

Life In Poetry

# Expressions Of Love Shine Like A Crown

BY TED KOOSER  
U.S. Poet Laureate

Here's a fine poem about family love and care by Janet Eigner, who lives in Santa Fe, N.M. You can feel that blessing touch the crown of your head, can't you?

ISAAC'S BLESSING

When Isaac, a small, freckled boy  
approaching seven, visits us for Family Camp,  
playing pirate with his rubber sword,

sometimes he slumps in grief,  
trudging along, his sacrifice and small violin  
in hand, his palm over his chest,

saying, Mother is here  
in my heart. Before he leaves for home,  
we ask if he'd like a Jewish blessing.

Our grandson's handsome face ignites;  
he chirps a rousing, yes, for a long life.  
We unfold the prayer shawl,

its Hebrew letters silvering the spring light,  
hold the white tallis above his head,  
recite the blessing in its ancient language

and then the English, adding, for a long life.  
Isaac complains, the tallis didn't  
touch his head, so he didn't feel the blessing.

We lower its silken ceiling  
to graze his dark hair,  
repeat the prayer.

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## 'Hurry Up And Wait!' Set For Gayville-Volin

GAYVILLE — For all of you who have wanted to scream when someone told you "Patience is a Virtue" Gayville-Volin Theater Department is performing the play, "Hurry Up and Wait," at 7 p.m. April 27-28 at the Gayville-Volin High School.

During the last two months, 12 Gayville-Volin students have been working hard rehearsing and memorizing lines for these two nights.

"Hurry Up and Wait!" is a comedy for anyone who has ever had to wait in line, wait to be sat, or had to wait in traffic. It is divided into six short one-act scenarios that the characters keep getting themselves into. Join in on the laughs as we watch an important business woman try to catch a plane in 20 minutes while sitting in rush-hour traffic, a man at a restaurant who made reservations but keeps watching everyone else being seated, and a desperate hypochondriac who is forced to wait in a doctor's office with other sick patients, including two obnoxious children.

This year's play is co-directed by Mary Ashes and Meghan Powell. Ticket proceeds go to the Gayville-Volin Theater Department. There will also be root beer floats sold at intermission with proceeds going to the GV Band Department.

## Children's Choir Closes Season Sunday

The final Yankton Children's Choir concert of the season is set for 2 p.m. Sunday, April 29, in the sanctuary of United Church of Christ located at 210 West Fifth Street, Yankton.

The Spring Concert, "Mixed Bag of Melodies," will feature soloist Sarah Odom singing "Only Hope." This will be Odom's last concert with the choir as she moves to high school next year. Also featured will be solos from Victoria Cass, Lauren Eidsness and Marielle Logue as the choir performs a wide variety of music that features two- and three-part treble harmony for which the group is known. The director Deb Kruse and accompanist Dixie Church are eager for the audience to hear the music that the singers have worked so hard to prepare for the last few months.

After the concert everyone is invited to attend the reception in honor of the singers and show "thanks" to all the supporters of the choir. The choir is grateful to the community for the support that has been shown by both financial contributions and attendance at concerts throughout the season. They are also grateful for the support of their parents, providing transportation to rehearsals as well as to performances throughout the season.

Members of the choir this season are Dharian Ahrens, Dakota Barnes, Tamiah Barnett, Brenna Becker, Adele Benoit, Victoria Cass, Lauren Eidsness, Beau Heimes, Trystan Heimes, Lauren Kafka, Paul Koenigs, Marielle Logue, Lexie McCorkell, Megan McCorkell, Sarah Odom, Kaylee Ruff, Abigail Tally and Leah Waid.

## MS Event Slated For Sioux Falls May 1

SIoux FALLS — "Talk MS LIVE," a free, educational group discussion to share your experiences, learn from others and speak with MS LifeLines professionals, will be held at the Sioux Falls Convention Center, 1101 N. West Ave., at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 1.

Attendees can participate in a discussion regarding "real life" strategies on how to "live well" and manage your MS, with other people in your community.

