

American Life in Poetry

Blown Away

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

Several years ago I published a children's book about a bag in the wind, so it's no wonder I love this poem by April Lindner, who lives in Pennsylvania. Once you start noticing these wind-blown bags, you see them everywhere. Her most recent book is *This Bed Our Bodies Shaped* (Able Muse Press, 2012).

CARRIED AWAY

One rainy night we sat in traffic and, overtired in back, you saw a wind-whipped grocery bag aloft beyond the clutch of jagged branches, swept by gusts and whirled in eddies. A sudden downdraft swooped it earthward, where it danced till with a whoosh a current luffed it past the power lines. Disowned by gravity, small ghost not yet snagged by twiggy fingers, it couldn't reach the earth. Thin-skinned, it pulsed, translucent jellyfish. You wept and pled to be let out into the dark and slanted rain, somehow to save that desolate thing. The light turned green and still you begged, Go back, go back, on its behalf, caught and held, bossed and tossed by a will much greater than its own.

We do not accept unsolicited submissions. American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation (www.poetryfoundation.org), publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. "Heaven's Gate," from DARK ENERGY by Robert Morgan, copyright © 2015 by Robert Morgan. Used by permission of Viking Books, an imprint of Penguin Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House, LLC. Introduction copyright © 2015 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.



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Yankton Area Arts Executive Director, Julie Amsberry, is shown with 2015 Mighty Mo Photo Show Best of Show winner Sam Stukel. Stukel's winning entry "Chalkstone Dusk" is pictured in the background.

YAA Mighty Mo Show

Yankton Area Arts celebrated nine photographers and 27 photos at a reception for The Mighty Mo Show Exhibit at G.A.R. Hall on Friday, August 7. The photos were judged based on theme (A River for All Seasons), composition, originality and lighting. Best of Show went to Sam Stukel for "Chalkstone Dusk." Honorable Mention was given to Austin Jerke for "Tranquil Spring Evening." The People's Choice Award went to Cyndi Beers for "Dog Days of Summer."

The Mighty Mo Show also has a Promise to Pur-

chase feature. Several local businesses were invited to purchase their favorite picture prior to the opening of the show. Special thanks to Avera Sacred Heart Foundation, Home Federal, Shurco and First National Bank for their participation and contribution.

The theme for 2016 Mighty Mo Show will be inspired by the journals of Lewis & Clark and will be announced in the near future.

All pieces are available for sale. Inquiries should be directed to Yankton Area Arts, 605-665-9754.

USD Foundation Promotes Two

VERMILLION — The University of South Dakota Foundation has promoted two staff members, Debora Gruhn and Jon Schemmel.

Gruhn, who had been director of financial operations, has been named assistant vice president of financial operations. A graduate of the USD School of Law and the USD Beacom School of Business, she joined the Foundation seven years ago, after working in public accounting.

Schemmel, formerly associate athletic director and director of development, is now senior director of development. The lead administrator for all major gifts to USD

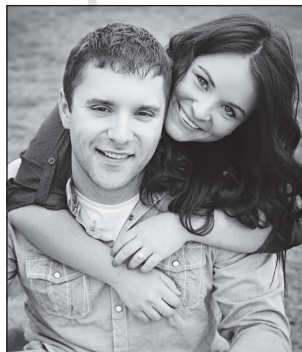
athletics, he also oversees the Howling Pack, which promotes and financially supports all aspects of USD athletics. He worked in sports marketing, sales and recruiting before joining the Foundation in November 2012.

Portrait of Gruhn
Portrait of Schemmel

Messersmith-Heine

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Messersmith of Maywood, NE, announce the engagement of their daughter, Desarae Messersmith to Tyler Heine, son of Brian and Janel Heine of Fordyce, NE.

The future bride graduated from Maywood High School and the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD, in 2012 and is currently employed by Ben Jensen Dental in Yankton. The future groom graduated from Cedar Catholic High School and the University of South Dakota, Vermillion, SD, in 2011 and is currently employed by the City of Yankton. The couple is planning an August 2015 wedding in North Platte, NE.



Car Talk

Intermittent Engine Revving Has Many Likely Causes

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate, Inc

Dear Car Talk:
I have a 2007 Honda Civic. For several years, I have been experiencing an intermittent problem. When I am stopped at a stoplight or stop sign, my car's engine unexpectedly revs up. If I put it in neutral or park, it subsides. It happens only occasionally, sometimes months apart. I have reported this to Honda on two occasions, and have brought it in for a testing procedure. Both test sequences came up with nothing. I don't know what to do. I am nervous about driving the car long distances. I know that what I am experiencing is real. What should I do? What is wrong with my car? I cannot in good conscience sell it privately.

