

The Bookworm

# You'll Wallow In This Pig Tale

*"Lesser Beasts: A Snout-to-Tail History of the Humble Pig" by Mark Essig; ©2015, Basic Books; 310 pages*

BY TERRI SCHLICHENMEYER

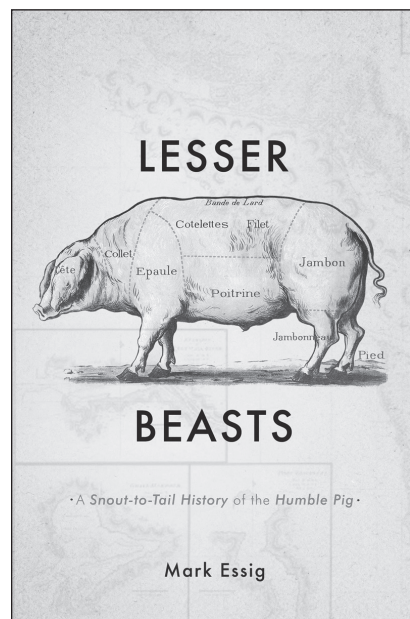
Never have you felt such pain. You were only walking through your kitchen, when you stubbed the Piggy That Had Roast Beef. Yowza, that made you dance. Brought tears to your eyes, too.

Pigs at the end of your feet. Huh. Ridiculous, but there isn't a baby within a mile who won't fall for that game and neither will you, once you read "Lesser Beasts" by Mark Essig.

Many millions of years ago, about 10 million years after dinos died, hooved mammals appeared on Earth. Among them were horses, cattle... and porcine-like creatures that walked on two digits, possessed a sensitive snout, and resembled humans in gut and heart. That creature ultimately became the pig we know.

While dogs were the first animals to be domesticated, pigs "domesticated themselves" about 11,000 years ago. By that, Essig means that pigs hung around humans long enough to know that food was plentiful, so they moved in with us on their own. Humans quickly realized that pigs were easy to keep; says Essig, "if it was biologically possible to raise pigs, people raised pigs."

And that was the case on and off throughout history: pigs were handy and cheap, which was good for the poor but bad for a pig's reputation. Politically, pigs



sometimes "didn't fit" and were ignored as food; other times, they were viewed as a stash of emergency vittles on the hoof. Pigs notoriously eat things that are taboo for us to eat, so they've been called unclean and disgusting. On the other hand, they've saved a lot of people's bacon, in more ways than one.

Furthermore, calling a pig dirty, as Essig points out, is hogwash. Pigs are intelligent and resourceful. They'll seize almost any chance to adapt to their surroundings and can help clear land quickly (some-

times to the chagrin of landowners). They are more fecund than both cows and sheep. And, thanks to our willingness to ask where dinner once slept, little piggies that go to market may enjoy better lives before they join us at the table.

Forget cats online: what make you say "awwwwww" are videos of those impossibly cute piglets with their long eyelashes. Agree? Then "Lesser Beasts" is going to put you in hog heaven.

Starting with a herd of porkers and ending with pleas for compassion, author Mark Essig takes readers on a world tour that starts even before pigs became pigs. That science may be an odd way to start a history book, but it fits — especially since we then head styward to see how hogs have fell into and out of favor with humans. Along the way, Essig fattens up his narrative with little bits of asides; for instance, the first Arnold Ziffel on TV's Green Acres?

You don't want to know... I thoroughly enjoyed this book. It's got just enough lightheartedness in it to be fun, but it's very informative, too. If you love pigs or you've joined the "cult" of bacon, "Lesser Beasts" is a book you'll want to take all the way home.

*And about that Piggy That Went to Market? If you're concerned about where he's spent most of his life, look for "Pig Tales: An Omnivore's Quest for Sustainable Meat" by Barry Estabrook. It's a look at corporate farming, pig husbandry, environmental issues, and what's on your plate.*

## New At The Library

Here's what's new at the Yankton Community Library this week:

