

Life In Poetry

Poet Analyzes The Relationships In Life

BY TED KOOSER
U.S. Poet Laureate

Every day, hundreds of thousands of us are preoccupied with keeping up a civil if not loving relationship with our parents. In this poem, Mark Irwin (who lives in Colorado) does a beautiful job in portraying, in a dreamlike manner, the complexities of just one of those relationships.

PORTRAITS

Mother came to visit today. We hadn't seen each other in years. Why didn't you call? I asked. Your windows are filthy, she said. I know, I know. It's from the dust and rain. She stood outside. I stood in, and we cleaned each one that way, staring into each other's eyes, rubbing the white towel over our faces, rubbing away hours, years. This is what it was like when you were inside me, she said. What? I asked, though I understood. Afterwards, indoors, she smelled like snow melting. Holding hands we stood by the picture window, gazing into the December sun, watching the pines in flame.

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Alaskan Pollock Dinner Slated For Tyndall

TYNDALL — A Bon Homme Knights of Columbus Alaskan Pollock Dinner will be held at the Father Cronin Center, Tyndall, on Friday, Feb. 22, running from 5-7 p.m. The menu will include Alaskan Pollock fried in peanut oil, salads, deserts, coffee and juice. Proceeds will be used for Senior Scholarships, the After-Prom party, the Easter Egg Hunt and other community projects. For more information, contact Roger Hisek at 605-589-3736 or rshisek@hotmail.com, or visit www.stleotyndall.com.

Bede Art Gallery Presents Torres Exhibit

Mount Marty College Bede Art Gallery is hosting artist Andres Torres' oils/acrylic paintings, "New Works" on display through Feb. 22. A free reception and gallery talk is scheduled for 2-4 p.m. Feb. 22 and is open to the public. Torres has this to say of his collection of art on display, "My main concern is the paint. The surface. The object. Adapting modernist traditions to a contemporary aesthetic, creating paintings that are suggestive while at the same time dismissing the very notion of any reference." "In essence," Torres continues, "this means that I am painting on intuition; choices are guided by formal issues such as color, shape and line. Mark making, surface, real vs. illusionistic, space and transparency of process are central concerns. I deal with traditional artistic concerns but in a questioning way. All of this is an attempt to uncover some kind of uncompromising truth. I am human; I am flawed and nowhere is this more apparent than in my painting." Currently residing in Sioux Falls, Torres has a BFA degree in painting from the University of South Dakota. The hours for the Bede Gallery Art Gallery are 8 a.m.-8 p.m. daily and it is located in the lobby of the Marian Auditorium.

Prom Dresses Available At Cinderella's Closet

Slightly used prom dresses, sizes 0-24, will be available at Cinderella's Closet, located at Riverview Reformed Church, 1700 Burleigh St., Yankton, on Saturday, Feb. 23. Fitting hours are 2-4 p.m. There will be more than 100 dresses from which to choose. Shoes and jewelry will also be available. For more information, contact Deb at 665-5507.

First UMC Holding Turkey Supper Saturday

The First United Methodist Church annual Turkey Supper will be held Saturday, Feb. 23, at 207 W. 11th Street, Yankton. The supper will run from 4:30-7 p.m. The worship band "One Way Up" from Canton UMC will be playing at 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Tickets will be sold at the door the day of the supper. For more information, call 665-2991 or email firstumc@iw.net.

Pioneer Polar Bear Club Plunge Slated Feb. 23

VIBORG — Pioneer Memorial Foundation and Merchant's State Bank will host the 6th Annual Pioneer Polar Bear Club Plunge, Feb. 23 at Swan Lake Christian Camp near Viborg. According to Brendyn Richards, Director of Development, "The annual fundraiser benefits projects at Pioneer Memorial Nursing Home in Viborg. Participants can plunge for a minimum donation of \$50. However, we encourage them to raise as many pledges and donations as possible from friends, family and sponsors to help benefit the Nursing Home. Each 'plunger' will receive a free T-shirt and lunch. Trophies will be awarded to the top two individuals raising the most money and the top two people with the zaniest costume." Richards added, "Even if you don't want to personally take the Plunge, you are encouraged to come and cheer on the participants from the sidelines. A lunch of taverns, chili or chicken noodle soup, coffee and hot chocolate is available at the Swan Lake Christian Camp following the event." Kids games with prizes will also be available in the main camp building during lunch. Sponsors of the event include Merchants State Bank, Pioneer Memorial Foundation, Parsons Insurance, Viborg Lions Club, Ward Law Office, and Valiant Vineyards. Several businesses donated in-kind services including, Hot 104.7 Radio, Radio 1570, KVTM AM, Classic Hits 106.3, Intense Graphics, Printing Plus, and Swan Lake Christian Camp. For more information on the plunge, contact Brendyn at brendyn.richards@sanfordhealth.org, or (605) 326-5161, extension 3088. To register or donate online go to www.pioneermemorial.org.