To register, call 1-866-756-0494.

**Vernon & Vernelle (Lehmann) Larsen**



The children of Vernon & Vernelle Larsen are celebrating their parents 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary with a card shower. They will be celebrating at the First Baptist Church in Viborg, SD on Sunday, April 29, 2012. Open house is from 2:00pm to 4:00pm. Relatives and friends are invited, and the couple requests no gifts.

Send cards to Vernon & Vernelle Larsen,  
506 East Park Avenue, Viborg, SD 57070.

The children of the couple are:  
Kathy Flyger (Sioux Falls), Karen Larsen (Sioux Falls), Laurie (Alan) Peterson (Yankton), Larry (Julie) Larsen (Sioux Falls)

The couple has eight grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

# Car Isn't A 'Clutch' Performer

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI

Dear Tom and Ray:

I purchased a Kia Forte Koup in March of 2010. After receiving the car, it blew three clutches in an eight-month period. I have been driving a stick my entire life, and I know how to use a clutch. The problem with this car is that the clutch is not failing from shifting gears. When I get on the highway, black smoke comes billowing out of the front of the car, and it burns the clutch. Kia is clueless about the problem, and has refused to help me. Any guidance would be appreciated. Thanks. — Mark

**TOM:** Clutches are one of those gray areas where the manufacturer always argues that it's the customer's fault, and the customer always says, "I know how to drive a stick shift, so it's not me!"

**RAY:** Kind of a "clutch said, foot said" situation.

**TOM:** We know that this car has a very touchy clutch, Mark. Lots of people have complained about it. Even car reviewers who tested the car when it first came out noted that the clutch was extremely finicky and caused them to stall the car often. And these were professional reviewers who drive lots of cars.

**RAY:** You probably should have read those reviews before buying this car, Mark, and gotten the automatic!

**TOM:** Well, that's clutch dust under the bridge now. But here's why it matters: What do drivers do when a clutch is touchy and difficult? They give the car more gas and let out the clutch more slowly. And that does what? It burns out the clutch!



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

**RAY:** Once the clutch starts to slip and burn up, it continues a death spiral on its own, which explains the black clutch smoke you're generating when you accelerate hard. That's the clutch slipping, heating up and burning. That's also your sign to prepare for your fourth clutch, Mark.

**TOM:** So it's possible that both parties are at fault here: Kia is at fault for introducing a car with a particularly difficult clutch, and you're at fault for riding the clutch to prevent it from stalling.

**RAY:** Or, it's possible that your particular Forte has a defect of some kind and you're completely innocent. That's almost impossible for us to adjudicate from the pages of the newspaper.

**TOM:** So I think you need to look beyond this dealer now, and try to move up the chain of command at Kia. Ask the dealer to put you

in touch with the Kia zone representative for your area. That's the person who handles special cases on behalf of the manufacturer and has the authority to do a little more for you if he feels it's necessary or appropriate.

**RAY:** You can plead your case to him, and see what he says. Going through three clutches in eight months is highly unusual for an experienced stick-shift driver.

**TOM:** If I were the manufacturer, I'd replace the entire clutch system next time — the clutch, the clutch cover, the throw-out bearing and the flywheel — just in case something was damaged during manufacturing and is causing your clutches to adjust themselves into oblivion.

**RAY:** And then, after that, if you came back in a month for another new clutch, I'd close the dealership and not tell you where I was relocating to. Good luck, Mark. Make your case calmly and politely, and hope that Kia is feeling customer-service-oriented that day.

Auto repairs can be costly! Save money by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or email them by visiting the Car Talk website at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

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## ROLLING AT THE BOWLATHON



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The annual Big Friend Little Friend Bowlathon was held earlier this month in Yankton. Abbey Becker had the highest score and most strikes (grades 4-5), Mya Fernandez had the highest score (grades 1-3), David Thornton had the most spares (grades 1-3), Logan Beil had the most spares (grades 4-5), Aminah Warsame had the most strikes (grades 1-3), Parker Ellis was the most inspiring (grades 4-5) and Chloe Vanertuig was most inspiring (grades 1-3). Stacy Starzl is the executive director of Big Friend Little Friend. All trophies were donated by Royal Sports.

