

# Commuter Turns Vigilante

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
www.cartalk.com.



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

**Dear Tom and Ray:**  
I need to know if I'm being a jerk. Every day, I use a left exit ramp on the highway that starts out one lane wide. A second lane begins on the right – it brings no new traffic; it begins at a barrier. At the end of the ramp, about 100 yards on, the road narrows again to one lane, and there's a "merge" sign. So most drivers stay in the left lane, even after the new right lane starts. But a few aggressive drivers move into the right lane as soon as it begins, zoom ahead of 20 or 30 cars politely waiting their turn in the left lane and then merge back in at the last moment. OK, this bothers me – people are cutting in line.

So here is what I do: I move into the new right lane, but I creep along and DO NOT pass anyone. I am effectively preventing people from jumping their place in the line. There is empty pavement ahead of me, but I stay even with the car next to me, in the left lane. In my mind, I am not slowing the merging at the end of the ramp.

People who do not try to game the system benefit from my action. People who try to pass 20 or 30 cars using the temporary extra lane are stymied.

Today this really ticked off some guys in a big truck. I realized this when a full 16-ounce bottle of Mountain Dew bounced off the roof of my car with a considerable thump and landed in the road ahead of me. The truck proceeded to cut off someone else on my left

in order to move from behind me and pull up on my left. Fortunately, my radio was loud, so I was not able to make out what the truck's passenger was yelling at me. The truck then proceeded to try to merge me into the barrier wall on my right.

So here is the conundrum: Am I a jerk for slowing down the folks taking advantage of the temporary right lane? I know that the people in the truck were jerks, but did I deserve their anger? Am I a jerk, too? – **Jake**

**TOM:** So, what alerted you to the fact that the guys in the truck were unhappy with you, Jake?

**RAY:** Clearly, they're jerks. Case closed on them. But I think you might be a jerk, too, Jake. A jerk of a different type. You're what we call a vigilante.

**TOM:** You've taken the law into your own hands, and have decided to pin a homemade badge on your chest. And since you have no legal authority to do that, you put yourself at risk of flying Mountain Dew bottles.

**RAY:** While obnoxious, it's also not clear that what these impatient drivers are doing is necessarily illegal. I'm guessing that the reason for the additional (right) lane is to make sure there's plenty of capacity on the ramp so that exiting cars don't back up onto the highway.

**TOM:** Right. Since it's a left exit, if the ramp filled up with cars, you'd have stopped cars in the left lane of the highway. Not good. So they effectively widened the ramp to two lanes to make sure it could hold plenty of cars.

**RAY:** So these other drivers are perfectly within their rights to move into a legal right lane and use it. In fact, they're doing what the traffic engineers want them to do, which is spread out the traffic into both lanes.

**TOM:** Now, if they're exceeding the speed limit or passing on the right where it's not permitted, well, that's an issue for the police, Jake. You might not realize this, but they have those blue and red lights on top of their cruisers specifically to deflect Mountain Dew bottles.

**RAY:** So as much as it annoys you – and we're sympathetic; aggressive drivers are annoying – we suggest that you take a deep breath and relax, and let karma take its course. History has proven that every aggressive driver eventually gets several expensive speeding tickets.

# A Gift Of Change At JCP Helps Youth

To support afterschool programs across the country, JC Penney launched a nationwide philanthropic campaign that invites customers to turn small change into "pennies from heaven" by rounding up their purchases and donating the difference to a local afterschool organization.

The Boys & Girls Club of Yankton is one of 1,100 afterschool organizations matched with a local JC Penney store that will benefit from the proceeds raised during the pennies from heaven campaign.

As the leading corporate advocate for the afterschool issue, JC Penney is leveraging a cause

marketing campaign to bolster national support through broadcast, print and online advertising as well as an engaging digital experience on [jcp.com/pennies](http://jcp.com/pennies). The first pennies from heaven event runs through Aug. 27.

"With budget cuts in education, there's never been a more important time to support afterschool programs as a valuable community resource that helps to bridge the education gap," said J.D. O'Grady, unit director of the Yankton B&G Club. "As customers shop for the Back-to-School season, we hope they will keep our mission in mind so that the social and academic learning opportunities we provide after

school will continue to be available to Yankton students."

National research shows that one out of four students in the U.S. is on their own between the hours of 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. each day. The afterschool program offered by Boys & Girls Club of Yankton serves more than 600 students each year by involving them in programs that help kids develop social skills, provide opportunities to be physically active and achieve academic success in school. We have tutors at all sites from Mount Marty College. A variety of programs are offered through the club, including the Kiwanis Builders Torch Club, Image

Makers, NetSmartz, Club Tech, and Career Launch to name a few.

"For more than a decade, Jcpenney has been deeply committed to helping kids spread their wings by making it possible for more students to participate in life-enriching afterschool programs," said Gary Munyer, store manager for JC Penney. "When we leverage the power of a penny to create opportunities for learning, we can make a positive difference in the lives of our future leaders."

