

# Seeking An Enlightened Answer

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
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## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

**Dear Tom and Ray:**  
I am a prosecutor in Florida, and I've been stumped by a very interesting issue that's arisen in a case of mine. A team of burglars broke into an elderly woman's house using a distraction scheme. The accomplice rang the woman's doorbell and told her that the dome light in her 2002 Buick LeSabre was on. She went out to her car and saw that, in fact, the dome light was on. She unlocked her car door (the car does not have keyless entry, and she says she always keeps the car doors locked) and was unable to shut off the light. The accomplice offered to help and did manage to turn off the light. While this was going on, the burglar was inside ransacking the home. The victim insists that she did not leave her dome lights on accidentally. Assuming that the victim is correct that her car was locked and that she did not accidentally leave the lights on, how did the burglar and his accomplice manage to turn on the lights? If this case goes to trial, I would really love to explain this to the jury. Any help would be appreciated — thanks! — **Kat**

**TOM:** Well, I don't know exactly what they did, but we have to assume that if they're willing to fool an old lady and ransack her home, they're probably not opposed to using a \$10 Slim Jim to jimmy open a locked car door.

**RAY:** It's quite easy to do, especially on older cars.  
**TOM:** Then, once they're in, they can turn on the dome light using the headlight switch, re-lock the door and close it again. And voila, they have their pretext.  
**RAY:** What I don't know is how they made it difficult for her to turn off the dome light. There's no very quick, easy way to do that. It's possible that the lady simply wasn't familiar with the dome-light switch and knew only that the dome light comes on when the doors are opened. Perhaps they just took advantage of her lack of knowledge.

**TOM:** Or perhaps they tinkered with, or removed, one of the switches in the doorjamb that tell the dome light that the door is closed. That's the kind of thing that can be done and undone in a matter of minutes if they were willing to risk a procedure that took that long.

**RAY:** You'll have to get more information from the victim and find out how she tried to turn off the dome light, and what finally worked. If you write back to us with more info, we'll try to help you piece it together.

**TOM:** Then my brother will come down and testify against them.

**RAY:** Yeah. In exchange for half of the loot. Good luck, Kat. Hope you put 'em away.

What is the most cost-effective way to buy a car? Tom and Ray hash it all out 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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The Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan recently donated \$440 to Yankton VFW Post No. 791. This donation was made possible in part by the generous sponsors of the Veteran's Day honor pages. Pictured (from left) is Press & Dakotan Publisher Gary Wood, VFW Post No. 791 Commander Rich Wright, P&D Classified Manager Tera Schmidt and P&D Inside Sales Associate Brenda Willcuts.

## Life In Poetry

# Poem Celebrates The Care Of Caregivers

BY TED KOOSER  
U.S. Poet Laureate

Here's a lovely poem for the caregivers among us, by Terri Kirby Erickson, who lives in North Carolina.

### SPONGE BATH

Draped in towels,  
my grandmother sits in a hard-backed  
chair, a white bowl

of soapy water on the floor.  
She lifts her frail arm, then rests it,

gratefully, in her daughter's palm.  
Gliding a wet

washcloth, my mother's hand  
becomes a cloud, and every bruise, a rain-  
drenched flower.

American Life in Poetry is made possible by The Poetry Foundation ([www.poetryfoundation.org](http://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 Terri Kirby Erickson from her most recent book of poems, "In the Palms of Angels," Press 53, 2011. Poem reprinted by permission of Terri Kirby Erickson and the publisher. 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.

