

Life In Poetry

The Rental Tuxedo As A Right Of Passage

BY TED KOOSER

U.S. POET LAUREATE, 2004-2006

Here's an experience that I'd guess most of the men who read this column have had, getting into a rental tuxedo. Bill Trowbridge, a poet from Missouri, does a fine job of picturing that particular initiation rite.

RENTAL TUX

It chafed like some new skin we'd grown, or feathers, the cummerbund and starched collar pinching us to show how real this transformation into princes was, how powerful we'd grown by getting drivers' licenses, how tall and total our new perspective, above that rusty keyhole parents squinted through. We'd found the key: that nothing really counts except a romance bright as Technicolor, wide as Cinerama, and this could be the night. No lie.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation, publisher of Poetry magazine. It is also supported by the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Poem copyright ©2006 by William Trowbridge, from his most recent book of poems, Ship of Fool, Red Hen Press, 2011. Introduction copyright ©2012 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. We do not accept unsolicited manuscripts.

Thune To Hold Yankton Meeting Today

Sen. John Thune will be holding an open public meeting at 1-2 p.m. today (Tuesday) at the Riverfront Event Center, 121 W. Third St. in Yankton.

The event is hosted by the Riverfront Event Center, Yankton Area Chamber of Commerce and Yankton Office of Economic Development.

Reception Planned For Citizens Of The Year

A reception for Tom and JoAnne Stanage, Yankton's 2011 Citizens of the Year, will be held Sunday, March 4, at the Yankton Elks Lodge, 504 W. 27th St.

An open house will be held from 1:30-4 p.m., with a special program at 2 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Issues

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would have to drive up and down Broadway hoping to find someone dealing. With the increased availability of technology, all it takes now is one person getting a text message from a dealer and sharing it with all of his or her friends.

"It is just so much easier to get your hands on marijuana now," she said. "Kids use technology to find out where to buy. Kids post pictures of themselves drunk or high on Facebook. Others see it and think, 'Well if so and so is using it, maybe it is OK.' A kind of cyber peer pressure. They want to fit in somehow."

According to information released through the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), more than 60 percent of drug treatment admissions in South Dakota were for marijuana. In its most recent study, the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) reports that 6.38 percent of South Dakota residents said they used il-

licit drugs in the past month.

In order to combat the trends, Berg said the CDFY is applying for federal grants available through ONDCP. In 2010, there were more than \$31 million awarded statewide, which resulted in a doubling the number of coalitions across the state battling substance abuse from 11 to 22.

"The more people we have working to address the problem, the better," Berg said. "A coalition includes substance abuse prevention and joint cooperation between law enforcement, health workers, schools and more working to help educate youth on the issues and work to teach them before it becomes a problem."

However, Berg said, the training really has to begin at home.

"Unfortunately, it is very hard for someone to tell a minor that drug or alcohol use is bad when they are seeing it in their homes," she said. "It has to begin with the parents giving their children good role models to follow."

While marijuana use has seen the most increase recently and the use of alcohol by minors has decreased throughout the last 20

years, alcohol use is still a major concern in the state.


According to the South Dakota Prevention Network, there were approximately 36,000 minors who consumed alcohol in the last year.

Berg said that in 2009, 72.7 percent of South Dakota students in grades 9-12 reported having at least one drink of alcohol during their life, 40.1 percent had at least one drink in the last 30 days and 26.3 percent had five or more drinks of alcohol in a row (binge drinking) in the past 30 days.

The same report says that in 2009, 23.7 percent of all alcohol sales in the state were made by underage customers and that underage drinking cost the state nearly \$300 million, including medical care, work loss, and pain and suffering.

Taylor said the increased numbers of minors being charged in Yankton should have an eye-opening affect.

