

American Life in Poetry In The Wilderness

BY TED KOOSER
 U.S. Poet Laureate

Twenty years ago my wife and I had visitors from New York, and their car broke down on a country road about a mile from our home. One of them panicked because there were no phone booths from which to call for help. Nebraska is a place where there can be a lot of room between one land-line and the next. Carol V. Davis of California did a residency at Homestead National Monument, and this is one of the poems that came out of it.

ANIMAL TIME

I do better in animal time, a creeping dawn, slow ticking toward dusk. In the middle of the day on the Nebraska prairie, I'm unnerved by subdued sounds, as if listening through water, even the high-pitched drone of the cicadas faint; the blackbirds half-heartedly singing. As newlyweds, my parents drove cross country to Death Valley, last leg of their escape from New York, the thick soups of their immigrant mothers, generations of superstitions that squeezed them from all sides. They camped under stars that meant no harm. It was the silence that alerted them to danger. They climbed back into their tiny new car, locked its doors and blinked their eyes until daylight.

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

Pictured are the Kleinschmit Cousins: Seated — Duane Kleinschmit, Andrea Sudbeck, Jeanie Schieffer, Colette Koch, Marvin Lange & Grace Mauer; Back Row — Martin K. Dale, Edwin, Clinton, Billy, Roger, John & Dennis Kleinschmit, Jeanette Zimmerman, Eileen Kusel, Melvin, Roman & Peter Kleinschmit & Jane Cap. Four people are not in the photo.

Kleinschmit Reunion Held

MENOMINEE, Neb. — Descendants of Peter and Gertrude Witte Kleinschmit gathered at the St. Boniface Hall Aug. 9 for a potluck noon meal. The 143 relatives present enjoyed an afternoon of visiting, family group pictures, photo viewing and prizes. This was the 11th gathering in the past 44 years. Twenty-six of the 38 remaining grandchildren of Peter and Gertrude were present along with 35 great-grandchildren and some of their children. Prizes were given to the senior lady present: Rosemary Lange, the senior man present: Ralph Kleinschmit, the youngest person present: Timothy Olnes, 18 months;

married the longest: Jerry and Colette Koch, newlyweds: Julia Kleinschmit and Jerry Partels, the most grand children: Jerry and Colette Koch, the most great-grandchildren: Rosemary Lange, the oldest baby of the family: Jerry Koch, the 2nd oldest baby of the family: Don Mauer, traveled the shortest distance: Galen and Betty Kleinschmit, traveled the farthest: Melvin and Zeny Kleinschmit. Relatives traveled from Nebraska cities: Bow Valley, Crofton, Dakota City, Fordyce, Hartington, Lincoln, Menominee, Norfolk, Omaha, Plainview, Randolph, St. Helena and Wayne. South Dakota cities: Crofton, Madison, Mission Hill, Tea, Vermillion, Yankton, Sioux City, Iowa; and Las Vegas.

Legion Post 12 Donation



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Recently, Legion Post 12 delivered a P/N & trailer full of bikes, basketballs, etc., to the Standing Rock Indian Reservation. The Diamond Willon Ministries is a group dedicated to helping the young people on the reservation. Their young people at Fort Thompson need all the help they can get. We are trying to help with sporting goods and help teach sportsmanship. The wives of Legion Post 12 really appreciate the communities help in this or other life projects.

TIME MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP



Lisa Te Slaa, MBA

Take control of your life! Learn to plan and organize effectively, set and achieve goals, and live a balanced life.

When: Tuesday, September 15
 7:30 am - 11:30 am (includes breakfast)
 Where: KPI Training Center, 700 W. 21st St. Yankton

Register at <http://sesd.shrm.org> before 8/31/15 and receive an early bird discount.

Car Talk

You Get What You Pay For

BY RAY MAGLIOZZI
 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Dear Car Talk:
 My 2003 Honda CR-V recently was part of a recall involving the air bags. Due to the risk of injury or death, I left my CR-V at a local dealership, and they provided me with a loaner while they waited for the replacement parts to come in. During that time, my CR-V sat outside in the rain and snow without being driven for two months. When I picked it up after they repaired the air bags, there was rust on the brakes, which they said would wear off quickly. However, the rotors also feel warped and vibrate heavily when I brake. They've offered to resurface the pads and rotors for about half the normal price (still \$100 front and \$100 back), but I don't think I should have to pay for it at all. I just replaced all the pads and rotors myself last year, and it would be cheaper for me to completely replace them again. Should they take care of this for free, or am I looking at another afternoon in the driveway?
 — Galen



Ray MAGLIOZZI

you drive the car. So I'm guessing you bought real cheap rotors last year, not the Honda ones. So if the rotors really are warped, you can try complaining to the people who sold them to you. If you're lucky, they'll stand behind them and give you another set, which you can spend an afternoon installing in the driveway. But keep in mind, if those rotors warped in a year, your next set probably will not be any better. So I'd ask your Honda dealer what

kind of price he'd give you to install a set of factory rotors and pads. It seems like he's being very nice to you. Or maybe you've berated him to the point where he'll do almost anything to get rid of you now. But the factory rotors and pads definitely last longer, in our experience. So that's your best long-term solution. Well, that's not true. Your best long-term solution would be to forget to return the loaner car!

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Car Talk's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Car Talk/Ruin, 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.

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Avera Shares Farming Safety Reminders For Harvest Season

Across the region, farmers will soon begin putting in long hours to harvest their crops. Preparing equipment, combining fields, hauling grain and driving to and from fields leaves little time for anything else — especially an accident. Farming is ranked among the world's most hazardous professions. Factors like long hours, little sleep, dangerous equipment, poisonous chemicals and uneven surfaces add to the risk.