## SCHOLASTICS

### SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY

**BROOKINGS** — The following area students have been named to the dean's list for academic excellence during the Fall 2012 semester at South Dakota State University. To earn dean's list distinctions in SDSU's eight colleges, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credits and must have earned at least a 3.5 grade point average on a 4.0 scale. Students with an asterisk received a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

### College of Arts & Science

- Peitz, Matthew John, Crofton, Neb.
- Schiferl, Megan Marie, Fordyce, Neb.
- Osterloh, Dominic Joseph, Alcester
- Hento, Kelsey Jo, Avon
- Camacho, Emily Ryan, Beresford
- Zoss, Samantha Renee, Beresford
- Jensen, Anthony Joseph, Burbank
- Hoffer, Krista Lynn, Centerville
- Klock, Allyson Emma, Chancellor
- Gering, Daniel Joe, Freeman
- Gering, September Rose, Freeman
- Ruml, Sarah Elizabeth, Freeman
- Erickson, Morgan Carol, Gayville
- Dyk, Anthony Evan, Geddes
- Meyerink, Denielle Jo, Geddes
- Millar, Lauren Elizabeth, Geddes
- Christopher-Holt, Kara Barbara, Jefferson
- Bossman, Stephanie Alaska, Marion
- Wolbrink, Laura Ann, Marion
- Hanson, Andrew Arthur, Parker
- Tiede, Jacob William, Parkston
- Werning, Kara Lynn, Parkston
- Fernholz, Erin Elizabeth, Platte
- Nepodal, Joseph Hugh, Platte
- Sprik, Cassi Jo, Platte
- Wynia, Rochelle Renae, Platte
- Ailts, Jared Lemke, Yankton
- Bailey, Trevor Ray, Yankton
- Garrity, Samuel Robert, Yankton
- Klopstad, Alice Marie, Yankton
- Kool, Tyrel James, Yankton
- McDonald, Sean Francis, Yankton
- Megard, Kelsey Jordan, Yankton
- Oster, Colin Van, Yankton

### College of Arts & Science / College of Agricultural & Biological Sciences

- Schmitz, Sydney Marie, Scotland

### College of Arts & Science / College of Education & Human Sciences

- Holbeck, Michelle Ann, Armour
- Braaten, Haylie Marie, Yankton

### College of Arts & Science / College of Engineering

- Berry, Ross William, Yankton
- Westerman, Nicole Alexis, Yankton

### College of Agricultural & Biological Sciences

- Kauth, Morgan Joseph, Bloomfield, Neb.
- Poppe, Travis Alan, Crofton, Neb.
- Martin, Taylor Ashley, Beresford
- Mochel, Jonathan Taylor, Beresford
- Jensen, Taylor Matthew, Burbank
- Krcil, Andrew Joseph, Dante
- Chicoine, Corey Roland, Elk Point
- Donnelly, Troy Johnathon, Elk Point
- Langle, Trisha Marie, Freeman
- Zanter, Kayla Marie, Freeman
- Gullikson, Bailey Shea, Gayville
- Porter, Jenetta Leigh, Geddes
- Oswald, Cody Joe, Irene
- Chicoine, Austin Lee, Jefferson
- Hanson, Lukas James, Jefferson
- Adrian, Hannah Marie, Marion
- Wilson, Erin Marie, Marion
- Jepsen, Shannon Marie, Meckling
- Guthmiller, Jenna Jean, Menno
- Horstman, Jacob Jon, Parkston
- Naasz, Rebecca Ashley, Platte
- Leischner, Luke William, Tripp
- Stoebner, Hannah Lea, Tripp
- Suess, Tanner Jaye, Tripp
- Hicks, Elizabeth Anne, Utica
- Wagner, Alex Andrew, Utica
- Hawley, Rebecca Lynn, Vermillion
- Larsen, Troy Richard, Viborg
- Berheim, Elise Marie, Volin
- Tolliver, Branson John, Wagner
- Schmidt, Alan Michael, Yankton
- Tieszen, Brooklyn Addison, Yankton
- Young, Elizabeth Marie, Yankton