ADULT BOOKS

- **Ballad of the Black and Blue Mind** by Anne Roiphe; Fiction
- **Broken Promise** by Linwood Barclay; Fiction
- **Constant Fear** by Daniel Palmer; Fiction
- **The Darkling Child** by Terry Brooks; Fiction
- **The Devil's Share** by Wallace Stobbs; Fiction
- **The Forgotten** by Heather Graham; Fiction
- **Golden Son** by Pierce Brown; Fiction
- **Ideal** by Ayn Rand; Fiction
- **The Last Four Days of Paddy Buckley** by Jeremy Massey; Fiction
- **The Redeemers** by Ace Atkins; Fiction
- **Silent Creed** by Alex Kava; Fiction
- **Bald Is Better with Earrings** by Andrea Hutton; Nonfiction
- **Crafters' Guide to Patterns** by Jessica Swift; Nonfiction
- **Down the Rabbit Hole** by Holly Madison; Nonfiction
- **Eat Chew Live** by John M. Poothullil, M.D.; Nonfiction
- **81 Days Below Zero** by Brian Murphy; Nonfiction
- **Knit Wear Love** by Amy Herzog; Nonfiction
- **Monster Hunters** by Tea Krulos; Nonfiction
- **150 Best New Bathroom Ideas** by Francesc Zamora Mola; Nonfiction
- **The Quiet Man** by John H. Sununu; Nonfiction
- **The Spiral Notebook** by Stephen & Joyce Singular; Nonfiction

ADULT AUDIO BOOKS

- **Code of Conduct** by Brad Thor; Fiction
- **Drunken Fireworks** by Stephen King; Fiction
- **The English Spy** by Daniel Silva; Fiction
- **The Guest Cottage** by Nancy Thayer; Fiction
- **I, Ripper** by Stephen Hunter; Fiction
- **I Take You** by Eliza Kennedy; Fiction
- **NYPD Red 3** by Patterson & Karp; Fiction
- **Rock with Wings** by Anne Hillerman; Fiction
- **Hope** by Amanda Berry & Gina DeJesus; Nonfiction

ADULT DVDS

- **Focus**
- **Home**
- **Justice League: God and Monsters**
- **Kingsman**
- **Wild Horses**

EASY BOOKS

- **Edmond, the Moonlit Party** by Astrid Desbordes; Fiction
- **Rufus the Writer** by Elizabeth Bram; Fiction

*Did you know that you can reserve an item from home? Staff will then notify you as soon as the item is available.*

### Dakota Museum Brown Bag Event Set

The Dakota Territorial Museum will host its monthly Brown Bag today (Friday) when Phyllis Shrag from Sioux Falls is the featured speaker.

Shrag will be presenting "Letters from the Attic," which offers a perspective into the life and times of those who settled in Dakota Territory. The presentation is based on letters written in German and addressed to Shrag's great-grandfather. The letters have been carefully saved, never translated, and handed down through the generations. They detail faith, personal experiences and the agricultural way of life for Dakotans between 1878 and 1889.

Shrag's visit is made possible through a grant from the South Dakota Humanities Council.

The museum's monthly Brown Bag lunches are the first Friday of each month and are open to the public. There is no charge, but a free-will donation is accepted.

### Patsy Cline Tribute Set For Dakota Theatre Aug. 29

The Corps of Discovery Welcome Center, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, is holding a fundraising concert featuring the "Music and Magic of Patsy Cline" performed live on stage with a full band by Cassie and the Bobs. The concert will be held on Saturday, Aug. 29, at the historic Dakota Theatre at 328 Walnut Street in Yankton.

There will be two shows: 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. To order tickets in advance, call 402-357-2669, email cdwc@byelectric.com, or stop in at the Corps of Discovery Welcome Center at 89705 Hwy 81 (2 miles south of Yankton).

There will be a raffle held at both shows and concessions will be available for purchase.

### Kaylor Opry Slated For Tonight

KAYLOR — The monthly Kaylor Opry will be held tonight (Friday) at 7 p.m. at the Germans from Russia Heritage Hall on north Main Street in Kaylor.

Local musicians will provide an evening of vocal and musical numbers ranging from old time country to gospel style music.

The public is invited to come and join in the fun. There is no charge but a freewill offering is taken for the potluck lunch which is served during intermission. Anyone interested in being on the program or if you want more information, contact 605-212-9011.

### Fossil & Artifact ID Day At Royal Set

ROYAL, Neb. — The Ashfall Fossil Beds State Historical Park near Royal, Nebraska, is planning on its annual Fossil and Artifact ID day for Saturday, Aug. 8. This event will be held from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. While there are no additional costs to have rocks, fossils or artifacts identified, regular admission fees and park permit requirements still apply to all people entering the park.

Mike Voorhies and Rob Bozell will be on-site this day to identify ay rocks, fossils or artifacts that visitors bring into the park. Dr. Voorhies is a paleontologist, now retired from the University of Nebraska State Museum. Bozell is an archaeologist with the Nebraska State Historical Society. If you have something in that desk drawer, on that closet shelf, or even on the coffee table that you have wondered about for a while, why not bring it in and see what it is. If you don't have things to bring in yourself, it's always a lot of fun to see what treasures other people have collected, and it might even get you interested in a new hobby.

