

## Life In Poetry

# Poet Examines Life's Final Ride

BY TED KOOSER  
 U.S. POET LAUREATE

It would be nice if we could all get one last ride through a part of our lives we'd left behind. Patrick Phillips, who lives in Brooklyn, is our guide and pilot in this fine poem.

### ELEGY WITH OIL IN THE BILGE

By the time we got out on the water  
 the sun was so low, it wasn't like water

but a field of gray snow that we plowed  
 in one endless white furrow of water

as I skirted the rocks and wrecked trawlers  
 and abandoned old jetties just under the water,

while you moaned in the bow, slick with fever,  
 whispering back to whatever the water

chattered and hissed through the hull—  
 until at last there were lights on the water

and I let the old Mercury rattle and sputter  
 its steaming gray rainbows out onto the water

as we drifted, at idle, for the last time in your life,  
 through that beloved, indifferent harbor.

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## School Supply Program Offered

The Rural Office of Community Services, Inc. (ROCS) is offering a School Supply Program for eligible low-income families.

The ROCS School Supply Program provides a \$20 voucher per school aged child (K-12) to purchase the necessary school supplies so that children can participate fully in school. Household income must be at or below 125% of the Federal Poverty Line. Clients must provide income verification to qualify for the program. Homeschooled children are eligible for this program.

Families who reside in the following counties are eligible for this program: Aurora, Bon Homme, Brule, Buffalo, Clay, Charles Mix, Davison, Douglas, Gregory, Hanson, Hutchinson, Jerauld, Jones, Lyman, Mellette, Sanborn, Tripp, Todd, Union and Yankton.

To receive an application, please contact the Lake Andes ROCS office at 487-7634 or email bsieh@rocsinc.org

## HHS 'Meet And Greet' At Yankton Mall Aug. 4

Heartland Humane Society welcomes the community to meet their dogs available for adoption on Saturday, Aug. 4, running from 10 a.m.-noon in the Yankton Mall's east parking lot. The Yankton Mall is located at 2101 Broadway Ave.

Heartland Humane Society will have several different sizes and breeds of dogs available to meet and adopt.

Anyone interested in adopting an animal is encouraged to fill out an application prior to the Meet and Greet. Applications must be reviewed and approved prior to adoption. You can pick up an application at the shelter or find it online at www.heartlandhumane.org.

For more information on either event, contact Heartland Humane Society 605-664-4244 or email hhs@midconetwork.com. You can view all animals up for adoption on the shelter's website or on Petfinder.com.

Heartland Humane Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that serves southeastern South Dakota and northeastern Nebraska, protecting and enhancing the lives of companion animals by promoting healthy relationships between pets and people. Visit Heartland Humane Society online at www.heartlandhumane.org.

## Wildflower Tour Slated For Aug. 16

Get on board the bus for the Wildflower Tour sponsored by the Northeast Nebraska Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council. The planned route for the Wildflower Tour will travel into the northwest part of the six-county area. A homemade lunch is part of the event at Swanson's Hunting Acres Lodge south west of Niobrara. The date is Thursday, Aug. 16, starting at the Wildwood Acres Park, east of Verdigris, Neb. (by the swimming pool) at 8:45 a.m. with departure at 9 a.m. and the planned return at approximately 2 p.m.

There is a fee and pre-registration is requested by Aug. 6.

This is the fifth year for a tour like this, but this year as RC&D Council President and wildflower enthusiast, Dennis Wacker says "We'll be watching for a variety of butterflies, other pollinators, and birds as well as wildflowers."

Nebraska is blessed with many biologically diverse and unique landscapes. Games & Parks Commission biologists and botanists will share their knowledge and expertise of the prairie plants and wildlife. This educational activity makes it possible for those who love this beautiful scenery and Nebraska's diverse native plants and animals a real opportunity to get out there and experience it.

## Fundraiser Luncheon Being Held At The Center

A Fundraiser Luncheon will be held at The Center, 900 Whiting Drive, Yankton, at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 8.

For more information, contact Christy Hauer at 605-665-4685 or director@thecenteryankton.org.

## BIRTHDAYS

### OLINDA FUERST

Olinda (Schultz) Fuerst will celebrate her 80th birthday on Saturday, August 4. Her family is requesting a card shower. Please send your greetings to PO Box 417, Tripp, SD 57376.



Fuerst

## REUNIONS

### SPARKS REUNION

Descendants of the Andrew, Albert and Thomas Sparks families will meet on Sunday, Aug. 5, at the Moose Lodge, 310 Walnut in Yankton. A no-host catered meal will be served at 12:30 p.m. with visiting and fellowship to follow. Relatives and friends are welcome.

