

Life In Poetry

How A Moment Can Change Your Life

BY TED KOOSER
 U.S. POET LAUREATE

Carol L. Gloor is an attorney living in Chicago and Savanna, Illinois. I especially like this poem of hers for its powerful ending, which fittingly uses the legal language of trusts and estates.

MOMENT

At the moment of my mother's death
 I am rinsing frozen chicken.
 No vision, no rending
 of the temple curtain, only
 the soft give of meat.
 I had not seen her in four days.
 I thought her better,
 and the hospital did not call,
 so I am fresh from
 an office Christmas party,
 scotch on my breath
 as I answer the phone.
 And in one moment all my past acts
 become irrevocable.

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SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

S.D. ANGUS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANTS SOUGHT

The South Dakota Angus Auxiliary will be awarding scholarships for the 2011-2012 school year. To be eligible for the scholarship, the following requirements must be met.

- Must be a member of the SD Junior Angus Association.
- Must be a member of the National Junior Angus Association
- Must be actively involved with Angus cattle.
- Must attend a SD University, SD College or SD Vocational School for the 2012-2013 school term.
- Must submit an essay of at least 500 words on the topic "Why Angus cattle are important to me."
- Must list school, church, and community involvement.
- Must submit a recent photo.
- Can only win a scholarship once.

For a scholarship application, contact Shally Rogen at 48274 258th St., Brandon, SD 57005 or email her at rogenangus@alliancecom.net. All completed scholarship applications are due by March 15, 2012.

TOWNS & TOWNSHIPS SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE

HURON — The South Dakota Association of Towns & Townships is again offering a \$1,000 scholarship to a senior high school student who lives in South Dakota and is currently attending a South Dakota public, private, or parochial high school or a home school program.

Graduates of the class of 2012 are eligible to apply for the scholarship. The student must use the scholarship for a college, university, or vocational school which has a physical presence in South Dakota.

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay on the following topic:

"Interview an elected commissioner or legislator asking for their view on how to get more people involved in local township government. Write an essay on your findings, including your own ideas on how to get more volunteerism on the local level and why you believe local government is important"

These forms are available at www.sdtownships.com, emailing us at sdtstaff@santel.net, or by contacting the office at 605-353-1439.

The winner will be announced in May. However, the actual scholarship money will be paid to the financial office of the chosen school in the fall of 2013. Seniors graduating in 2012 are eligible. The winner and their family will be guests at the SDATAT annual meeting in De-

ember 2012.

Deadline for application is April 1.

TRI-STATE OLD IRON TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS

Area high school seniors who will major in an agricultural field in college will have the opportunity to apply for the Tri-State Old Iron Scholarships.

Information concerning scholarship applications has been forwarded to area high school guidance counselors. Graduating high school seniors who will seek an agricultural degree and are interested in obtaining a scholarship should contact the guidance counselor in their school.

Tri-State Old Iron will be providing two \$250 scholarships to seniors who will be seeking an agricultural related field in college.

Deadline for submitting applications must be returned to Rodger Harts, 3412 SD Highway 314, Yankton, SD 57078 by March 15, 2012. The scholarships will be presented at the school awards ceremony in May of 2012.

YANKTON CHAMBER OFFERS PROMOTING AG. SCHOLARSHIP

Area High School seniors who plan on pursuing an agricultural related degree are invited to apply for the "Promoting Agricultural Youth" scholarships being award by the Yankton Chamber.

Two awards of \$1,000 each will be given to 2012 graduates planning to pursue an agricultural-related major at a two or four year university, college, technical school or other recognized program preparing people for careers in agriculture related fields. Applicants must be residents of Yankton, Bon Homme, Clay, Hutchinson or Turner counties in South Dakota or Boyd, Cedar or Knox counties in Nebraska.

The objectives of the scholarship program are to recognize local youth who are leaders in agriculture, provide local financial support for academic study and leadership development and foster the development of future leaders in rural America, agribusiness and production agriculture.

Applications may be obtained at the Yankton Chamber and Visitors Center. They must be completed and returned to the Yankton Chamber by March 2. The recipients will be selected by the P.A.Y. Scholarship Committee Members and awarded at the 2012 Ag Gala by the Yankton Chamber.

For an application, go to www.yanktonsd.com/pay or contact the Chamber at (605) 665-3636.

Do Added-Traction Devices Actually Work?

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
 www.cartalk.com

Dear Tom and Ray:
 Do those clamp-on or strap-on devices that go on your tires help with winter driving traction? Or do they just clamp on my wallet?
 — James

TOM: Sure, they can help. There are several different types of devices that can be used as temporary traction aids.

RAY: Consumer Reports tested a few of them, and the conclusion was that they can help, under certain situations, but they're not very easy to put on.

TOM: They tested one product called the AutoSock, which is a mesh sock that you slip over each tire, and the mesh gives you additional traction in certain conditions.

RAY: They tested it on a snow-covered hill in Vermont and found that with the AutoSock, they could get their Honda Accord to the top of the hill, which they couldn't do with just the all-season tires.

TOM: They also tested a set of temporary "tire chain-like" things called SnoBootz. With straps and Velcro, you attach these textured rubber pads to your tires, and the pads are supposed to dig into the snow and increase



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

your grip.

RAY: Consumers found that in soft snow, SnoBootz were disappointing. They dug into the snow and got stuck, just like regular tires do. But on roads with packed snow, the Sno-Bootz were impressive and increased tire grip significantly.

