

## Habitat Dedication



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Tryker, Nicole and Teagen Myers of Yankton.

## Habitat For Humanity To Dedicate New Home

Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County will celebrate the accomplishments of its partner family, Nicole Myers and her sons, Teagen and Tryker, by dedicating their home located at 611 Pearl Street on Wednesday, Aug. 13, at 7 p.m.

The family contributed more than 300 hours of "sweat equity" alongside Habitat volunteers to recycle their new place to call home.

The family will purchase their home from Habitat and repay a no-profit mortgage

over a period of 25 years, illustrating Habitat's objective to give families a "hand up" rather than a "hand out."

The Habitat Board of Directors welcomes all to attend including volunteers, financial contributors, neighbors, friends and anyone who may have an interest in learning more about Habitat for Humanity of Yankton County. Mark your calendars and plan to attend Habitat's celebration of the 40th family served through homeownership in Yankton County.

## Car Talk

# Tire-Mounting Tool For \$50? A Guy Can Dream

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**Dear Tom and Ray:**  
I go through a lot of used tires. To save money and add convenience, I manually dismount and mount the tires myself, using only a GM lug wrench (one end has pointed tip). This inevitably damages spots on the "bead" of the tire, resulting in leaks. I want to buy the proper tool that will prevent this damage while mounting tires for, say, around \$50, if available. Can I get by with simply buying a crowbar, or are there other, more specialized tools that I can buy for less than this price? — David

**TOM:** There is a tire-mounting tool that you can buy for less than 50 bucks, David. It's called a visit to your local gas station, where you ask them to mount and balance the tires for you.

**RAY:** Actually, you could just upgrade to some tire irons. That's a set of two, or sometimes three, specialized, curved-end metal bars that serve as levers that help you pry a tire off a rim — or get it back on there.

**TOM:** That'll be a little better than hacking at your tires with a lug wrench (which is designed to remove hubcaps) and a hammer, which probably is what you're doing now. But it's still less than ideal. You still can damage the bead with tire irons, and it's very difficult to add the adhesive that's supposed to go around the inside of the bead to reduce the chance of leaks when you inflate the tire.

**RAY:** So what you really need is your own tire-mounting machine. That's a machine that does what you're now doing by hand, but it does it with



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

consistent pressure so the tire bead doesn't get damaged.

**TOM:** In order to mount a tire to a wheel, you have to pull the bead of the tire (the inside edge) over the lip of the wheel. Then the tire sits inside the wheel and, when inflated, pushes out against that lip to form an airtight seal.

**RAY:** You're doing it the old-fashioned way, with brute force. The only problem is that sometimes you pull too hard and damage the tire bead.

**TOM:** Unfortunately, I doubt you'll be able to find a tire-mounting machine for \$50. I think you're looking at more like 10-20 times that, even for a used one. I'm guessing \$500 is the minimum you'd pay, and the price is more likely to be \$1,000-plus.

**RAY:** And then there's the issue of balancing the tires. All new tires look perfectly round and evenly weighted, but they're not. And when they're spun at high speeds, like when you're driving 40, 50 or 60 miles per hour, those imperfections become more obvious. That's why your car probably vibrates like a

bad washing machine at highway speeds, David.

**TOM:** So you need a tire-balancing machine, too. That's at least another grand.

**RAY:** And by then, you might as well buy a couple of squeegees, install some gas pumps, open a filthy restroom and make a few extra bucks on the weekends.

**TOM:** There's nothing inherently wrong with buying good used tires for your car. But they really should be balanced. That's a safety issue at higher speeds. And if you're damaging the bead and causing every new-old tire you buy to leak, you may want to consider having someone with the proper equipment mount and balance them for you, David.

**RAY:** Maybe the place you're buying the used tires from has the equipment, and can install them for you? Unless, of course, you're stealing the tires. In which case, we'd advise you to immediately start stealing the wheels with them. That way, they'll come pre-mounted and balanced.