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# Vehicle Tires Not Self-Inflating

BY TOM AND RAY MAGLIOZZI  
 King Features Syndicate

### Dear Tom and Ray:

The tires on my wife's '05 Infiniti FX35 are about six months old. We had no problems with them, until three weeks ago. When driving down the highway, the tire-pressure warning light came on. I pulled over to see which one had gone flat, but lo and behold, the right front tire was registering 57 psi! I reduced the pressure to 36, continued my drive home, checked the tires the next morning, found everything OK, figured it was just a fluke and forgot about it. Then, a few days ago, the exact same thing happened again. Same car, same tire, same highway. I've taken the car back to the reputable dealer where I purchased the tires. No one has heard of this before, and they can find nothing wrong with the car or the tire. I don't even think they believe me. What do you think, guys? -Rob

**TOM:** We think you're a liar, Rob. There's no way a tire can double its own air pressure without human intervention. One of my ex-wives put you up to this, didn't she?

**RAY:** I agree that a tire can't gain that much air on its own. Now, tire pressure does go up about one pound per square inch (psi) for every 10-degree rise in the tire's temperature. But even that won't explain what happened in your case.

**TOM:** Think about it – even if your tire started at 60 degrees in your driveway and went up to 160 on the highway (which is high), that would add only another 10 pounds of pressure – not 25.

**RAY:** Nor does it explain why the pres-



## CAR TALK

Tom and Ray Magliozzi

sures in the other tires didn't go up by the same amount. They were on the same car, on the same highway.

**TOM:** I suppose it's possible that if you had a brake caliper that was sticking on that wheel, highway driving could heat up the wheel itself, which would then heat up the tire. So you can ask your repair person to check for signs of a sticky caliper on that wheel. But to get that hot, it would have to be so sticky that it would be almost seized.

**RAY:** So the most likely explanation is that it was a measurement error. Did you actually use a tire gauge to check all four tires? Or did you just look at the tire-pressure monitor readings on the car's dashboard?

**TOM:** If you were just reading the pressures from the dashboard monitor, then I suspect that the pressure sensor in your right front wheel is faulty. Each wheel has its own

# Death

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According to Charles Mix County court records, the Cournoyers face the following charges:

- five counts of abuse of or cruelty to a minor, with four of the counts a Class 3 felony and one count a Class 4 felony;
- one count of possession of a controlled substance (methamphetamine), a Class 4 felony;
- one count of failure to notify law enforcement of the death of a child, a Class 5 felony;
- one count of keeping a place for use or sale of controlled substances, a Class 5 felony;
- one count of possession of two ounces of marijuana or less, a Class 1 misdemeanor.

A Class 3 felony carries a maximum penalty of 15 years imprisonment in the state penitentiary and a \$30,000 fine. A Class 4 felony carries a maximum penalty of 10 years imprisonment and \$20,000 fine. A Class 5 felony carries a maximum penalty of 5 years imprisonment and a \$10,000 fine.

The Class 1 misdemeanor carries a maximum sentence of one year imprisonment in the county jail and a \$2,000 fine.

If convicted on all nine

charges, the Cournoyers face 90 years in the state penitentiary for the eight felony charges and a year in county jail for the misdemeanor.

The Cournoyers were initially arrested on two charges: one count of abuse or cruelty to a minor and one count of failure to notify law enforcement of a child's death.

The indictments against the Cournoyers were handed down last Wednesday, Hein said. In turn, a preliminary hearing scheduled for today (Tuesday) was canceled, she said.

The indictments allege the Cournoyers committed cruelty or abuse to five different children, ranging in age from nearly 2 years old to 9 years old. Those charges allege the Cournoyers, between the approximate dates of June 29 and July 4, "did abuse, exposure, torture, torment or cruelly punish a minor ... in a manner which does not constitute aggravated assault."

The Cournoyers also face three drug charges and one charge of failure to report the death of a child to law enforcement within six hours of the child's death.

The charge of failure to report arises out of a new law passed this year by the South Dakota Legislature that went into effect July 1 — just days before RieLee is believed to have died.

The South Dakota law was

modeled after "Caylee's Law," which was passed in Florida in response to the death of 2-year-old Caylee Anthony, who wasn't reported missing until 31 days after she vanished in 2008 in Orlando. The law makes the failure to notify law enforcement of death of a child a felony. Under the law, any parent, legal guardian or caretaker who knowingly fails to notify law enforcement within six hours of learning of the death of a minor child in his or her care is guilty of a Class 5 felony.

In the Cournoyers' case, authorities are using the children's initials and dates of birth to identify the alleged victims in court records. However, a family member has released RieLee's name to the media.

The Cournoyers are represented by court-appointed attorneys, according to the Charles Mix County clerk of courts office. Avon attorney Scott Swier represents Laurie Cournoyer, while Platte attorney Tom Deadrack represents Taylor Cournoyer.

Swier has been granted his motion for an independent investigator, Hein said.

According to court papers, Laurie Cournoyer provided information to law enforcement that she and Taylor Cournoyer had used methamphetamine and marijuana on July 3. Based on interviews and other information gathered throughout the investigation, authorities determined the incident leading to RieLee Lovell's

death may have occurred in the early morning hours of July 3.