BIRTHDAYS

ERNA DANGEL

Come help celebrate Erna Dangel's 90th birthday Sunday, Feb. 24, 2013, from 1:30-4 p.m. at St. George Catholic Church's fellowship hall in Scotland. If you are unable to attend, birthday greetings can be sent to her at Erna Dangel, PO Box 272, Scotland, SD 57059.



Dangel

BFLF Bowl-A-Thon Slated For April 6

Yankton's Big Friend Little Friend, a local non-profit mentoring organization, is planning our 17th annual Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser. The Bowl-A-Thon will be held April 6 at Yankton Bowl. Organizers are looking for businesses to sponsor or co-sponsor a team, as well as businesses to donate prizes. For more information, call Stacy at 665-6365.

Car Bouncing Following Repair

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
King Features Syndicate

Dear Tom and Ray:
I took my 2002 Infiniti I35 to a shop to have the rotors and brake pads replaced on the front. While in the shop, the mechanic told me that I would need new struts in the future. When I left the shop, my car was bouncing all over the place. I was driving on a paved road, and I was actually bouncing off the seat. When I took it back to the shop, I was told that when they had put the car on the lift, air got into the struts because there were tiny holes in them. The mechanic told me it would go back to normal in a few weeks — as soon as all the excess air leaked out of the struts. It has been three weeks, and my car still feels like I am constantly driving over railroad tracks. Is his explanation plausible?

—**Patricia**
RAY: No. He made that up, Patricia.
TOM: Changing the rotors and pads shouldn't have had any effect on the ride, so I don't know what they did to your car to make it ride so roughly — but I have a couple of suspicions.
RAY: The most likely cause, in our experience, is that they inflated your tires, or over-inflated them.
TOM: If, before the repair, you had been driving around with tires that were low on air, that could have covered up the poor ride



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

you'd get from bad shocks.
RAY: And then, once they properly inflated your tires, you felt the full effect of your worn-out shocks — in which the springs are undamped and the car kind of rides like a basketball down the road.
TOM: Of course, it's not safe to drive with underinflated tires (or worn-out shocks), so you can't just let some air out of the tires and keep driving.
RAY: But they also could have grossly overinflated your tires. If they weren't paying attention, or had a tire gauge that was faulty, they could have put 60 or 80 pounds of air in your tires. And that certainly would cause

you to bounce off the seat.
TOM: One other possibility is that they're actually bad guys and they sabotaged your shocks in hopes of getting more repair work from you. But I'm going to discount that possibility.
RAY: Me too. In our many years of experience, we've found that most repair mistakes flow from gross incompetence rather than outright dishonesty. Doesn't that make you feel better?
TOM: So I'm guessing they overinflated your tires by accident. Have someone check the pressure for you, and if the pressure is correct, then go somewhere else for a second opinion about the shocks. Good luck, Patricia.

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.
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United Way Recognizes Clothing Closet Volunteers

"My volunteers rock!!! They are always there no matter what, and I can't thank them enough for all their hard work and dedication!" exclaims Leah Brandt, Coordinator of the Clothing Closet.
The Clothing Closet (CC) volunteers were honored as the February 2013 Volunteers of the Month by United Way (UW) and Volunteers Services of Greater Yankton.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The CC is an example of outstanding community collaboration. UW agencies identified the need. The South Dakota Human Services Center (HSC) had space. The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) has ongoing willing volunteer support.
The development of the CC filled a serious need in Yankton and discontinued a redundancy in services. Other local used clothing establishments typically offer only two free full sets of clothing per person in a lifetime. Few people needing clothing can make do with only two outfits until they get back on their feet. Various agencies had small areas for storing donated clothing. Those organizations needed the space and could not serve those in need from all other local agencies. HSC had a clothing room for indigent patients. It was a natural

fit to combine resources and then expand HSC clothing room to serve the community.
The CC opened in March of 2004, in the lower level of the Kyle Building on the HSC south campus. The Closet is open to the community on Tuesdays 12 noon to 5:30pm and Fridays from 12 noon to 4:30pm. The CC also serves HSC patients on the days when it is not open to the community. HSC Activities Center Mental Health Aide Leah Brandt also serves as the CC Coordinator.
The CC's success these past

nine years can be directly attributed to the dedicated volunteers. Leah explained, "Many volunteer 16 hours a month, some more... some less. Altogether, the CC volunteers donate 3,200 hours each year. They are all very dedicated workers!"
The CC is designed to provide for those people in the greatest need. Vouchers can be obtained from area churches, Contact Center, Women Center/Shelter, Family Visitation Center, RSVP, Big Friend-Little Friend, Head Start, Parents As Teachers, Social Services, United Way & Volunteer