TOM: The downside of these devices is that they're fairly expensive (the AutoSock is 100 bucks per pair of wheels, and the Sno-Bootz are \$250 for four). While that's not

quite equal to the price of four good snow tires (which will help you more than anything), it is a significant investment.

RAY: They're also both fairly difficult to install. So you should plan to get wet and cold when doing so.

TOM: And these are not things you can put on in the fall and take off in the spring. They're temporary devices designed for low-speed, short-distance driving. Then they have to be removed.

RAY: There are other products and devices out there that we're less familiar with, but if you've used any temporary traction devices — successfully or unsuccessfully — we invite you to tell us, and our other readers, about your experience. Make a note of the name of the product, and leave your comments at www.cartalk.com/snow.

TOM: And if you decide to toss one of these products in your trunk, consider also tossing in a waterproof jumpsuit and some hand-warmers.

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 e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

N.G. Medical Company Trains For Deployment

BY SGT. JESSICA MYERS

730th Area Support Medical Company

VERMILLION — Every drill for the 730th Area Support Medical Company is providing vital training as they prepare for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in July.

The Vermillion-based medical company, comprised of combat medics, lab technicians, radiologists, dental technicians, mental health technicians, medical doctors, nurses, physician's assistants and maintenance and support staff, are validating skills needed to complete a successful mission overseas.

The 730th is capable of providing Echelon I (basic emergency medical services) and Echelon II (emergent or inpatient/outpatient care designed to return service members back to duty or evacuate them on to definitive care as quickly as possible) health care support.

The unit's mission will not only include providing medical treatment to troops, but should the need arise; they will need to



COURTESY PHOTO

Members of the 730th Area Support Medical Company, based in Vermillion, are pictured training for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan. The unit is scheduled to depart in July.

be prepared to administer health care to the Afghan people. To prepare them for this, the Soldiers are completing multiple training events on local customs

and cultures, as well as commonly suffered injuries.

Non-medical personnel within the unit are completing the combat life saver course to validate

skills in basic medical interventions.

The 730th's last deployment was Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003-04.

Social Security

Earn (And Keep) More Money With SSI

BY JENNIFER H

Social Security Claims Representative in Yankton

You probably already know that there was an increase in Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) monthly payments at the beginning of the year. If you receive monthly Social Security or SSI payments, you received a 3.6 percent cost-of-living adjustment beginning with your payment for the month of January 2012.

For people who receive Social Security retirement benefits, there's more good news. In addition to receiving a little more each month, you may now earn more income without offsetting your benefits because the "earnings test" numbers also have gone up.

If you have reached your full retirement age (age 66 for anyone born between 1943 and 1954), the earnings test does not apply and you may earn as much money as you can without any effect on your benefits. However, if you are younger than full retirement age, collecting benefits and still working, we do offset some of your benefit amount after a certain earnings limit is met. For people under full retirement age in 2012, the annual exempt amount is \$14,640, and if you do reach that limit, we withhold \$1

for every \$2 above that limit from your monthly benefit amount. For people who retired early, continue working and will obtain full retirement age in 2012, the annual exempt amount is \$38,880 and we will withhold \$1 for every \$3 you earn over the limit from your monthly benefits.

You can learn more about the earnings test and how benefits may be reduced by visiting our website, www.socialsecurity.gov, and searching on the topic "earnings test."

Find out what your full retirement age is at our Retirement Age page, www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/ageincrease.htm

You also may want to read our publication, How Work Affects Your Benefits. It's available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/10069.html.

SOCIAL SECURITY'S 800 NUMBER: A HISTORY OF SERVICE

Today, most adults in America carry a cell phone. If they don't, they probably have a landline phone at home. Although millions of people go online each year and take advantage of our convenient services at www.socialsecurity.gov, we still offer a full range of services over the telephone too.

That's an important thing to remember when you need to do

business with Social Security. You can conduct many business transactions with our automated telephone services 24/7. Simply dial 1-800-772-1213. And by calling that same number, you can talk with a Social Security representative from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Our toll-free 800 number service has now answered over a billion phone calls. And this year alone Social Security will handle more than 67 million calls.

Our phones are busiest early in the week and early in the month, so if your business can wait, it's best to call at other times. Also, whenever you call, have your Social Security number handy.

Bilingual representatives are available to assist our non-English speaking members of the public.

Do you have a Social Security question or problem and cannot call during normal business hours? Recorded information

and many automated services are available 24 hours a day — including weekends and holidays. Callers can use these automated services to report a change of address or telephone number, start or change direct deposit of benefits, request a proof of income letter or a replacement Medicare card, and order some of our most popular public information pamphlets.

Of course, if you have a computer, you may find that the information and services offered online are even more convenient at www.socialsecurity.gov. While you're online, you can read more about our toll free phone service at www.socialsecurity.gov/pgm/services.htm.

But if you don't have a computer or prefer to do business over the phone, we invite you to call us. Social Security is never more than a phone call away: 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

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PREGNANCY: FAQ ANSWERED

THURSDAY, MARCH 1

6-7 P.M.

Avera Sacred Heart Hospital
 Professional Office Pavilion

Pregnancy: Frequently Asked Questions Answered
 presented by

Jill F. Sternquist, MD
 Yankton Medical Clinic, P.C.



Dr. Sternquist will offer advice on getting pregnant, having a healthy, happy pregnancy and more. If you are considering having a baby in the near future, you will want to attend this seminar. Bring along any questions you would like answered on pregnancy.

A light meal will be served.
 Please make reservations by calling (605) 668-8080.

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www.AveraSacredHeart.org

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