Laurie Cournoyer called 911 concerning the child, according to court papers.

Both Cournoyers indicated they had difficulty remembering the last time they had seen the toddler alive, according to court records.

Five other children in the Cournoyers' care at the house were taken to the Wagner Police Department.

A search warrant was issued, and items collected as evidence included a marijuana pipe, a pill bottle containing white pills with no prescription label, and two hypodermic needles located in the trash can, according to court records. Authorities noted Laurie Cournoyer suffers from diabetes and may use the needles for insulin purposes. The exact content of the pill bottle and two needles had not yet been determined.

The case remains an ongoing investigation even though charges have been filed, Hein said. The South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI) and the Charles Mix County sheriff's office are continuing their work on the case.

The South Dakota attorney general's office and the Charles Mix County state's attorney are prosecuting the case.

*You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at [twitter.com/RDockendorf](https://twitter.com/RDockendorf)*

# Yankton

From Page 1

"Most kids try to have projects in the different areas," she said. "They don't just want 57 photography projects. This year they have geocaching, aerospace, rockery. There were some things that I was entering into the computer and thought, 'What's that?' I literally had to look some of these things up to find out exactly what they are."

One of the new events includes games hosted by the Old Iron Tractor Association from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday.

Fosheim said she and McFarland worked to bring in new events this year to keep people engaged, especially the families and members of 4-H, by giving them more to do.

Cake decorating will also be new to this year's events. Anyone from the community is allowed to drop off decorated cakes, cookies or cupcakes from 11 a.m.-noon on Saturday. The cakes will be on display and will eventually be auctioned off.

Eight local celebrities, such as the Yankton high school and mid-

dle school principals, will also be present this year to provide entertainment by showing a calf and a pig. This event is called the Celebrity Round Robin, and will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Finally, the junior leaders of 4-H will sponsor a dance, also open to the public, and for the second year in a row, inflatables will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Sunday.

Fosheim said it is important to bring in new people to celebrate the events, to showcase the work the 4-H members have done.

Just to prepare for a project entry, some kids have been working since January, McFarland said.

"Some of them even pull in their school projects and things like that for this week," she said. "I sat with one member, who is also a Boy Scout, (and talked) about what he's been doing with the Scouts, because he can use some of those things for 4-H. It's really a yearlong learning experience."

Fosheim said this week is important, because 4-H members deserve a positive light shone on them.

"We hear so many stories about negative youth," she said. "If you know any 4-H kids personally or you see them around, they're exhibiting good citizen-

ship and positive behavior. They're very active in their schools and their communities – they deserve recognition for that."

For McFarland, 4-H means more than just showcasing the animals, she said.

"Ag is what our community is made of. Not that that's all we do for 4-H – it's definitely not, there's so much more," she said. "It's great for these kids to get out there and see what they're doing and all of the hard work. Some people look at it and think these kids pull a cow around and it's no big deal. The amount of work that they put into that, or with the pigs, sheep, poultry or rabbits – it's a tremendous amount of work."

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**Thursday, Aug. 2**  
 6:30 p.m. — 4-H Rabbit Show  
 7 p.m. — 4-H Poultry and Egg Judging (to follow rabbit show)  
**Friday, Aug. 3**  
 10 a.m. — 4-H Swine Show  
 1-3 p.m. — Old McDonald's Day at the Farm

2:30 p.m. — Candy Drop by Jake Hoffer Flying Inc.

3-4 p.m. — Dog Agility Demonstration

5 p.m. — 4-H Beef Show

5:30-7 p.m. — Ice Cream Social

**Saturday, Aug. 4**

8:30 a.m. — 4-H Goat and Sheep Show

11 a.m.-1 p.m. — Check in

3 p.m. — Open Class Beef Show and South Dakota Sanctioned Junior Points Show

5-7 p.m. — 4-H Supper

5 p.m. — Fashion Revue Style Show

5 p.m. — Round Robin Practice

6 p.m. — Celebrity Round Robin

7:30 p.m. — Dance (Open to the Public)

**Sunday, Aug. 5**

9 a.m. — Cowboy Church

9:30 a.m.-noon — Pancake Feed

10 a.m.-2 p.m. — Inflatables

10 a.m. — Round Robin Champion Showmanship

Noon-2 p.m. — Horse Show Demonstration

2 p.m. — Pig Raffle Drawing

## 63rd Wedding Anniversary



### Mr. & Mrs. Lowell (Tony) Toczek

Lowell (Tony) and Vivian Toczek will celebrate their 63rd wedding anniversary on July 31, 2012.

Their family requests a cards shower. Greetings may be sent to: 263 Kniest Ave., Yankton, SD 57078.

Vivian Smith and Lowell Toczek were married July 31, 1949.

They have two children: Keith (Dianne) Toczek of Yankton and Brian (Lori) Toczek of Phoenix, Ariz. The couple has seven grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.