For more information related to the pennies from heaven initiative, visit [jcp.com/pennies](http://jcp.com/pennies).

## Back-To-School Help For Low Income Families

### ROCS SCHOOL VOUCHERS

The Rural Office of Community Services, Inc. (ROCS) is offering a School Supply Program for eligible low-income families.

The ROCS School Supply Program provides a \$20 voucher per school aged child (K-12) to purchase the necessary school supplies so that children can participate fully in school. Household income must be at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Line. Clients must provide income verification to qualify for the program. Homeschooled children are eligible for this program.

Families who reside in the following counties are eligible for this program: Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule, Buffalo, Clay, Charles Mix, Davison, Douglas, Gregory, Hanson, Hutchinson, Jerauld, Jones, Lyman, Mellette, Sanborn, Tripp, Todd, Union and Yankton.

To receive an application, please contact the Lake Andes ROCS office at 487-7634 or email [dbultje@rocsinc.org](mailto:dbultje@rocsinc.org).

### SCHOOL BACK PACKS AVAILABLE

The Contact Center will be taking applications for low-income families needing help with school back packs for their children for the coming school year.

Last year 213 children were provided a voucher for a back pack. This number is up from 2009. Funding for this project is provided by local donations. This year the Contact Center will be supplying the back pack again for grades K-8. Families must sign up their children by Aug. 10. They may sign up by coming in to the Contact office located in the County Government Center, lower level. Families must have an active SNAP Card to be eligible.

Any donations to this project can be sent to the Contact Center, P.O. Box 675, Yankton, SD 57078. Those needing help with school supplies can call ROCS (Rural Office of Community Services) at 1-877-254-6110.

## Beat The Heat Go Online

BY JENNIFER HLADKY  
Public Affairs Specialist

If the dog days of summer have you turning up the air conditioning or fan, here's a hot tip to keep cool. When the time comes to apply for your Medicare benefits, don't worry about trudging into the heat and making your way in the blazing sun to a Social Security office. Just pour yourself a tall glass of iced tea, sit back in the comfort of your home or office, and go to [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov).

Winter, spring, summer, or fall, all you have to do is go online. You can use our online application to sign up for Medicare, even if you are not ready to retire. It takes less than 10 minutes.

Keep in mind that if you're applying to start receiving Social Security benefits at age 65 or are already receiving benefits, your enrollment in Medicare is automatic and no additional application is needed. However, if you're within four months of your 65th

birthday and you plan to delay your retirement benefits, you should consider applying for Medicare.

Applying for Medicare on the Internet is convenient, quick, and easy. There's no need to drive to a local Social Security office or wait for an appointment with a Social Security representative. In most cases, once your application is submitted

electronically, you're done. There are no forms to sign and usually no documentation is required. Social Security will process your application and contact you if we need more information. Once we process your application, you'll receive your Medicare card in the mail.

For more information about applying for Medicare only and delaying retirement benefits, read our Retirement Planner page: [www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/justmedicare.htm](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/retire2/justmedicare.htm).



Jennifer HLADKY

## Economy

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some easing in inflationary pressure, though prices remain high. The prices-paid index decreased to 70.9 in July from 74.3 in June, and was well below April's record 94.

Supply managers were asked how much they expected the prices they pay for products and services to increase over the next six months, with about 24 percent anticipating growth of more than 6 percent. Overall, an annualized rise of 6.8 percent was expected.

"This is down from 9.6 percent in May of this year when we asked the same question. Clearly, inflation expectations remain high, but are declining among supply managers," Goss said.

The index that measures inventory levels rose to July from June's 51, with Goss calling the jump "an important source of regional growth." The region's exports, which include grain and other agriculture commodities, declined in July as the dollar

strengthened. The export index declined to 52.4 from June's 54.9.

The other components of the July index were:

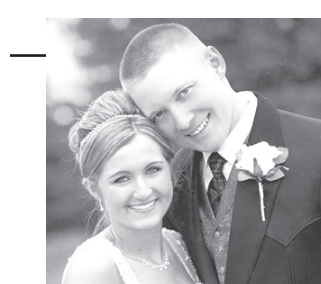
- New orders at 50.5, down from 55.9 in June.
- Production or sales at 52.6, down from June's 53.8.
- Delivery lead time at 58.4, down from 63.6 in June.



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**Edrich-Holzwarth**

Ashley Edrich and Kevin Holzwarth were united in marriage May 14, 2011, at Zion Reformed Church in Menno, SD, with Rev. Scott Henry officiating. A reception followed at the community center in Freeman, SD. The maid of honor was Robyn Edrich.

along with bridesmaids Crystal VanOrman, Danielle Edrich, Morgan Arbach, Heidi Costello, and Tiffany Murtha. The best man was Matthew Holzwarth, along with groomsmen Adam Ymker, Daniel Nachtigall, Ryan Permann, Cory Weber, and Stephen Stuelpnagel. Flower girl was Arrianna VanOrman and ring bearer was Coby Costello.