"Parents should see the reports that are coming out — the stories being reported — and realize that there is a problem here in Yankton," she said. "They should be contacting the schools and demanding more education for their children,



AM 1450

MORNING COFFEE

WEEKDAYS MONDAY-FRIDAY

Tuesday, January 17
 7:40 a.m. Healthy Yankton Festival (Angie O'Connor, Todd Larson)
 8:20 a.m. Hy-Vee Dietician (Rachel Pinos)

Wednesday, January 18
 7:40 a.m. Mount Marty College
 8:20 a.m. Hy-Vee Chef Staci

Thursday, January 19
 7:40 a.m. Ykn Conv/Vis Bureau (Lisa Scheve)
 8:20 a.m. Ykn Chamber (Carmen Schramm)

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KTIV News 4

Trailer Not The Wisest Way To Move

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI
 www.cartalk.com

Dear Tom and Ray:

My son is taking a new job in Sioux Falls, S.D., about 850 miles away from our home near Detroit. The old man promised to help him move, even if it wrecks my 56-year-old back. Here's the issue. He has a small apartment's worth of furniture, plus three guitars. It should fit in a single-axle rental trailer. We'll be pulling the trailer with a 2003 Jeep Liberty with the V-6 engine and 138,000 miles. Is this too much to expect from the aging Jeep? Should we rent a truck instead? My own judgment is questionable because I own a 1972 MGB. Thanks, boys. — Bill

RAY: I'm not worried about the Jeep, Bill.

TOM: Of course not. It's not YOUR Jeep!

RAY: I don't think Bill needs to worry about it either. But I am worried about Bill. And his kid.

TOM: Right. Towing a trailer, even a single-axle rental trailer, is tricky business. A trailer can make the car — even a car with the appropriate towing capacity, like this Jeep — handle very peculiarly.

RAY: And the handling is always made worse by an improperly balanced load, rain,



CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

snow, poor road conditions and gusty winds.

TOM: So if you do this, you have to get some good advice on how to pack the stuff into the trailer. You have to take the trip when no wind, rain or snow is forecast for the route, and you have to plan to drive slower than other people on the highway — 55 maximum — for all 850 miles.

RAY: And you have to be extra careful to go very slowly on turns, leave more room to

stop than you think you'll need, and be careful not to make any quick maneuvers that could upset the trailer — even changing lanes too fast can do it.

TOM: If that sounds like more risk than you thought you were signing up for, you can always rent a whole truck. The same driving rules apply to a truck full of furniture, but due to the noise and vibration in the cab, you won't accidentally forget that you're carrying 1,500 pounds' worth of furniture behind you.

RAY: And remember, whether you rent the trailer or the truck, YOU'LL have to drive it back empty, Bill, or pay a large one-way drop-off fee and buy a plane ticket home.

TOM: So, after considering all this, you might want to look at option C, Bill, which goes something like this: "Son, I've called Global Van Lines. They're picking up your stuff on Tuesday. Here's a bus ticket for you. Hope you make it home for the holidays!"

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.

Social Security

Help Someone This Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

BY JENNIFER H

Social Security Claims Representative in Yankton

January 16 is Martin Luther King, Jr. Day — a national holiday. To some, the day means more than an observance of the birthday of the civil rights leader. It is also a day to be of service to others.

The MLK Day of Service is a part of United We Serve, the President's national call to service initiative. It calls for Americans from all walks of life to work together to provide solutions to our most

pressing national problems.

A great way to be of service to others is to help someone you know who may need assistance applying for Social Security, Medicare, or Extra Help with Medicare prescription drug costs. Each of these is easy to do at www.socialsecurity.gov.

Some people who need these benefits may not be comfortable with computers or may not even know applying online is an option. But now it's easier than ever to apply for such benefits from the convenience of a home computer at www.socialsecurity.gov.

For example, it's easy to apply for retirement benefits at www.socialsecurity.gov/applyonline. It can take as little as 15 minutes from start to finish, and once the application is electronically submitted, in most cases, there is nothing more to do.

It's even easier to apply for Medicare, for people who do not plan to begin their Social Security retirement payments yet but who do want Medicare coverage. The application takes about 10 minutes and can be found at www.socialsecurity.gov/medicareonly. People who already have

Medicare coverage, but who have trouble meeting prescription drug costs, can apply for Extra Help online at www.socialsecurity.gov/extrat help.

This holiday, you may want to make a trip to see the new Martin Luther King, Jr. memorial in Washington D.C. or listen to a recording of a memorable speech. You can also make your Martin Luther King Day a day of service to someone who can use your help. Lead them to www.socialsecurity.gov. It may be easy for you, but it may be a dream come true for the person you help.



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 7-11pm
 6-7pm — Domestic Beers \$1.50
 5-7pm — Hamburger/Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00

Friday

Swiss Steak or Menu Serving 5:30-8:00

Saturday

Freddies Combo
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Happy Hour M-F 4:30-7:30

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