

## Life In Poetry

# Where Do You Sled On A Flat Landscape?

BY TED KOOSER  
 U.S. Poet Laureate

Kansas is flat and we all know that. So, where does a boy go when he feels like sledding down a hill? Casey Pycior, raised in Kansas, tells us.

## SLEDDING IN WICHITA

As cars pass, laboring through the slush, a boy, bundled against the stiff wind in his snow suit, gloves, and scarf, leans on his upright toboggan, waiting his turn atop the snow-packed overpass—the highest point in town. First one car exits, and then another, each creeping down the icy ramp. The brown grass pokes through the two grooves carved in the short hill. As the second car fishtails to a stop at the bottom, brake lights glowing on the dirty snow, the boy's turn comes. His trip to the bottom is swift—only a second or two—and he bails out just before the curb. It's not much, but it's sledding in Wichita.

*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. Poem copyright © 2011 by Casey Pycior and reprinted by permission of the poet. 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.*

# Smaller Engines Have Power, Too

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

**Dear Tom and Ray:**  
 I am thinking of buying a new car, and I need to know if a four-cylinder or six-cylinder engine would be the wisest choice. I live on a hilltop, 2,400 feet above the valley, and the road to my home is about five miles up the long, steep hill. I have always driven a car with six or more cylinders, and I fear that a four-cylinder would not last long climbing the hill each day. What do you advise? — **Mary**  
**TOM:** There's not an absolute answer to this, Mary. It would be like asking you if my brother should buy a shirt in XXL or XXXL. You'd be hard pressed to give him a good answer without seeing the specific shirt and the size of my brother's spare tire.

**RAY:** It was a 195/65 R16 as of yesterday.  
**TOM:** In general, engines are getting smaller and more powerful. So lots of people who used to buy V-8s are now buying sixes. And people who bought sixes are buying fours. And soon, people who've always bought fours will be buying three-cylinder engines!

**RAY:** And because of advanced technologies, like direct injection and turbo charging, people aren't giving up any power when they're moving down in size and weight.

**TOM:** So there's no general rule anymore. There are underpowered sixes and overpowered fours. What you get depends on the technologies in the engine and the car the engine is paired with.

**RAY:** Sometimes the manufacturer will lay out a choice of engines for you. Pickup trucks are a great example of that. Some people use



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

their pickup trucks as suburban commuter vehicles. So a six-cylinder engine may be all they need. Others may haul heavy equipment with their pickup, and they need the additional towing capacity of a V-8.

**TOM:** But we've also seen cases where a manufacturer will offer a lower-powered, older-technology "base" engine just to be able to advertise a low starting price. In that case, almost no one wants the base engine.

**RAY:** And then there are cases in which the base engine is really all anybody needs. The manufacturer just offers a more powerful engine to satisfy the egos of folks who want to overdo it and pay more. The Honda Accord comes to mind, with its great 185-horsepower four-cylinder engine, and its unnecessary 278-hp six.

**TOM:** In general, you'll pay more not only to buy a six-cylinder engine, but also to repair and maintain it over the life of the car.

**RAY:** We just test-drove the brand-new Ford Escape. It's a small SUV that used to come with four- and six-cylinder engine options. Interestingly, it has three different engine options now, but they're ALL four-cylinder engines. We drove the middle one; a turbocharged, 1.6-liter four, which is tiny by SUV standards. But we were surprised to find that it had as much power as anyone might need in normal driving.

**TOM:** So I wouldn't necessarily recommend a six-cylinder for you, Mary. What I would recommend is that you avoid something whose reviews use the word "underpowered" a lot (unless those reviews are in enthusiast magazines like Car and Driver, which consider everything underpowered).

**RAY:** Once you narrow down your car choices, feel free to write back to us, and we'll give you any specific thoughts we have on those particular car-engine combinations. But don't be afraid of modern four-cylinder engines as a class. There are more of them than ever that provide plenty of power.

Tom and Ray share secrets on how you can save tens of thousands of dollars on your cars over the next 20 years 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](http://www.cartalk.com).

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## SCHOLARSHIPS

### FIRSTCHOICE SCHOLARSHIP

First Dakota National Bank announces the 2013-2014 FirstChoice Scholarship applications are available. Sixteen \$1000 Scholarships are awarded annually to high school seniors or college students attending a post-secondary accredited American college, vocational technical school or university. Applicants are judged on leadership, school and civic involvement, satisfactory scholastic progress and demonstrated financial responsibility. Previous FirstChoice scholarship winners encourage you to apply. Kayla Gerlach, 2009 recipient says, "First Dakota does a great job investing in their young customers. It's nice to know I

had help financially." Jayna Specht, 2010 recipient, encourages students to apply. "The FirstChoice scholarship was a blessing for me. It lifted some of the burden of paying for college."

All applicants must have a FirstChoice Checking account to qualify. Applications need to be postmarked by March 11. Contact any First Dakota location for an application or download at [firstdakota.com](http://firstdakota.com).

First Dakota was founded in 1872 and holds the first bank charter issued in all of Dakota Territory. It has 14 full-service banking locations in 10 South Dakota cities. It also has five loan production offices throughout South Dakota and Nebraska.

### SOUTH DAKOTA ANGUS SCHOLARSHIP

The South Dakota Angus Auxiliary will be awarding scholarships for the 2013-2014 school year. To be eligible for the scholarship, the following requirements must be met.

- Must be a member of the S.D. Junior Angus Association;
- Must be a member of the National Junior Angus Association;

- Must be actively involved with Angus cattle;
- Must attend a S.D. university, college or vocational school for the 2013-2014 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](mailto:rogenangus@alliancecom.net). All completed scholarship applications are due by March 15.

### CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

CHADRON, Neb. — Jared Bartos of Verdigre, Neb., qualified for the fall 2012 dean's list at Chadron State College.

The dean's list, which requires a grade-point average of at least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, consists of 384 names. Students must be enrolled in at least 12 credit hours of coursework during the semester to qualify.

# Lights

From Page 1

away from it in parabolic curve toward the ground.

"As soon as object #2 disappeared behind background trees and houses I heard a herd of cows about a mile away freak out briefly," the report reads. "Nothing really happened; no cows were harmed and the diving craft didn't crash."

Looking around, he said about four more similar lights were observed.

On Friday night, the man said he saw about six of them. Approximately 11 lights were spotted around 1 a.m. Saturday night.

As the report was being written around 6:30 p.m. Sunday, the witness said they were directly overhead.

"I can see the shape of it (maybe triangle or stealth fighter shape)," he states. "There are no military bases around here or anything else that should bring so much aircraft other than the usual traffic of private planes, crop duster planes and medical helicopters."

The sheriff's office has received no other reports of strange aerial activity.

MUFON allows photos to be attached to the reports but none were submitted.

Klancnik said it's not the first instance of a possible UFO sighting in the region in recent times.

"I've had about six different reports within 100 miles of Yankton of a lot of different UFO sightings," he stated. "Most of them have to do with orange lights."

For example, a witness reported May 17 of last year that two sets of orange orbs were spotted in the sky at Pickstown.

"They appeared only for a few seconds then disappeared," the Pickstown report states. "I tried to get the images on my camera and it was unsuccessful. (Fifteen minutes) later a squadron of jet fighters circled the area and looked like they were sweeping the area around the (site). At first, we thought it was military training activities with flares. The more I thought about it, flares don't stay stationary. Or do they?"

Klancnik said he planned to conduct an interview with the witness in Yankton. During his investigation process, he attempts to gauge the reliability of the individual to make sure they aren't just making up a story.

"For all of the reports we receive, 98 percent of them are explainable," Klancnik added. "About 2 percent are not, and that's the stuff that makes us wonder."

You can follow Nathan Johnson on Twitter at [twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage](http://twitter.com/AnInlandVoyage)

**JAN.11, 12, 13**  
**JACK REACHER**  
 DIGITAL UP AND RUNNING!  
 Fri. 7:30 PM • Sat. 7:30 PM • Sun. 4 PM  
 Students \*2.00 Adults \*5.00  
**Idle Hour Theatre**  
 Tripp, SD

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**BREAKFAST**  
**THIS SUNDAY**  
**8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.**  
 Pancakes, Rolls, Eggs,  
 Ham or Sausage, Milk,  
 Juice or Coffee  
**KC Hall**  
 2700 N. Broadway  
 Breakfast served second  
 Sunday of the month.  
**Everyone Welcome!**  
**Try Our Monthly Special!**  
 This Month **French Toast**

**Rounding**  
**3rd**  
 Bar & Casino  
 304 W. 3rd,  
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**Try Our New**  
**Homemade Pizzas!**  
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**Jan. 19..Mike & Jay**  
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 Open 11am-3pm, 4pm-9pm  
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**Dinner Buffet**  
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**All Day Dinner Buffet on**  
**Saturday & Sunday**  
**Crab Legs & Sushi Every**  
**Night All Day on Weekends**  
**Express Delivery Available**  
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**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
**Every Monday In**  
**January & February**  
 Pinochle Tournament  
 starting at 7pm  
 Players Needed  
**Wednesday & Sunday**  
 5-7pm Cooks Choice  
**Thursday**  
 6-7pm – Domestic Beers \$1.50  
 5-7pm – Hamburger/  
 Pizza Burger & Fries \$5.00  
**Friday**  
 Karaoke with Papa Ray  
 9pm-1am  
 Liver & Onions  
 Serving 5:30-8:00  
**Saturday**  
 No Band  
 Regular Menu 5:30-8:00  
**Bingo Wed. at 7:00pm**  
**Sunday at 6:30pm**  
**Happy Hour M-F 4:30-7:30**  
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**Make your reservations by 2/1/13**

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[CJatthelake.com](http://CJatthelake.com) for menu's, events & bands • 402-388-4267  
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**SUNDAY NIGHT: 3 pc. Chicken with Salad Bar \$9.95**

Roy Anderson Post #12 of the American Legion Will Be Hosting Their Annual  
**MEMBERSHIP DINNER**  
**Tuesday, January 15th**  
 at the V.F.W. Home located at 209 Cedar Street, Yankton  
*The dinner is free to all 2013 Post #12 paid members & their Auxiliary.*  
**Social Hour at 6pm • Dinner at 6:30pm**  
**Guest Speaker CSM Mike Burgeson of the**  
**153rd Engr Bn SD Army National Guard**  
 Non-member guests will be \$9.00 at the door.

**Big Game**  
**BIG SCREEN**  
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**US Army Corps of Engineers**  
 Omaha District  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**  
**SITE PLAN DEVELOPMENT FOR AUDUBON BEND**  
**JANUARY 16, 2013**  
**HOLY FAMILY PARISH, 807 EMERSON AVE., WYNOT, NE**  
**6:00-8:00PM**  
 The Corps of Engineers will host a public meeting to gather input on the formation of a conceptual site plan for the development of habitat and recreation features at Audubon Bend. The property is approximately two and one-half miles north of Wynot along the right descending bank of the Missouri River in Cedar County, Nebraska. The meeting will start with a brief presentation followed by an open house session. During the open house, the project team will be available to answer questions, provide information and gather public input on a host of potential future restoration actions. The public is encouraged to attend at any time between 6:00 and 8:00PM.