Parents of the bride are John and Colleen of Sioux Falls. Parents of the groom are Marlin and Patricia Holzwarth of Freeman.

The bride is self-employed as an independent medical transcriptionist and is a full time business student. The groom is a graduate of WyoTech and is currently self-employed as a farmer.

The couple will reside in Freeman.

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**65th Wedding Anniversary**

**Mr. & Mrs. LeRoy Kuestermeyer**

LeRoy and DeLaine Kuestermeyer celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary July 24, 2011, at Hillcrest Country Club with family and dancing friends. They were married on April 14, 1946, in Hitchcock, SD.

## LIFE IN POETRY

# Capturing Motion In Words

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

It is estimated that one out of five Americans enjoys spending time bird watching, or birding, and here's a poem for some of those people by Kathleen M. McCann, who lives in Massachusetts. I especially like the way she captures the egret's stealthy motion in the second stanza.

### LONE EGRET

Classically stagy, goose-neck  
elegant, river's third eye.  
Pencil thin head, S  
for a throat. Skeleton of a saint.  
Plodder, preening posturer.  
One foot,  
another.  
Up from the dank weeds.

*American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2010 by Kathleen M. McCann, whose most recent book of poetry is A Roof Gone to Sky, Carpenter Gothic Publishers, Inc., 2010. Reprinted from South Dakota Review, Vol. 48, no. 1, 2010, by permission of Kathleen M. McCann and the publisher. Introduction copyright ©2011 by The Poetry Foundation. The introduction's author, Ted Kooser, served as United States Poet Laureate Consultant in Poetry to the Library of Congress from 2004-2006. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts.*

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The COMMUNITY CALENDAR appears each Monday and Thursday. Contributions to this list of upcoming events are welcome and should be submitted two weeks before the event. Submissions MUST be typewritten or legibly printed and include the name and phone number of a contact person. Send items to P&D Calendar, PO Box 56, Yankton, SD 57078, or email to [news@yankton.net](mailto:news@yankton.net).

## TUESDAY

- Table Tennis, 8:30 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Yankton Community Forum, 8:30 a.m. coffee, 9 a.m. meeting at Hillcrest, 605-664-5832
- Ladies Pool, 10 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Weight Watchers, 10:30 a.m., 413 W. 15th Street. Weigh in 1/2 hour before.
- Yankton Alanon, noon, non-smoking session, 1019 W 9th Street
- Nurse, 12:30-3:30 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Open Cards, 12:45 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) Connections Support Group, 1:30-3 p.m. Use basement door of the former Sir Charles Hotel with the address of 301 Capital above the doorway, 605-661-4434.
- Bingo, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Open Billiards, 7-9 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Yankton Alcoholics Anonymous STEP Sessions, 7 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. 1019 W. 9th St.
- Vermillion Unity Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., closed session, Trinity Lutheran Church at 816 E Clark St. Vermillion.
- Vermillion Alcoholics Anonymous, 8 p.m., non-smoking closed session, 16 1/2 Court St. Vermillion

## FIRST TUESDAY

Yankton Area Banquet, 6 p.m., United Church of Christ, Fifth and Walnut

## WEDNESDAY

- Line Dancing, 9:30 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Quilting, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Nurse, 10 a.m.-noon, The Center, 605-665-4685
- Cardio Exercise, 11 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Daily Reprieve, noon, non-smoking open session, 1019 W. 9th St.
- Whist, 1 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Yankton Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30 p.m., non-smoking session, 1019 W. 9th St.
- Springfield Footprints, 7:30 p.m., non-smoking open session, Catholic church, Springfield

## FIRST WEDNESDAY

Partnership Bridge, 1 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685

## THURSDAY

- Table Tennis, 8:30 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Ladies Pool, 10 a.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Yankton Sertoma, noon, Pizza Ranch, 605-661-7159
- Daily Reprieve, noon, non-smoking open meeting, 1019 W 9th street.
- Avera Sacred Heart Hospital Toastmasters, noon, Benedictine Center; open session 605-665-6776
- Pinochle, 12:45 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Dominos, 1 p.m., The Center, 605-665-4685
- Weight Watchers, 4 p.m., 413 W. 15th Street. Weigh in 1/2 hour before.
- Weight Watchers, 5:30 p.m., 413 W. 15th Street. Weigh in 1/2 hour before.
- Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS #SD 45), Weigh-in 5:30-6:30 p.m., meeting 6:30-7:30. RTEC building, 1200 W. 21st St. For more information call 605-665-3738 or 667-9274.
- Yankton Area Banquet, 6 p.m., United Church of Christ, Fifth and Walnut
- Celebrate Recovery, 7 p.m., Calvary Baptist Church, Youth Room #4, 2407 Broadway, Yankton, 605-665-5594

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