### College of Agricultural & Biological Sciences / College of Pharmacy

- Bentzen, Sara Ann, Tabor

### College of Education & Human Sciences

- Brown, Julia Rae, Alcester
- Blume, Danielle Rae, Armour
- Bosma, Matthew Alvin, Armour
- Bonte, Corissa Lee, Beresford
- Carlson, Christy Lynne, Beresford
- Mohr, Christopher Michael, Beresford
- Peterson, Keesha Marie, Beresford
- Neff, Matthew Todd, Dakota Dunes

### College of Education & Human Sciences / College of Pharmacy

- Chicoine, Amanda Lynn, Elk Point
- Hoffman, Carlie Kay, Elk Point
- Larsen, Myles Todd, Elk Point
- McLaury, Bobbie Jean, Elk Point
- Schuh, Elizabeth Rose, Elk Point
- Sohler, Kayla Lynn, Freeman
- Uecker, Carly Anne, Freeman
- Hazel, Angela Marcy, Hudson
- Benson, Maria Theresa, Hurley
- Walder, Danielle Patricia, Lake Andes
- Syrovatka, Cindy Marie, Lesterville
- Vanorny, Amy Jean, Lester-ville
- Andersen, Kaycee Leigh, Marion
- Raville, Cacey Nicole, Marion
- Lantero, Gianna Marie, Parkston
- Nolz, Amy Christine, Parkston
- Frank, Zachary Lawrence, Springfield
- Ruppelt, Elizabeth Rachael, Springfield
- Ruppelt, Michael Scott, Springfield
- Kjose, Sara Ann, Vermillion
- Jacobsen, Cory Edward, Vermillion
- Ankeny, Marie Karen, Yankton
- Grossenburg, Jenna Marie, Yankton
- Huber, Jerrica Lynn, Yankton
- Kinsley, Elizabeth Jean, Yankton
- Kinsley, Kipp Andrew, Yankton
- Lange, Alyssa Ann, Yankton
- Somsen, Layne, Yankton
- Wendte, Kristen Sue, Yankton
- Holbeck, Craig Alan, Armour
- Preheim, Michael Donald, Armour
- Johnson, Robin R., Avon
- Myrmoe, Kevin Gregory, Beresford
- Bingen, Erik Tyler, Burbank
- Auch, Matthew Isaac, Center-ville
- Olson, Benjamin Warren, Chancellor
- Wurtz, Michael John, Elk Point
- Hofer, Patrick Michael, Freeman
- Becker, Shayne Doyle, Marion
- Burge, Brian James, Marion
- Reiner, Elliot Michael, Tripp

### College of Nursing

- Callahan, Kevin Patrick, Vermillion
- Eggers, Brandon Thomas, Wagner
- Schroeder, Austin Wayne, Wagner
- Kaltsulas, Thad J., Yankton
- Wampol, Calvin William, Yankton

### College of Pharmacy

- Schempp, Mallory Kay, Alcester
- Cihak, Sean P., Avon
- Carnes, Crystal Joy, Beresford
- Zweifel, Lisa Ann, Beresford
- McCabe, Alex Haley, Dakota Dunes
- Hanson, Andrew Robert, Delmont
- Lawler, Allison Marie, Elk Point
- Tow, Sarah Anne, Elk Point
- Uecker, Leah Shae, Freeman
- Harkness, Natalie Ann, Gayville
- Severson, Stephanie Lynn, Gayville
- Kloster, Jacob Sterling, Hudson
- Mahnke, Mark A., Jefferson
- Neuharth, Michelle Marie, Menno
- Begeman, Keith Evan, Parker
- Hanten, Emily Jean, Parker
- Kokes, Janelle Kay, Tabor
- Kolthoff, Kimberly Ann, Viborg
- Kocer, Ryan Joseph, Wagner
- Bodenstedt, Lindsay Creswick, Yankton

### College of University College

- Olson, Mark Daniel, Chancellor
- Donnelly, Ryan Gene, Elk Point
- Ulmer, Scott Robert, Tabor
- McCann, Andrew Thomas, Vermillion

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