"Farms are big operations, leaving room for many risks for accidents," said Greg Erickson, MD, an Emergency Medicine physician with Avera Medical Group Emergency Medicine Yankton. "Being aware of the major risks as well as some general farm safety rules is a good starting point."

A few of the most devastating farm accidents are:

- Overturned tractors
- Auger mutilations/amputations
- Grain bin suffocation
- Chemical poisoning
- Child accidents/deaths

Below are 10 basic safety rules that can help prevent an accident, illness or death from occurring on the farm.

1. Slowly drive the perimeter of the field to familiarize yourself with any slopes, drop-offs, stumps and large rocks.
2. When driving a tractor, take turns slowly. Don't allow the tractor to bounce, which may cause you to lose control of steering.
3. Ensure protective shields are in place before running an auger, and keep the floor around the auger swept clean of debris and fallen seed to prevent falls.
4. Never enter a grain storage unit when grain is coming in from the sides or top. If you must enter a storage unit, wear a safety belt attached to safety lines.
5. When handling chemicals, always wear the proper personal protective equipment, such as chemical-resistant gloves, overalls, masks and goggles.
6. If your teenage sons or daughters usually help out on the family farm, assign them

low-risk tasks. In other words, harvest may not allow you to properly supervise their work in more challenging tasks.

7. Get enough sleep. Being tired reduces alertness and ability to think clearly. If possible, ask neighbors to help you complete tasks and harvest fields. Remember to return the favor.
8. Eat balanced meals and keep a jug of water with you at all times. Hunger and dehydration are distracting.
9. Avoid doing tasks alone, such as running an auger or filling a grain bin.
10. Always carry your cell phone with you. Keep it charged as much as possible. "Nobody plans on having an accident — that's why they're called 'accidents,'" said Erickson. In addition, if you experience possible signs of a heart attack while harvesting, don't wait, call 911 immediately.
 - Chest discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncom-

fortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or pain.

- Discomfort in the upper body: in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach
 - Shortness of breath
 - Other symptoms such as breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness
- While chest pain is the most common symptom of heart attack, women can experience a heart attack without the chest pressure. Instead, they may experience shortness of breath, pressure or pain in the lower chest or upper abdomen, dizziness, lightheadedness or fainting, upper back pressure or extreme fatigue. "Harvest is a critical season, and it's very typical for farmers to put their work first, and put their own health on the back burner. But lives are irreplaceable. Therefore, safety must be top priority for farmers, ranchers and hired hands at harvest season, and all year around," Erickson added.

AAA Safety Campaign Aims To Curb Unsafe Driving In School Zones

OMAHA, Neb. — As 55 million children across the country begin heading back to school, AAA urges motorists to slow down and stay alert in neighborhoods and school zones, and to be especially vigilant for pedestrians during before- and after-school hours. In 2013 more than 330 child pedestrians died and 13,000 were injured nationwide. More than half of those deaths occurred during school transportation hours. The afternoon hours are particularly dangerous for walking children — over the last decade, nearly one-third of child pedestrian fatalities occurred between 3-7 p.m. "AAA's School's Open-Drive Carefully awareness campaign is designed to curb unsafe driving behavior in school zones," said Amy Stracke, executive director, Auto Club Group Traffic Safety Foundation. "We must remind motorists to slow down and stay alert as kids head back to school." AAA recommends the following life-saving tips to keep you and your loved ones safe

- on the road:
- SLOW DOWN**
 - Speed limits in school zones are reduced for a reason. Stay alert to variable speed zones that require a reduced speed when warning lights are flashing or when children are present.
 - Children are unpredictable and may have difficulty gauging the distance and speed of an approaching car.
 - Reducing your speed in a school zone can save a life. A pedestrian struck by a vehicle traveling 25 mph is two-thirds less likely to be killed than a vehicle traveling just 10 mph faster.
 - ELIMINATE DISTRACTIONS**
 - Keep your eyes on the road at all times.
 - Avoid activities that take even one hand off the steering wheel.
 - Avoid cell phone use by placing it in a safe place until you arrive at your destination.
 - WALK/RIDE IN SAFE PLACES**
 - Cross streets only at corners, using crosswalks and

- obey all traffic signals.
 - If you walk on roads that have no sidewalks, walk facing traffic and as far from the roadway as possible.
 - When biking, ride with the flow of traffic and obey all traffic laws, signs, signals and pavement markings.
- STAY ALERT AND OBEY TRAFFIC RULES**
- Check for children on the sidewalk, driveway and around your vehicle before slowly backing up. Expect pedestrians on the sidewalk, especially around schools and in neighborhoods.
 - Stop at stop signs!

Research shows that more than one-third of drivers roll through stop signs in school zones or neighborhoods. Be alert and ready to stop for school buses. It may be tempting to drive around a stopped school bus, but not only is it dangerous, it is against the law. AAA's School's Open-Drive Carefully awareness campaign was launched in 1946 in an effort to prevent school-related child pedestrian traffic crashes — helping kids to live fulfilling, injury-free lives.

Labor Day Deadlines

The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan will be closed Monday, September 7, for the Labor Day Holiday.

The following deadlines will apply:

Out On The Town.....Noon, Wednesday, September 2
 Tuesday, September 8 newspaper5 p.m., Wednesday, September 2
 Wednesday, September 9 newspaper5 p.m., Thursday, September 3
 Thursday, September 10 newspaper5 p.m., Friday, September 4

There will be no newspaper on Monday, September 7, 2015.

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