— Howard
No, you can't, Howard. So the time honored solution, then, is to trade it in! But before you go to that extreme, I'll give you a few things to check. Start by making sure it's not that size 14 Buster Brown of yours. Assuming that's not it, one possibility is that your throttle is sticking. The throttle is electronically controlled in this car, but the actual throttle plate itself sometimes can hang up if there's dirt on it. So if you've been driving along and then you come to a stop, the throttle might hang up and not close completely, causing the engine to stay at, say, 2,000 rpm, rather



Ray
MAGLIOZZI

it will signal the computer to send in more air, which would cause the engine to run faster.

Similarly, if a coolant temperature sensor senses that the engine is cold, it will signal for more fuel, thinking the engine is in warm-up mode and needs to idle faster. Most of the time, an abnormal reading from a sensor will trigger your Check Engine light. You don't say whether the light has ever come on. If it has, and you didn't tell us that, we're going to penalize you 15 yards for withholding information, Howard.

If the Check Engine light does come on, it will "store" a code for perhaps as long as a few weeks so that your mechanic can scan the engine with his scan tool and see which sensor is reporting a reading that's out of range. You say you went to your dealer twice, and they "tested" the car. I'm assum-

than returning to idle speed right away.

The other likely scenario is that the problem is emissions-related and you have a bad sensor of some kind. For instance, if an oxygen sensor incorrectly senses that your fuel-air mixture is too rich (too much fuel),

ing they scanned it and found nothing. But it may be that you waited too long and the Check Engine code had cleared itself. Or that the problem occurs so infrequently that the computer doesn't have enough data to show a pending code.

So, my suggestion is, next time this happens — especially if the Check Engine light comes on — go right to the dealer within a day or two, and have him scan it. If nothing turns up on the scan, have him clean the throttle. And if you have 150,000 miles on this car, I probably would replace the oxygen sensor, too, since you likely need one anyway. That could very well be the source of the problem. Good luck, Howard.

If you buy a used car, will you just be inheriting the previous owner's problem? Click and Clack dispel this and other myths about used cars in the pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Car Talk/Used Car, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

Got a question about cars? Write to Car Talk in care of this newspaper, or email by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com.

© 2015 BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
AND DOUG BERMAN

July Weather Conditions In SD

BROOKINGS — Throughout July 2015, weather conditions were quite variable across South Dakota, said Dennis Today, South Dakota State Climatologist & SDSU Extension Climate Specialist.

"Early July started off fairly cool across the state," said Today, explaining that warmer temperatures during the mid and latter part of the month helped to bring temperatures closer to average for the month. "Throughout most of South Dakota, temperatures were within about a degree of average - making the overall climate conditions generally good for crop development and livestock," he said. "A few extreme events did occur, but were not long-lived."

PRECIPITATION HELPED PREVENT DROUGHT

During July, several areas of the state went two to three weeks with little to no precipitation resulting in dry

conditions developing. However, Today pointed out that late-July precipitation, along with other isolated storm events, during the month, helped resolve some of the developing dryness issues. "Much of eastern South Dakota had 3- to 5-plus inches of precipitation," Today said, "which is as much as 2 inches above average."

Precipitation totals in some areas reached more than 8 inches resulting in several communities ranking July 2015 as the top 10 wettest on record, including: Academy, White Lake and Vermillion.

With the exception of the Black Hills, Today said much of Western South Dakota turned dry during July. "Following the wet May and June there are limited issues to this point," he said.

AUGUST 2015 OUTLOOK

Looking ahead to August, Today said South Dakota is

expected to experience a few large changes, according to the recent National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center Outlooks.

"Temperatures are likely going to be close to, or slightly below average over the state and areas to the south of South Dakota," Today said. "The impact will be to reduce potential stress conditions for crops which are still somewhat dry."

Laura Edwards, SDSU Extension Climate Field Specialist added that below average temperatures would also produce below average growing degree days (GDDs). "Current GDD accumulations are around average over the state," she said. "With the likely cooler temperatures, corn in particular, will likely lose a little development ground. This situation should be monitored, but should not be a major problem."

The precipitation outlook

leans to the wet side for August, with above average accumulations more likely. "Over most of the state this will not be a problem - except for the wetter areas in southwest South Dakota and a few small wet pockets elsewhere in the state," said Edwards. "Unless the accumulations are very high - additional moisture would be beneficial for the dry areas west of the river."

She said, referencing the few areas which are currently rated as Abnormally Dry or D0 according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

"This outlook is consistent with impacts expected from the ongoing El Niño event," she said. "Near average to wetter conditions and slightly cooler conditions are mostly likely during the latter part of the growing season during El Niño events."

To keep up with changing climate conditions throughout the month, visit iGrow.org or follow SDSU Climate on Facebook.

