices gives no one pause. Where's the safety in that?

And then there are the true emergencies the woman in labor or the injured child being rushed to the hospital. While these occasions are perhaps rare compared to people who are merely in a hurry, they illustrate our increasing lack of regard for the human side of events.

Once we accept the necessity of cameras to keep the citizenry in line, especially when keeping order is so profitable, we needn't let our imaginations wander far to see that absolute order is the endgame in a brave new world. The weird genius of the speeding/parking ticket industry is that we the people enrich the bureaucracies that torment us. And their little machines, too!

Surely with all that money just from parking tickets — \$82.8 million in 2013 — Washington could hire some organic traffic officers. Or at least provide a little soma to ease the transition

Kathleen Parker's email address is kathleenparker@washpost.com.

YOUR LETTERS

A Blood Moon?

Rita Eckmann, Bloomfield, Neb. It is said the second blood moon will ap-

pear in October. If you do not have a close relationship with Jesus and He is not living in your heart, I suggest you better begin working