## SCHOLASTICS

### UNIV. OF SOUTH DAKOTA

VERMILLION — Thirteen students from the University of South Dakota were recently selected to participate in the U. Discover Research Scholar Program this summer.

The U. Discover Summer Research Scholar Program is a project of the Council for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity. Students apply to the program and undergo a competitive selection process. The program is designed to give undergraduate students in any academic field experience in conducting a scholarly research project under the guidance of a faculty mentor. Selected students participate as a group in bi-

weekly lunch hour presentations on various topics related to conducting research activities and learn from their peers about research in different disciplines.

Research scholars are required to maintain a journal about the process of conducting their research. In addition, scholars will present their project at the South Dakota Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network poster session at the Sanford School of Medicine and IdeaFest 2013.

Summer 2012 undergraduate participants, their faculty sponsors and disciplines include: Adrian Ries of Elk Point and Dr. John Koster (Music Performance—Piano); Christine Rinehart of Tea and Dr. Elizabeth Moore

(Biology and Mathematics); Collin Michels of Yankton and Dr. Brian Hensel (Biology and Spanish); Daniel Davies of Vermillion and Dr. Gina Forster (Biology and History); Hanna McElroy of Sioux City, Iowa, and Dr. Sandy McKewon (Political Science and Criminal Justice); Jennifer Dumdie of Selby and Dr. Jose Flores (Biology and Mathematics); Jordana Lamb of Vienna and Dr. Hugh Britten (Biology and Psychology); Kaitlin Branick of Sioux Falls and Dr. Khosrow Rezvani (Biology and Chemistry); Marcus Tjeerdsma of Tyndall and Dr. J. Scott Pattison (Biology); Nate Buchholz of Monroe and Dr. Cory Knedler (Studio Art); Stephen Bollinger of Pierre and Dr. Evelyn Schlenker (Chemistry and Psy-

chology); Thomas Bickett of Rapid City and Dr. Victor Huber (Biology); Trevor Watson of Sioux Falls and Dr. Victor Huber (Biology and Spanish).

The Council for Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA) is a group of faculty and staff whose goal is to advance research and creative scholarship among undergraduate students at USD. CURCA oversees the operation of Undergraduate Research Mini-grants, U. Discover Scholars, and IdeaFest, and supports the Pierre Poster Session, Posters on the Hill, and attendance at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR).

## Sioux Falls VA Facility Hosts Open House

SIoux FALLS — The Sioux Falls VA Health Care System invites all veterans to attend a Veterans Benefits Fair on May 8 at the Sioux Falls VA Medical Center, 2501 W. 22nd Street, Sioux Falls. The event runs from 4:30-7 p.m.

This will be a time to learn more about VA eligibility, benefits, health care, and other services. Veterans should bring a copy of their DD214 discharge papers and their 2011 income tax Form 1040 with them to assist in applying for benefits.

For more information, call Shirley Redmond at 333-6889.

## BIRTHDAYS

### HAZEL NELSON

Hazel Nelson will celebrate her 90th birthday on April 25, 2012. A card shower is requested by her family. Please send birthday greetings to her at 309 E. 26th St., Yankton, SD 57078.



Nelson

**FREE**

**Skin Cancer Screening**

**TUESDAY, MAY 1ST, 1PM - 4PM**

Yankton Medical Clinic®, P.C. Dermatologist, James Young, D.O., will be offering a free skin cancer screening clinic on May 1st.

No appointment is necessary. Patients will be seen on a first come, first serve basis. Limit of 50 patients. Upon arrival at the Clinic please check in at Section N receptionist, upstairs in the expansion.

\*For screening purposes. If further tests are needed, standard charges will be applied.

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