Law Firm Receives Recognition For Delmont Assistance Program

On May 10, a tornado devastated the town of Delmont, South Dakota. Soon after, Swier Law Firm established the Delmont Assistance Program to give free legal assistance to those who suffered home or commercial property damage. The law firm is assisting residents with filing insurance claims and providing guidance on other legal questions they may face as a result of the destruction. Scott Swier recently spoke to over 50 Delmont residents on how to deal with their insurance companies and recover or replace lost documents.

Swier Law Firm has provided a property insurance checklist to assist Delmont residents in submitting claims to their insurance company. The law firm has also written and provided Delmont residents with a series of tips to deal with a natural disaster insurance claim. These items are also available on Swier Law Firm's website for easy reference to those impacted by the tornado.



Swier

After Swier Law Firm launched its Delmont Assistance Program, local and national media organizations, such as the Sioux Falls Argus Leader, Mitchell Daily Republic, Yankton Press & Dakotan, Rapid City Journal, KSFY Television, KELO Television, the Associated Press, World News, The Washington Times, and the Insurance Journal have recognized the law firm for its efforts. In response to this recognition, Scott Swier said, "Our law firm is committed to helping our Delmont neighbors and we are proud to do whatever we can to help our friends and their families get their lives back in order. We are very mindful of the obligation to give back to our communities, so it's very gratifying to be recognized for making a difference."

Toastmasters 1294 Installation Of New Officers



SUBMITTED PHOTO
Toastmasters 1294 New Officers, Left To Right, Janice Stone, Sargent Of Arms; Kevin Buhl, Secretary; Teresa Rentsch, Vice President Of Education; Roy Wilcox, President; Jen Hovland, Area Governor; Steve Williams, Treasurer; Jack Dahlseid, Vice President Of Public Relations. Not Present: Jana Lane, Vice President Of Membership.

60th Anniversary Celebration



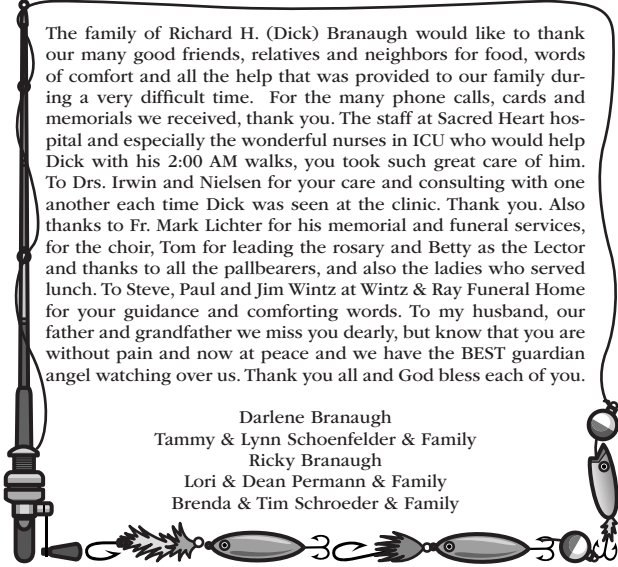
Mr. & Mrs. Keith Neuhalphen

Keith and Louise Neuhalphen, St. Helena, NE, celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. The couple was married August 10, 1955.

Their children are Kirk (Karen) Neuhalphen, Batavia, IL; Kevin (Becky) Neuhalphen, Yankton, SD; Mark (Cindy) Neuhalphen, Fordyce, NE; Tami (Mick) Wiepen, St. Helena, NE; Todd (Lori) Neuhalphen, Norfolk, NE; Julie (Brett) Boecker, Crofton, NE; Neal (Jody) Neuhalphen, Crofton, NE; and Amy (John) Neu, Yankton, SD.

Their family is requesting a card shower in their honor. Cards may be sent to:

Keith and Louise Neuhalphen
PO Box 53,
St. Helena, NE 68774



The family of Richard H. (Dick) Branaugh would like to thank our many good friends, relatives and neighbors for food, words of comfort and all the help that was provided to our family during a very difficult time. For the many phone calls, cards and memorials we received, thank you. The staff at Sacred Heart hospital and especially the wonderful nurses in ICU who would help Dick with his 2:00 AM walks, you took such great care of him. To Drs. Irwin and Nielsen for your care and consulting with one another each time Dick was seen at the clinic. Thank you. Also thanks to Fr. Mark Lichter for his memorial and funeral services, for the choir, Tom for leading the rosary and Betty as the Lector and thanks to all the pallbearers, and also the ladies who served lunch. To Steve, Paul and Jim Wintz at Wintz & Ray Funeral Home for your guidance and comforting words. To my husband, our father and grandfather we miss you dearly, but know that you are without pain and now at peace and we have the BEST guardian angel watching over us. Thank you all and God bless each of you.

Darlene Branaugh
Tammy & Lynn Schoenfelder & Family
Ricky Branaugh
Lori & Dean Permann & Family
Brenda & Tim Schroeder & Family