Services, Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services, County Health, Just For Kids, Sacred Heart Monastery and other agencies that serve those in need. Other agencies that need vouchers may contact United Way at 665-6766.
"The Clothing Closet provides free clothing to anyone in need that has obtained a voucher from one of the local non-profit agencies. People often access these non-profit agencies first any way so this has offered a smooth progression in providing needed services," Leah said.
Parking is available just outside the door and around the corner of the Kyle building. The CC has changing areas for people to try on the garments and find good fitting clothes. Everyone involved agrees that the development of the Clothing Closet is 'the perfect fit' for meeting the needs of the Yankton community.
Anyone wishing to contribute to the CC can send cash donations, specifying how the money is to be used, to United Way and Volunteer Services at PO Box 387, Yankton, SD 57078. Good, clean, new or used clothing can be delivered directly to the Clothing Closet.

GreenSchools Helping Students Serve Environment

COLUMBUS, Neb. — GreenSchools has nothing to do with painting the school building. Instead, it is a national program designed to make a school "greener" by using critical thinking and problem solving to reduce environmental impacts.
GreenSchools, an environmental-focused program for students from kindergarten through the 12th grade, encourages students to take personal responsibility for improving the quality of their school, home and community environment. Nebraska Public Power District supports the program by providing educational resources, teacher professional development, and classroom programs.
"NPPD offers teachers in energy and sustainability education hands-on, project-based instruction and tools needed to conduct GreenSchools' investigations," explained NPPD Energy Educator Jennifer Swerczek. Students complete the investigations and develop action plans for improvement.
One of the key components of the program is an investigative toolkit. These toolkits, which

NPPD will loan out to schools, contain light and watt meters, an infrared temperature gauge, a CO2 meter, a conservation flow meter bag, and other associated equipment used to conduct the investigations.
The GreenSchools program consists of five, student-led investigations designed to be carried out in the school setting, but also include elements where students can apply what they are learning in their home environment. At the completion of each investigation, students develop and implement an action plan. Investigation examples include:
• Energy — investigate how much energy a school uses, the main sources of that energy, and propose ways to implement energy-saving strategies;
• Water — research the source, cost, and quality of a school's water supply, and implement ways to enhance current water conservation practices;
• School Site — investigate natural habitats, wildlife, trees, grounds maintenance practices, and ways to make improvements to a school site;
• Environmental Quality — ex-

plore the facility and make improvements to indoor air quality, transportation, chemical use, and more;
• Waste and Recycling — investigate how much waste a school generates and where it goes, as well as identify existing recycling and composting efforts and identify ways to improve.
"Students are trained to use diagnostic tools to assess the energy usage in their school, thus the school building becomes a learning lab for students," added Swerczek. "This program helps improve students' academic performance in science, technology, engineering, and math develops critical thinking skills, and grows student leaders."
School investigations may be done by one class or a team consisting of multiple classes and grade levels. Teachers will be encouraged to have each of their students participate in the home energy audits.
Based on the results from the energy investigations, schools will develop an action plan, focused on reducing the energy usage at the school, increasing the school's energy efficiency and improving envi-

ronmental quality.
Swerczek noted that action plans for the energy investigation could include: installing vending machine misers or CFL light bulbs throughout a school, using renewable energy sources, or utilizing power strips to eliminate phantom load on appliances. Funding may be available for implementing school action plans, and implementing a GreenSchools program could aid schools in applying for the new Green Ribbon School Award given by the U.S. Department of Education.
For more information on NPPD's GreenSchools program, contact Jennifer Swerczek at 402-336-2701 or visit www.nppd.com/energy-education/greenschools.

Quilt Show At Tyndall Runs Through Feb. 23

TYNDALL — Area quilters are displaying their handmade creations now at the Art & Antique Gallery in Tyndall for the third annual Quilt Show until Feb. 23. Quilters from Springfield, Scotland, Yankton, Dante, Tabor, Omaha and Tyndall have worked on sunbonnet sues, scrappy do dah, Irish chain, watercolor, hand-applique and many more designs throughout the year to prepare for this show. Several vintage quilts are also displayed, along with an interesting pin-cushion display.
Everyone is welcome to stop in and view the quilts Wednesdays through Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. The show is free for all.

An open house and social will be held on Saturday, Feb. 23, from 1:30-3 p.m. At 3 p.m., quilters will be able to take their quilts home.
If there are questions, contact

the Art & Antique Gallery (605-589-4050), email: dakotaprairie@hcinet.net or see visit Facebook at "Tyndall's Art & Antique Gallery."

February Clearance
20% - 50% off Regular Price of EVERY PAIR
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