Tom and Ray offer a strategy for everyone who's shopping for a car. Find yours in their pamphlet "Should I Buy, Lease, or Steal My Next Car?" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Next Car, 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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## MidAmerican Energy: Advice To Help Recognize, Avoid Scams

DES MOINES, Iowa — Scam artists are at it again. MidAmerican Energy Company and local police have noted an increase in reports of suspicious calls and personal contacts from individuals posing as utility employees and threatening customers with service disconnection in an attempt to swindle funds.

Details vary, but most of the scams work like this: A resident or small-business owner receives a call from someone claiming to work for MidAmerican Energy or another local utility. The caller demands immediate payment of a past-due account or repair bill to avoid disconnection of natural gas or electric service. In some cases, the caller instructs the resident or business owner to purchase a Green Dot prepaid debit card and call back with the serial number from the card; in others, the scam artist requests personal credit card information in order to make immediate repairs to the customer's meter.

These scams are so thorough that the recipient's caller-ID display even makes it appear as though the calls are coming from the utility. Many of the scams target the elderly or those for whom English is a second language. Some small-business owners have received personal visits from scam artists demanding immediate payment.

MidAmerican Energy reminds customers that credit card information, account numbers and other personal information should never be provided in response to a suspicious or unsolicited call. To avoid falling victim to these scams, customers should:

- 1.) know their options when it comes to paying bills;
- 2.) contact MidAmerican Energy directly to make payment arrangements or learn about assistance programs available to them; and
- 3.) recognize the telltale signs of a scam attempt and report any such attempts to authorities.

• Know your options. MidAmerican Energy customers have a number of bill-paying methods available to them. You can set up your account so payments are automatically deducted from a checking or savings account, or you can

pay your bill each month via mail, online, over the phone, or in person at locations throughout MidAmerican Energy's service area. More information is available in the Payment Options — <http://www.midamericanenergy.com/service3.aspx> — section of the MidAmerican Energy website.

• Contact MidAmerican Energy for payment assistance. Sometimes customers do fall behind on their bills or struggle to meet their payment obligations. When this happens, MidAmerican Energy works with customers to help them manage their accounts in an effort to avoid overdue bills or disconnection of service. Customers should contact MidAmerican Energy's customer service department at 888-427-5632 to learn about payment assistance programs that are available.

• Recognize the signs of a scam. If you receive an unsolicited call demanding immediate payment of a utility bill and threatening disconnection, the following should cause you to question the legitimacy of the call:

— This is the first you're hearing about a delinquent bill. MidAmerican Energy makes several attempts to contact customers regarding nonpayment of accounts before disconnecting service. These contacts may take the form of past-due notices, letters, door hangers, phone calls, emails or personal visits. Disconnection is a last resort, not a first step in the process.

— The caller asks for your account number or other personal information. MidAmerican Energy already has your MidAmerican Energy account number on file and will not call seeking this information. Do not supply personal information in response to suspicious or unsolicited calls; hang up and call MidAmerican Energy at 888-427-5632 to confirm the validity of the call.

— The caller insists on a Green Dot prepaid debit card as the only acceptable method of payment. MidAmerican Energy will never request that you purchase a prepaid debit card in order to avoid disconnection. MidAmerican Energy accepts several different forms of payment; your MidAmerican Energy customer

service representative can let you know what options are available to you.

— A person visits your home or place of business and demands immediate payment to avoid disconnection. MidAmerican Energy personnel do not accept payments or process debit or credit card payments at a resident's home or place of business. Verify any number provided to you for making a payment. Any MidAmerican Energy employee visiting your home or business regarding a past-due bill carries a company identification card and drives a company vehicle.

— The call originates from an unknown number, or the caller requests a return call to a cellphone or other unknown number. If MidAmerican Energy attempts to contact you regarding a bill or payment, the callback number will always be MidAmerican Energy's customer service department: 888-427-5632, the number listed in the phone book and on MidAmerican Energy's website; or 800-952-0112, the number listed on disconnect notices.