Call 402-893-2000 if you need additional information.

### Yankton Library Board To Meet Aug. 12

The Yankton Community Library Board of Trustees' regular meeting is set for 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Library meeting room, 515 Walnut

For further information, call 668-5275.

### Rubber Duck Fundraiser Slated Aug. 13

Which lucky duck will be the winner? Will it be a nurse duck, a big hair duck, a super hero duck, a firefighter duck, or one of a number of other special ducks? Yankton County Parents as Teachers will be sponsoring their inaugural Lucky Lucky Rubber Duck Race on Thursday, Aug. 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Memorial Park Pool.

The Grand Prize winner for the fastest duck will go home with \$250 while the slowest duck will capture a prize of \$25.

Ducks are being sold for \$5 each, a quack pack of \$6 for \$25 or a flock of 25 for \$100. Celebrity Jumpers will be on hand to make some waves and propel the ducks through the deep end.

If you are interested in purchasing a duck or ducks, you may contact Deanna Branaugh at 605-661-4833 or from any of the Parents as Teachers board members. Limited number of ducks will be available that evening prior to the event.

Parents as Teachers provides information, support and encouragement to families through home visits and classes in order to promote child development during the first three years of life. Families interested in being involved in the program can call 605-661-4833.

### 2015 State 4-H Dog Show In Mitchell

BROOKINGS — South Dakota State 4-H Dog Show will be held at the SDSU Extension Davison County Center in Mitchell Aug. 22.

"Youth will have the opportunity to show off their skills in training and teamwork during a variety of events, including obedience, rally, agility and showmanship," said Kathryn Reeves, SDSU Extension 4-H Science Field Specialist.

Details for registration and what is expected are located in the Contestant packet, located at the iGrown 4-H & Youth community page.

Many volunteers are needed for the show. Each county is expected to provide assistance in the different rings based on the number of entries they post (one hour for each eight entries).

To volunteer in a ring or with set up or tear down, e-mail Reeves at Kathryn.reeves@sdsstate.edu/.

### Art Forms

# Summer Is Winding Down, But August Will Be Busy

BY JULIE J. AMSBERRY  
Yankton Area Arts

How is it already August?! Our weekly Summer Concert Series wrapped up the season this past Tuesday with the magnificent "Main Avenue Warehouse". The concert series started in June with the Yankton Area Summer Band under the organizational hands of Todd Carr, then Kim Olson took the reins and booked our summer pops concerts. Thank you Todd and Kim for another outstanding summer of entertainment!

Two weeks ago, Yankton Area Arts hosted the second Meridian en Blanc. Nearly 250 guests enjoyed a classy picnic overlooking the river while grooving to the sounds of the Bridge City Big Band. It was a perfect evening with dancing, socializing, great wine, and a surprise hot air balloon fly-over! Thank you to all the volunteers, musicians, and guests! Thank you to our featured artists, Jessi Koch, Mallory Schmidt, Sharon Gray, and Cheryl Peterson-Halsey! Thank you to the incredible sponsors of the evening: First Dakota National Bank, the Benedictine Sisters, Anna Lynn Claire Reception & Event Design, City of Yankton, Dakota Beverage, Nissen Wine, Hy-Vee, John A. Conkling Distributing, Mark Hunhoff, Rob Klimisch, Gail & Deb Gubbels, and Gramps Convenience Store! Not only does your support help us pull off an extraordinary evening on the bridge, it means we are able to continue to offer art classes for kids in our community. It also means we are able to support local artists by providing a home at G.A.R. Gallery to exhibit their work, teach classes, and meet for inspiration and organization. Thank you all for your continued support of the arts in Yankton!

Recently, Yankton Area Arts named Pam Kallis as the Art Advocate of the Year! Pam is a costume artist who for twenty years, has worked on an incredible amount of theatrical productions



Julie AMSBERRY

throughout the community. Not only is she an artist, she supports and understands the value of arts in our schools and communities! Congratulations Pam and thank you for your part in advocating for arts in our community!

Currently on exhibit at the GAR Hall Art Gallery is the 11th annual Mighty Mo' Photo Show. This year's theme: "A River for All Seasons" has produced some of the most vibrantly colored photos to date! This annual, juried exhibit highlights the work of both professional and amateur photographers. Each year local businesses sponsor the Promise to Purchase awards. Businesses participating this year are First National Bank, Shur-Co, Home Federal, and Avera. Three photos will also be announced as Best in Show, Honorable Mention, and People's Choice at a reception tonight, Friday, Aug. 7, from 5-7 p.m. All photos were judged based on theme, composition, lighting and originality.