— The caller requests a credit card number in order to repair your meter or other equipment. Routine repairs or replacement of meters is the responsibility of MidAmerican Energy, not the customer. MidAmerican Energy will not call customers demanding payment for repairs to its equipment.

If you receive a suspicious call, hang up and report the call to MidAmerican Energy's customer service department at 888-427-5632. MidAmerican Energy is working with law enforcement officials throughout our service territory to locate and stop scam artists. If you believe you've been the victim of a utility scam, contact your local police.

## Mount Marty LPN Graduates



SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Mount Marty College Recognizes LPN Grads

The Mount Marty College nursing program held the Pinning Ceremony for the August 2014 graduating Practical Nursing students on Friday, Aug. 1, at 4 p.m.

The pinning ceremony at Mount Marty began in 1986 for the BSN program and in 2012 for the Practical Nursing program. The purpose of the event is to acknowledge the achievement of the graduate as they transition from the student role to the practice role. The nurse's pin incorporates the philosophy of the school and of the nursing program. The presentation of the pin represents a sending forth or commissioning of the students to begin their nursing careers as graduates of MMC.

Tradition defines that the nursing pin is unique to the nursing program from which

the student graduates. In the past, a nurse's cap and pin represented the school from which he or she attended. Today, Mount Marty College's pin remains as the lone symbol of their education.

Each element of the MMC nursing pin represents an aspect of the nurse's dedication. Mount Marty College's pin is a black shield on silver with a white cross embedded on the shield. The modified Benedictine cross represents a crossroads of ideas and also depicts the ultimate aim of the college: to form persons in the Spirit of

Christ with apostolic zeal for the world-wide work of restoring all things for Christ. Mount Marty College Nursing Program is proud to acknowledge this year's August Practical Nursing graduates: Latasha Boucher, Springfield; Melissa Burge, Gayville; Amy Johnson, Yankton; Nathan Porras, Crofton, Nebraska; and Judy Shelby-Tech, Yankton.

For more information on the Mount Marty College nursing program please visit [www.mtmc.edu/nursing](http://www.mtmc.edu/nursing).

## Classmates Marry



7/30/14  
Anna May Morrison  
&  
F. Ross Shuff

## 40th Anniversary Celebration

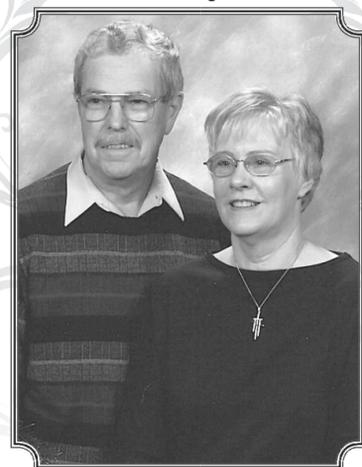


Mr. & Mrs. Ron Ratzlaff

Ron and Beverly (Akkerman) Miedema, Springfield, SD, (formerly Kimball and Plankinton) will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with an open house on August 17, 2014, at the Friedensburg Bible Church, Avon, SD, from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Judy Janssen and Ron Ratzlaff were married August 16, 1974. The open house will be hosted by the couple's children. The couple has three children: Steve (Cathy) Ratzlaff, Michael Ratzlaff and Amanda Gimbel; and David (Amber) Ratzlaff. The couple has nine grandchildren.

## 50th Anniversary Celebration



Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Miedema

Stephen and Beverly (Akkerman) Miedema, Springfield, SD, (formerly Kimball and Plankinton) will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a golf outing at Springfield Golf Course and a brunch at their home from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and an open house at the Springfield Senior Center from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, August 16.

The event is hosted by their children. The couple was married on August 23, 1964. Greetings may be sent to P.O. Box 179, Springfield, SD 57062.

The couple requests no gifts, please.