Look closely at the summer long interactive art installation "Modify. Dotify." when you visit the gallery. Kids of all ages have had a good time creating paw prints, lines, turtles, ghosts, an owl, the solar system, a dinosaur and so much more! Each visitor is given 12 brightly colored stickers to put anywhere in our white art studio. There is still time to participate! We are open Monday-Friday 1-5 p.m. and Saturdays 1-3 p.m.

Riverboat Days and Summer Arts Festival will be held Aug. 21-23 at Riverside Park. YAA has been hosting the arts portion of the festival for more than 30 years. We strive each year to provide the community a variety in unique, handmade and handcrafted items to peruse

and purchase. Since January, artists have been applying to the Summer Arts Festival. Our committee members and jurors have pored over applications, photos, and websites in an effort to showcase 120 artisans in jewelry, wood-working, pottery, furniture, home and lawn décor, jams and jellies, clothing, watercolor, and the list goes on! To see a complete list of vendors, please visit our website: www.YanktonAreaArts.org and look for the "SAF" tab.

In addition to all our new and returning art vendors, Mogen's Heroes will provide music for festival goers to dance to on Saturday at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. and again on Sunday at 1 p.m. Mogen's Heroes is a fine-tuned trio that has been pleasing Midwestern audiences since 1978. Like the South Dakota weather, they are apt to change styles instantly. Founded by Waubay, native John Mogen (keyboards), the group also features Bill Hoffman (drums and a Redfield native) and Denny Gale (guitar and a Wagner native). This threesome thoroughly enjoys having fun with music, blending humor with harmonies to please all ages. Mogen's Heroes will perform on the west end of the park by the Territorial Capitol building. The festival opens on Friday evening at 6 p.m. We look forward to seeing you at the park!

Judging from the length of this article, maybe I can see why the summer has flown by! I hope you are having as much fun as I am! You can stay up to date on all things YAA at www.YanktonAreaArts.org or by following us on Facebook or Twitter.

*Yankton Area Arts is a non-profit arts organization located at 508 Douglas Avenue in Yankton. The G.A.R. Hall Art Gallery is open to the public free of charge from 1-5 p.m. weekdays and from 1-3 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call the YAA office at (605) 665-9754 or email yaa@iun.net.*

## Budweiser Clydesdales Slated For Norfolk

NORFOLK, Neb. — The world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales, the symbol of quality and tradition for Anheuser-Busch since 1933, are scheduled to make several appearances in Norfolk, Nebraska, between Aug. 20-23 including a special parade honoring our veterans and active duty military.

Eagle Distributing & the City of Norfolk present the "Salute to Our Heroes" parade to be held Sunday, Aug. 23, in Norfolk. The parade will begin at 2 p.m., and will feature the World Famous Budweiser Clydesdale eight-horse hitch.

The Clydesdales' appearance in Norfolk is one of hundreds made annually by the traveling hitches. Canadians of Scottish descent brought the first Clydesdales to America in the mid-1800's. Today, the giant draft horses are used primarily for breeding and show.

Horses chosen for the Budweiser Clydesdale hitch must be at least three years of age, stand approximately 18 hands — or six feet — at the shoulder, weigh an average of 2,000 pounds, must be bay in color, have four white legs, and a blaze of white on the face and black mane and tail. A gentle temperament is very important as hitch horses meet millions of people

each year.

A single Clydesdale hitch horse will consume as much as 20-25 quarts of feed, 40-50 pounds of hay and 30 gallons of water per day.

Each hitch travels with a Dalmatian. In the early days of brewing, Dalmatians were bred and trained to protect the horses and guard the wagon when the driver went inside to make deliveries.

The Budweiser Clydesdales can be viewed at the Anheuser-Busch breweries in St. Louis, Mo.; Merrimack, N.H.; and Ft. Collins, Colo. They also may be viewed at Grant's Farm in St. Louis and at Warm Springs Ranch,

the 300-plus acre Clydesdale breeding farm located near Boonville, Missouri.



**AM 1450**

**MORNING COFFEE**  
WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

**Friday, August 7**  
7:40 am Riverboat Days (Dave Wright)  
8:20 am Yankton Area Arts (Julie Amsberry)

Local Entertainment News: The P&D